Madhura Pawar



Research Interests Interpretability & Fairness, ML & Sustainability, Multi-agent Systems & Game Theory

EDUCATION

University of Amsterdam, Amsterdam, Netherlands Grade: 8.5/10.0 Master in Science, Artificial Intelligence Sept 2022 - Present

Pune Institute of Computer Technology (Pune University), Pune, India Grade: 9.72/10.0

Bachelor of Engineering, Computer Engineering

Aug 2015 - Jun 2019

PUBLICATIONS

[Re] Reproducibility Study of "Label-Free Explainability for Unsupervised Models" [Paper, Code] Accepted at ML Reproducibility Challenge 2022 to be presented at NeurIPS, 2023. Avik Pal, Valentinos Pariza, Madhura Pawar, Quim Serra Faber.

Research EXPERIENCE

Fairness in Link-Recommendation Algorithms

Master's Thesis

Guide: Prof. Fernando Santos, University of Amsterdam

Nov 2023 - Present

• Currently assessing the how fairness of link-recommendation algorithms vary with differences in minority sizes and homophily

Fairness in Link Prediction Through Active Learning [Report, Code]

- Designed an active learning loop that steer the link recommender algorithm (Node2Vec) to generate link predictions in a way that minorities are well-represented within the community.
- Introduced two metrics to evaluate how important minority nodes become over time and how much they disperse within local communities to improve their representation.

Animal Social Network Visualization [Report, Code]

Guide: Prof. Marcel Worring, University of Amsterdam

June 2023

- Devised and developed an interactive dashboard that quantifies and visualizes the social structure of animal social networks at node & network levels. Also provided visualizations for the evolution of the network and communities formed over time
- Predicted future links on adding new nodes using the Variational Graph Auto-Encoder model

Assessing Long Rang Graph Benchmark Datasets [Blog Post, Code] April 2023 - May 2023

- Explored and implemented alternative approaches in mitigating Long Range Interactions (LRI)
- Improved the performance using E(n)-Invariant and E(n)-Equivariant algorithms and by using Jumping Knowledge representations on the node classification task

Hitting "Probe"rty with Non-Linearity [Report, Code]

April 2023 - May 2023

- Reformulated the design of non-linear structural probes making its design simpler yet effective
- Designed a visualization framework that lets us qualitatively assess how strongly two words in a sentence are connected in the predicted dependency tree

Reproducibility Study of "Label-Free Explainability for Unsupervised Models" Jan 2023

- Reproduced the main experiments of the original paper to assess its main claims
- Extended its techniques and designed experiments for graph datasets to assess the robustness of its methods

Professional EXPERIENCE

KlearStack | Software Engineer

June 2021 - July 2022

AI-driven OCR and Intelligent Data Extraction Software

Pune, India

- Developed a back-end module for extracting information from handwritten mandate forms to validate their authenticity. Witnessed a volume of 2000 forms per day being processed seamlessly.
- Implemented heuristic generalized algorithms for template-less data extraction from invoices
- Set up auto-language detection and translation pipeline to provide multi-lingual invoice support

Credit Suisse | Software Engineer

Full Stack Developer in the Group Chief Technology Officer

Pune, India June 2019 - May 2022

- Built a web-app predicting the closing date of incoming service requests. Analyzed and trained a variety of predictive models post data cleaning and preprocessing.
- Developed the client-side module using ReactJS, Java Spring Boot, and Flask Python & Impala for database querying where a service owner assesses his service based on pre-defined metrics

BMC Software | Student Intern

Pune, India

Sponsored Project by BMC Software, Inc

July 2018 - May 2019

• Designed and built an application that initiates Business Continuity and Disaster Recovery in case of organizational failure due to a natural disaster

ACADEMIC PROJECTS

Realtime Vision Descriptor

National finalist, Smart India Hackathon

March 2010

• Built a system that describes the situation captured by a mobile camera lens in natural language and performs primitive tasks over voice commands

Classification of Plant Diseases using Neural Networks [Code]

Jan 2018 - Mar 2018

• Designed a CNN model that classifies the disease a specific crop is infected given the leaf image

ACHIEVEMENTS

Overall **University Rank 1** in Computer Engg. across **90 colleges** of Pune University 2019 Recipient of the **BMC Software Scholarship** for standing **1**st in Computer Engg. Dept. 2018

Awarded G. Chordia Scholarship for outstanding performance in Engg. Math 2017

Notable Coursework

Machine Learning 1 and 2 Fairness, Accountability, Confidentiality, and Transparency in AI

Deep Learning 1 and 2 Human-in-the-Loop Machine Learning
Software Modeling & Design Design & Analysis of Algorithms
Multimedia Analytics Natural Language Processing 1 and 2

TEACHING ASSISTANCE

Information Retrieval 1 | *Instructor*: Prof. Andrew Yates

Feb
 2024 - Ongoing

Fairness, Accountability, Confidentiality, and Transparency in AI &

Jan 2024

Fundamentals of Data Science | Instructor: Prof. Fernando Santos

Sep 2023 - Oct 2023

Deep Learning 1 | Instructor: Prof. Yuki Asano

Nov 2023 - Dec 2023

- \bullet Responsible for evaluation of assignments and exams
- Mentored students with the course content and course project implementations

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Programming Languages Python, Java, ReactJS, JavaScript, HTML/CSS, PHP Frameworks & Libraries PyTorch, NumPy, Django, Flask, OpenCV, Scikit-learn

Databases MongoDB, MySQL, Impala, Oracle

Postions of Responsibility

Treasurer & Content Writer, National Service Scheme

Mar 2018 - Mar 2019

Student-volunteer body of PICT

- Managed funding & expenditure of NSS activities; Raised funds towards Kerala flood relief
- Started an online campaign **Deed of the Week** highlighting the kind acts of people

Volunteer, National Service Scheme

Apr 2017 - Mar 2018

- Ideated and led the Awareness drive on Malaria & Dengue in slums near Parvati hill, Pune
- Organised an event thanking police officers, distributed 150 letters for ensuring citizen safety

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

- Secured 3rd position in the Innovative Idea for Smart Village Development competition sponsored by Department of NSS, Pune University and IEEE Bombay Section
- Scripted, directed & acted in a play for the **Diversity & Inclusion** event by Credit Suisse to spread awareness about generational diversity.
- Secured Special Mention in thINK competition, Socio-Art competition by NSS IIT Bombay.