Advik Raj Basani

Education

2022–2026 B.E. Computer Science (Honors), BITS Pilani, Goa, (Transcript)

- O Achieved a CGPA of 9.19/10.0; Rank 1 in the Department, Fall 2024.
- o Recipient of BITS Merit Scholarship, awarded to the top 4% of 1K students, for 2 consecutive semesters in recognition of high academic standing.

Publications & Preprints

[Proceedings] GASP: Efficient Black-Box Generation of Adversarial Suffixes for Jailbreaking LLMs; Advik Raj Basani, Xiao Zhang. Accepted to NeurIPS '25 and Oral Presentation at Building Trust in LLMs @ ICLR '25. [Slides] GitHub

Diversity Boosts Al-Generated Text Detection; Advik Raj Basani, Pin-Yu Chen. Accepted to Data in Generative Models @ ICML '25 and Oral Presentation @ CLEF '25. [Slides] [GitHub] [HuggingFace]

G-GQSA: Exploiting Feature-Based Vulnerabilities and Enhancing Adversarial Resilience in Android Malware [Proceedings] Detection; Advik Raj Basani, Hemant Rathore. Accepted as an Oral Presentation to 22nd CCNC '25.

When Less is More: Achieving Faster Convergence in Distributed Edge Machine Learning; Advik Raj Basani, [Proceedings] Siddharth Chaitra Vivek, Advaith Krishna, Arnab K. Paul. Accepted to 31st HiPC '24, Best Paper Nominee (top-2.5%). [GitHub]

Research Experience

Aug. 2024 IBM Research Al, Remote, US, Research Intern

Present Advisor: Dr. Pin-Yu Chen (Prinicipal Research Scientist)

- O Developed DivEye, a framework capturing surprisal-based diversity to identify statistical fingerprints of Al-generated text; accepted to DIG-BUGS Workshop at ICML 2025.
 - Attained up to $0.99~\mathrm{AUROC}$ on various benchmarks and secured 3^{rd} on the RAID leaderboard (2024); invited for an oral presentation at CLEF 2025.

Jan. 2024 CISPA Helmholtz Center for Information Security, Germany, Research Assistant

Present Advisor: Dr. Xiao Zhang

- o Investigating LLM reverse engineering, extending the work of Carlini et al. (arxiv.org:2403.06634) to infer architecture & weights from black-box models.
- o Designed GASP (Generative Adversarial Suffix Prompter), an efficient black-box framework for generating coherent adversarial suffixes that expose vulnerabilities in LLM safety mechanisms.
 - Open-sourced code & dataset AdvSuffixes, achieving SoTA performance on proprietary models; accepted at NeurIPS 2025.

Sept. 2025 PALM Lab, University of South Florida, Remote, Research Intern

Present Advisor: Dr. Anshuman Chhabra

O Reverse engineering factual edits injected into LLMs through knowledge editing methods such as ROME (arxiv.org:2202.05262), by formulating the inversion as a zeroth-order optimization problem.

Nov. 2023 Data, Systems & HPC Lab, Research Assistant

Present Advisor: Dr. Arnab K. Paul

- o Accelerating GPU I/O operations by evaluating data transfer trade-offs between CPU and GPUDirect, aimed at improving throughput and reducing latency in training workloads.
- O Developed an open-source framework for Distributed Machine Learning on resource-constrained clusters by prioritizing critical gradient updates to accelerate convergence and reduce communication overhead.
 - Achieved a $13.22 \times$ reduction in training time and 62.1% lower communication overhead; work accepted as a **Best** Paper Nominee at the 31^{st} HiPC.

Work Experience

Oct. 2025 Trexquant, Remote, US, Global Alpha Researcher – Intern

Present Supervisors: Saurabh Agarwal, Dr. Yunbo Zhang, Dr. Xin Wang

O Designed and implemented 30+ research-grade alpha factors on Pysim for U.S. equity markets, focused on quarterly earnings prediction, statistically validated for robustness.

- May. 2025 Oracle, India, Member of Technical Staff Intern
- Aug. 2025 Supervisors: Anurag Sinha, Harish Dalmia (GenAl Team)
 - Designed an end-to-end feature importance and factor analysis framework for Oracle's internal AutoML pipeline, offering configurable modes (fast vs. comprehensive) with model-agnostic support and scalable interpretability analysis.
 - \circ Integrated an extensive evaluation system, improving existing frameworks by $11\times$, for sensitive consumer use-cases such as employee attrition and financial market analysis.
- May. 2024 Centre for Development of Advanced Computing, Kolkata, India, Research Intern
- Aug. 2024 Supervisor: Bibekananda Kundu (Research Scientist)
 - Conducted R&D on fine-tuning LLMs to be human-centric via reinforcement learning, integrating emotional intelligence, empathy, and task-oriented conversational abilities.

Selected Projects

[Repo] 2025 [Re]-Teaching Differentially Private Prompt Tuning for LLMs

O Reimplemented & verified all experiments from Flocks of Stochastic Parrots: Differentially Private Prompt Learning for LLMs (arXiv:2305.15594), a study on applying differential privacy to prompt tuning for LLMs, and proposed new techniques that improved benchmark performance by \sim 2%. [Slides]

[PR] 2024 FaustNet: Enabling ML in Faust

GSoC Contribution

Mentors: Thomas Rushton, Dr. Stéphane Letz, Dr. Yann Orlarey (INRIA & GRAME)

 Developed an automatic differentiation library for the functional, audio domain-specific language Faust during Google Summer of Code, enabling audio engineers to integrate neural networks & other ML techniques.

Teaching Assistantships

BCSZC315 Multicore & GPGPU Programming, Summer, 2025 Tasks: Creation of Teaching Material & Grading
Lead TA; Instructor: Dr. Gargi Alavani, Dr. Kunal Korgaonkar ~40 students

CS F242 Microprocessors & Interfacing, Spring, 2024 Tasks: Tutorials, Lab Creation & Autograder
Lead TA; Instructor: Dr. Gargi Alavani ~300 students

CS F422 Parallel Computing, Fall, 2024 Tasks: Tutorials, Assignments & Docker-based CUDA simulator
Course Mentor (CM); Instructor: Dr. Gargi Alavani ~50 students

CS F111 **Computer Programming**, Spring, 2023 Tasks: Plagiarism Detection & Autograder
Course Mentor (CM); Instructor: Dr. Arnab K. Paul ~1000 students

Relevant Coursework

BITS Computer Networks*, Data Structures and Algorithms, Operating Systems*, Time Series Analysis and Forecasting*, Deep Learning*, Machine Learning, Compiler Construction*, Computer Architecture

* - Top 5 Student

Coursera Specialization in Google Data Analytics [Certificate], Advanced Learning Algorithms [Certificate], Supervised Machine Learning: Regression and Classification [Certificate]

Accomplishments

- Grants Recipient of the IEEE TCPP Grant and DDF Grant, NTSE & KVPY Scholarships.
 - 2025 Reviewer for TMLR, ICLR & ACL.
 - 2025 Scored 326 (170Q, 156V) / 340 in GRE & 112 (27R, 28L, 30S, 27W) / 120 in TOEFL.
- 2024-25 2× winner of Hackenza, a hackathon organized by ASCII, BITS Goa.
 - 2023 Coordinator & Lead, Google Developer Student Club, BITS Goa.

O Coordinated hackathons, seminars, and events across four verticals; oversaw the AI/ML vertical and club operations.

- 2023 Core Member for BITSKrieg, ranked 1^{st} for performance in CTFs across India.
- 2022 Developer for **Twitch Rivals: Medieval Mayhem**, **BisectHosting's GameMaster** & several other Minecraft tournaments and events. [Playlist, 2.5M+ views]

Technical Proficiency

Languages Proficient [Python, Java, C++, MT-X], Intermediate [Faust, Julia, Rust] & more

Libraries / PyTorch, Transformers, JAX, Flax, HuggingFace, GitHub, GitLab, Anaconda, SpringBoot, Slurm, Docker, Softwares vLLM, Kafka, ZeroMQ, SciKit-Learn, GraphQL, Gemini & OpenAl APIs