

Venkata S Govindarajan

+1 (585)957-1775 • [✉ gvenkata1994@gmail.com](mailto:gvenkata1994@gmail.com) • [🌐 venkatasg.me](https://venkatasg.me)
[📄 venkatasg](#) • [in gvenkatas](#) • [🐦 _venkatasg](#)

Education

University of Texas at Austin

PhD Computational Linguistics

Austin

2019–

University of Rochester

MS in Computational Linguistics, CGPA: 3.75/4

Rochester

2017–2019

Indian Institute of Technology Madras

Dual Degree(B.Tech & M.Tech) Biological Engineering, CGPA:8.68/10

Chennai

2012–2017

Research Experience

Decomposing Generalization

MS Thesis - Computational Semantics, under Prof.Aaron White

Univ. of Rochester

2018-

As part of the Decompositional Semantics Initiative, I've developed an annotation protocol and constructed a large-scale corpus of annotations that attempts to move beyond traditional definitions of genericity by decomposing the referent of arguments and predicates into combinations of simple, real-valued referential properties. I've also worked on building computational models that can predict these fine grained distinctions. Data and models available at decomp.io

Improving Semantic Parsing Using Statistical WSD

Research project - Natural Language Processing, under Ritwick Bose and Prof.James Allen

Univ. of Rochester

2019

Modelling Direction Maps and Vasculature in Whisker Barrel Cortex

M.Tech thesis - Computational Neuroscience, under Prof.Srinivasa Chakravarthy

IIT Madras

2016-17

As part of my Masters project, I developed computational models for emergence of position and direction maps in whisker barrel cortex of rat based on self organization principles. I also worked on modelling vasculature in barrel cortex using a lumped parameter model. In the future these two models can be integrated for a neuro-vascular model of the barrel cortex.

Papers

Govindarajan, Venkata, Benjamin Van Durme, and Aaron Steven White (2019). "[Decomposing Generalization: Models of Generic, Habitual, and Episodic Statements](#)". In: *Transactions of the Association for Computational Linguistics* 7, pp. 501–517.

White, Aaron Steven, Elias Stengel-Eskin, Siddharth Vashishtha, Venkata Govindarajan, Dee Ann Reisinger, Tim Vieira, Keisuke Sakaguchi, Sheng Zhang, Francis Ferraro, Rachel Rudinger, Kyle Rawlins, and Benjamin Van Durme (2019). "[The Universal Decompositional Semantics Dataset and Decomp Toolkit](#)". In: *arXiv 1909.13851 [cs.CL]*.

Teaching

Teaching Assistant: Introduction to Computational Linguistics, taught by Prof.Katrin Erk at the University of Texas at Austin. *Fall 2019*

Teaching Assistant: Introduction to Computational Linguistics, taught by Prof.Aaron Steven White at the University of Rochester. *Fall 2018*

Teaching Assistant: Data Structures and Algorithms for Biology, taught by Prof.Karthik Raman at IIT Madras. *Fall 2016*

Skills

Interests: Computational Linguistics, Semantics, Discourse, Data Science

Programming Languages: Python, Swift, R, MATLAB, LISP, Javascript, C, C++

Tools: pyTorch, sciPy stack, keras, TensorFlow, pandas, Docker, L^AT_EX, IPython/Jupyter, Unix, Amazon Mechanical Turk

Languages: English(fluent), Tamil(fluent), Hindi(intermediate)

Relevant Coursework

Formal Semantics • Introduction to Pragmatics • Morphology • Machine Learning • Statistical Speech and Language Processing • Logical Foundations of AI • Natural Language Processing • Principles of Neuroscience • Probability, Statistics and Stochastic Processes • Applied Statistics • Data Structures and Algorithms for Biology • Analysis and Interpretation of Biological Data