# Manoj S

#### EDUCATION

Indian Institute of Technology MadrasChennai, IndiaMaster of Technology - Robotics, Bachelor of Technology - Mechanical Engineering; GPA: 8.672018 - 2023Minors in Computing and Artifical Intelligence and Machine Learning2018 - 2023

**Relevant Coursework**: Pattern Recognition and Machine Learning, Deep Learning, Reinforcement Learning, Smart Sensing for IOT, Computational Photography, AI in Manufacturing, Data Structures, Probability, Linear Algebra.

#### PUBLICATIONS

U2NeRF: Unifying Unsupervised Underwater Image Restoration and Neural Radiance Fields Manoj S<sup>†</sup>, Mukund Varma T<sup>†</sup>, Vinayak Gupta<sup>†</sup>, Kaushik Mitra Under Review at CVPR 2023, PDF

#### EXPERIENCE

- **3D Reconstruction and Restoration of Underwater Images**  *Masters' Thesis, Guide: Dr.Kaushik Mitra*Computational Imaging Lab, IITM *August 2022 - Present* 
  - Developed method for simultaneous novel view synthesis and color restoration in underwater scenes by learning a radiance field constrained by multi-view geometry.
  - Successfully built Underwater View Synthesis (UVS) benchmark dataset consisting of 12 underwater scenes, containing both synthetically-generated and real world data of varying difficulty.
  - Setting up structured light imaging methods to obtain depth cues for guiding novel view rendering even in the presence of very few views.

#### Volume Rendering from Multi-View Stereo Images

- Deep Learning Intern at Preimage
- Enhancing the performance of dense 3D geometry reconstruction on multi-view aerial images by autotuning the hyperparameters based on the scene bounds.
- Exploring approaches on using transformers and monocular depth-guided finetuning, aimed at reducing computational costs without compromising on performance.

## Abnormal Activity Detection for Security Monitoring

- Machine Learning Intern at Asilla Japan
- Improved the existing pipeline for abnormal activity detection in surveillance systems by fine-tuning the quantization mechanism used to learn "normal action" dictionary and identify abnormal samples.
- Increased runtime speeds aided in the deployment of the system on CCTV feeds at Hankyu Nishinomiya Gardens Mall, Japan.

#### Super-Resolution of Satellite SAR Images

- Image Processing Intern at GalaxEye Space
- Built a network to upsample low-resolution remote-sensing data in the form of Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR) images, along with a generative model to predict RGB images from the super-resolved SAR output.
- Experiment results on ISRO's data indicate improved super-resolution quality even at higher scales like 16x.

#### 3D Object Detection using Monocular Images

- Vision Intern at Birupakshya Mahapatra
- Developed 3D object detection module that uses monocular (single-view) images/videos captured from autonomous vehicles; aimed at bringing out performance without using LIDAR data.

<sup>1</sup><sup>†</sup> denotes equal contribution

Remote Sept 2022 - Present

# Remote

May 2022 - July 2022

Dec 2021 - Jan 2022

IITM Research Park, Chennai, India

Remote Feb 2021 - May 2021

- The model achieved competitive performance (20.00 MAP) against several baselines in benchmark datasets with improved computational efficiency (20 FPS).
- Constructed dataset of Indian driving scenarios and extensively evaluated the method's generalization performance.

#### Projects

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#### Counterfactual Image Generation Using Text Guidance

Guide: Dr.Sutanu Chakraborti

- Generate counterfactuals conditioned on an initial image, and a text prompt to control its several attributes while minimally altering the actual image.
- Propose to perform image inpainting on regions corresponding to high confidence towards the target class using Stable Diffusion and CLIP models.

#### **PHASE: 3D Surface Mesh Reconstruction**

Guide: Mr.Siddarth Jha

Implemented an implicit 3D reconstruction neural network that constructs a surface mesh using its point cloud data. The network is trained to find the occupancy metric of different point coordinates in the point cloud, in turn finding the points present on the surface during inference.

#### Few-Shot Image Synthesis using Generative Networks

Guide: Dr.Anurag Mittal

Simplified SOTA generative networks namely StyleGanv1,2 to lower network capacity and introduced dense connections between multiple resolutions. Improved perceptual image quality scores by 10% even with as little as 100-1000 training images.

#### **Steel Surface Defect Detection and Classification**

Guide: Dr.Somashekar

Involves performing semantic segmentation on pictures of steel surfaces to classify and localize the surface defects using the UNET architecture. Got an average of 95 - 97% IOU score.

#### MISCELLANEOUS EXPERIENCE

#### **Teaching Assistant**

Deep Learning for Imaging (EE5179) - Dr.Kaushik Mitra

Assisted in the preparation and grading of assignments, as well as the delivery of in-class tutorial sessions on course modules such as MLPs, CNNs, RNNs, Autoencoders, and GANs.

#### **Project** Member

Team Envisage. Center for Innovation

Worked in a team of 4 and designed an automatic painting bot that paints on a big screen by shooting paintballs. The project was later showcased in a techno-entertainment show.

**Conduted Webinar**: On Introduction to AI, ML and Deep Learning (link), where about 40-50 attended when it was live. Explained the basics of ML and demonstrated image classification module using pytorch.

#### Scholastic Achievements

- Awarded the National Talent Search Examination (**NTSE**) scholarship in 2017, one of the top 0.1% percent in the country.
- Secured All India Rank of 1467 in JEE Advanced and 3160 in JEE Mains.
- Scored centum in Grade 12 Mathematics board exam.

### EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

- Participated in district level and inter-club Under-15 doubles badminton tournaments previously, played upto semi-finals.
- Was part of the National Cadet Corps (NCC) in IIT Madras (2018-2019).

Report

Report

Report

Oct 2022 - Present

### April 2022 - May 2022

# Report

Sept 2020 - Nov 2020

Sept 2020 - Nov 2020

IIT Madras, Chennai

June 2022 - Present

IIT Madras, Chennai June 2019 - Jan 2020