Anirudh Chakravarthy

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Education

Carnegie Mellon University, School of Computer Science

Master of Science in Computer Vision (Robotics Institute)

GPA: 4.14/4

Birla Institute of Technology and Science

Bachelor of Engineering in Computer Science (Minor: Data Science) GPA: 9.55/10; Department Rank: 9/153; Top 2% Merit Scholarship

Experience

Cruise LLC San Francisco, CA

Machine Leaning Engineer Feb 2023 - Present o Implemented a transformer and multi-task methods (GradNorm, PCGrad) to improve temporal stability in classification

- o Introduced a camera-lidar fusion method to improve gesture recognition by 10% and pedestrian falling classification by 15%
- \circ Developed new fine-grained attributes (children, strollers wheelchairs, etc) with > 90% recall; led end-to-end behavior integration; introduced miners for continual learning from misclassification to improve caution around pedestrians by $5 \times$
- o Recognized as an outstanding engineer in the team for leading 5 safety-critical model releases and most code contributions

Cruise LLC San Francisco, CA

Research Intern May 2022 - Aug 2022

- o Implemented a multi-task learning framework to adaptively balance task weights during training; improved precision performance on school bus classification by 7% and delivery vehicle classification by 3% over production model
- o Formulated a task-incremental method to dynamically balance task gradients while maintaining performance on old tasks, achieving SOTA on CIFAR and Waymo Motion Dataset on task incremental settings; under review at ECCV'23

CMU Argo Al Center Pittsburgh, PA

Research Collaborator (mentor: Dr. Deva Ramanan)

Nov 2021 - Dec 2022 o Introduced Open-World LiDAR Panoptic Segmentation and an evaluation protocol to benchmark open-world generalization

- Developed a panoptic segmentation method combines SOTA semantic segmentation with non-learnt hierarchical grouping
- o Improved closed-set SOTA by 3% PQ on Semantic-KITTI, and open-world baselines by 20% UQ; under review at IJCV

Harvard University Boston, MA

Research Intern (mentor: Dr. Hanspeter Pfister)

May 2020 - July 2021

Pittsburgh, PA

Dec 2022

May 2021

Pilani, India

- o Implemented an inter-frame attention mechanism in PyTorch to propagate missing object instances in a video track; achieved state-of-the-art performance on YouTube-VIS benchmark with 5% improvement on Mask R-CNN pipeline
- Developed a transformer-based tracking and segmentation method by using transformer encoded embeddings from previous frames as tracking cues for the current frame; obtained 33.1% mAP on YouTube-VIS benchmark

Publications

Anirudh S Chakravarthy, Shuai Zheng, Xin Huang, Sachi Hemachandra, Yuning Chai, and Zhao Chen. PROFIT: A PROximal Fine Tuning Optimizer. In Review at European Conference on Computer Vision (ECCV), 2024.

Anirudh S Chakravarthy, Meghana Ganesina, Peiyun Hu, Laura Leal-Taixe, Shu Kong, Deva Ramanan, and Aljosa Osep. Lidar Panoptic Segmentation in an Open World. In Review at International Journal on Computer Vision (IJCV), 2024.

Anirudh S Chakravarthy, Won-Dong Jang, Zudi Lin, Donglai Wei, Song Bai, and Hanspeter Pfister. Object Propagation via Inter-Frame Attentions for Temporally Stable Video Instance Segmentation. In IEEE/CVF Conference on Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition (CVPR) Workshops, 2021.

Anirudh S Chakravarthy*, Praveen Ravirathinam*, and Roshan Roy*. MRSCAtt: A Spatio-Channel Attention-Guided Network for Mars Rover Image Classification. In IEEE/CVF Conference on Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition (CVPR) Workshops, 2021.

Donglai Wei et. al. YouMVOS: An Actor-centric Multi-shot Video Object Segmentation Dataset. In IEEE Conference on Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition (CVPR), 2022.

Projects

Adversarial Robustness of GANs

Mar 2022 - May 2022

Carnegie Mellon University [project page] [code]

Pittsburgh, PA

- o Proposed a method to examine latent space robustness in GANs by identifying poorly sampled regions in latent space
- Performed adversarial attacks with in-distribution constraints to arrive at latent vectors which result in noisy reconstructions

Improving Multi-Person Reconstruction using Temporal Cues

Mar 2022 - May 2022

Carnegie Mellon University [code]

Pittsburgh, PA

o Incorporated optical flow using early fusion to augment temporal cues into 3D pose estimation networks; improved 3D keypoint accuracy by 0.28% and reduced inter-person interpenetration by 5% on the MuPoTS-3D benchmark