

Nihar Ranjan Sahoo

PHD RESEARCH SCHOLAR, CFILT IITB

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Interests

My interest lies in detection and mitigation of social biases/toxicity in text, ethics and fairness in ML, NLP. I am also interested in areas like Reinforcement Learning, Computational Cognitive Neuroscience, Robotics.

Education

Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay

Mumbai, India

PH.D, COMPUTER SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING, CGPA: 9.12/10

Ongoing

- **Advisor:** Prof. Pushpak Bhattacharyya
- **Thesis:** Social Bias in NLP: Detection and Mitigation
- Selected Coursework:
 - Deep Learning for NLP: 9/10
 - Natural Language Processing: 10/10
 - Automatic Speech Recognition: 9/10
 - Organisation of Web Information: 9/10

Indian Institute of Science

Bengaluru, India

MASTER IN TECHNOLOGY, COMPUTER SCIENCE AND AUTOMATION

Aug. 2017 - June. 2019

- **Advisor:** Sridharan Devarajan
- **Thesis:** Alzheimers Disease: Understanding mechanisms for early diagnosis and treatment
- Selected Coursework: Pattern Recognition and Neural Networks, Machine Learning for Signal Processing, Natural Language Processing, Probability and Statistics, Linear Algebra, Design and Analysis of Algorithms

Indira Gandhi Institute of Technology

Sarang, Odisha

BACHELOR IN TECHNOLOGY, COMPUTER SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING

July. 2012 - June. 2016

Publication

With Prejudice to None: A Few-Shot, Multilingual Transfer Learning Approach to Detect Social Bias in Low Resource Languages

Long Paper

NIHAR RANJAN SAHOO, NITEESH MALLELA, PUSHPAK BHATTACHARYYA

ACL Findings, 2023

Detecting Unintended Social Bias in Toxic Language Datasets

Long Paper

NIHAR RANJAN SAHOO*, HIMANSHU GUPTA*, PUSHPAK BHATTACHARYYA

CoNLL, 2022

Hollywood Identity Bias Dataset: A Context Oriented Bias Analysis of Movie Dialogues

Long Paper

SANDHYA SINGH*, PRAPTI ROY*, NIHAR RANJAN SAHOO*, NITEESH MALLELA*, HIMANSHU GUPTA*, PUSHPAK BHATTACHARYYA

LREC, 2022

Few-Shot Domain Adaptation for Low Light RAW Image Enhancement

Best Student Paper (Runner up)

Award [BMVC Site]

K RAM PRABHAKAR, VISHAL VINOD*, NIHAR RANJAN SAHOO*, AND R VENKATESH BABU

BMVC, 2021 (Oral)

Tutorial

Vision-Language Models: Evolution, Applications, and Challenges in Bridging the Gap Between Visual and Textual Data

Half-day Tutorial

NIHAR RANJAN SAHOO, ABISEK R K, PUSHPAK BHATTACHARYYA

ICON, 2023

Harnessing LLMs with Prompts: Applications, Challenges, and Maximizing Their Potential

TEJOMAY KISHOR PADOLE, MEET DOSHI, KISHAN MAHARAJ, ASHITA SAXENA, ARIF AHMAD, **NIHAR RANJAN SAHOO**, PUSHPAK BHATTACHARYYA

Half-day tutorial

ICON, 2023

Social Bias Detection and Mitigation in Text

NIHAR RANJAN SAHOO, SHANDHYA SINGH, PRAPTI ROY, NITEESH MALLELA, HIMANSHU GUPTA, PUSHPAK BHATTACHARYYA

Half-day tutorial

ICON, 2022

Work Experience

Adobe Research India

RESEARCH INTERN

- Worked on debiasing the Text-to-Image diffusion models.
- Our method involved adjusting the input prompt and the cross-attentions in text-to-diffusion to create images that incorporate greater gender and skin-tone diversity.

Bangalore, India

May. 2023 - July. 2023

Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay

TEACHING ASSISTANT, DIGITAL IMAGE PROCESSING

Mumbai, India

Ongoing

Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay

TEACHING ASSISTANT, NATURAL LANGUAGE PROCESSING

Mumbai, India

Aug. 2022 - Dec. 2022

Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay

TEACHING ASSISTANT, DEEP LEARNING FOR NATURAL LANGUAGE PROCESSING

Mumbai, India

Jan. 2022 - May. 2022, Jan. 2023 - May.

2023

Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay

TEACHING ASSISTANT, ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND MACHINE LEARNING

- Received Excellence in TA award.

Mumbai, India

Aug. 2021 - Dec. 2021

Video Analytics Lab

RESEARCH ASSISTANT, CDS, IISc

- Image enhancement in RAW domain.
- We have paired (low exposure and high exposure) abundant data in source domain (eg : Sony) and few (1-5) paired data in target domain (eg : Nikon).
- Using CNN we need to learn the way to enhance low exposure image to get high exposure image. As it is hard to collect paired abundant data for every camera, we are using few shot domain adaptation technique to achieve our goal.

Bangalore, India

Feb. 2020 - Dec. 2020

Citrix R&D India Pvt. Ltd

SOFTWARE ENGINEER 2

Bangalore, India

Jul. 2019 - Feb. 2020

M.Tech Thesis

Alzheimer's Disease: Understanding Mechanisms for Early diagnosis and treatment using functional MRI of brain

Advisor: Sridharan Devarajan

INDIAN INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE, BENGALURU

Jul. 2019

- Longitudinal study on the Indian population to determine the early bio-markers of Alzheimer's disease using multimodal approaches.
- Psychophysical assessments has been done for behavioral task using 2-ADC model.
- The aim is to predict the psychophysical parameters (human behaviour) using neuroimaging (rest fMRI, task fMRI and DTI) data of the population.

Projects

Automatic Story Generation

INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, BOMBAY

Advisor: Pushpak Bhattacharyya

Dec. 2021

- The aim of the project is to generate an automatic story from a given prompt with the help of neural techniques.
- It is a lot challenging to generate long, coherent stories using state of the art NLP techniques. Story generation, in general, suffers from fluency, topic drift problems.
- In the project, we used the GPT2 model to train the story generation task using *WRITINGPROMPTS* dataset.

ParConvE: Parallel Convolutional 2D Knowledge Graph Embeddings for Link Prediction at Scale

Advisor: Partha Pratim Talukdar

INDIAN INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE, BENGALURU

Dec. 2018

- The aim of knowledge graphs is to gather knowledge about the world and provide a structured representation of this knowledge.
- Current knowledge graphs are far from complete. To address the incompleteness of the knowledge graphs, link prediction approaches have been developed which make probabilistic predictions about new links in a knowledge graph given the existing links.
- Link prediction is a key research direction within this area. In this project, we will focus on link prediction at large scale using ParConvE. In this work we introduce ParConvE, a multi-layer convolutional network model for link prediction.
- WN18 and FB1M data were used for model evaluations.

Decoding Music from the Dynamic Processing of Musical Features in the Brain

Advisor: Sriram Ganapathy

INDIAN INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE, BENGALURU

Dec. 2018

- Many studies are able to decode the visual stimulus by measuring the brain activity but none seems to decode the auditory stimuli from the brain activity. Here we propose to decode the music from the activity of the brain measured using fMRI.
- Six musical features (three musical stimuli), representing low-level (timbre) and high-level (rhythm and tonality) aspects of music perception, were computed from the acoustic signals, and classification into one of the three musical stimuli will be done on the parcellated fMRI time series data.

Sentiment Analysis of Twitter Data

Advisor: Partha Pratim Talukdar

INDIAN INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE, BENGALURU

Apr. 2018

- Given a message also known as "Tweet", classify whether the tweet is of positive or negative sentiment. For tweets conveying both a positive and negative sentiment, the sentiment that is stronger should be chosen.
- Different data preprocessing techniques were used for good representation of data.
- Different features and machine learning models were used to determine the best combination for sentiment analysis.
- SemEval-2016 and SAIL Codemixed-2017 data were used for model evaluations.

Skills

- Tools: Numpy, Scipy, sklearn, matplotlib, pandas, nltk, tensorflow, pytorch, huggingface, keras, fslview
- Expertise: Machine Learning, NLP, Deep Learning, Cognitive Neuroscience
- Programming Languages: C, C++, Core Java, Python

Roles & Achievements

ACHIEVEMENTS

- 2023 **Bronze Medal**, 11th Inter IIT Tech Meet
- 2022 **Fellowship**, Received Prime Minister's Research Fellowship
- 2022 **Silver Medal**, 10th Inter IIT Tech Meet
- 2018 **Winner**, Intel Campus Day, IISc Bengaluru
- 2017 **All India Rank - 9**, Graduate Aptitude Test in Engineering(GATE), Computer Science
- 2017 **Winner**, Codechef Certification Examination(CCDSAP)
- 2015 **First**, Hour of Code, Horizon, IGIT
- 2007 **Rank 40**, Mathematics Olympiad by Shikhya Vikash Samiti, Odisha

ROLES

- 2023 **Panelist**, Generation AI: Shaping Education for Flourishing RIE Mysuru, India
- 2018-19 **Placement coordinator**, Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru Bengaluru
- 2019 **Event Coordinator**, Data Science Hackathon, IISc Open Day'19 Bengaluru
- 2018 **Event Coordinator**, Hackathon, CSA Undergraduate Summer School'18 Bengaluru
- 2016 **Event Coordinator**, Hour of Code, Horizon'16, IGIT Sarang, Odisha