Ashish Seth

Education

2024–2029 : **Ph.D., Computer Science**, University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland, USA, **Advisors**: Prof Dinesh Manocha.

 $\ensuremath{\textbf{Research}}$ $\ensuremath{\textbf{Focus:}}$ Speech and Audio Understanding

- 2020–2023 : M.S., Computer Science, Indian Institute of Technology, Chennai, India, CGPA: 9.12/10, Advisors: Prof S.Umesh, Prof Hema A.Murthy.
 Research Focus: Building General Purpose Audio Classification Models
- 2016–2020 : **B.E.**, Army Institute Of Technology, Pune, India, CGPA: 8.76/10.

Selected Publications

Journal Articles

2022 Sreyan Ghosh*, Ashish Seth*, and S Umesh. Decorrelating Feature Spaces for Learning General-Purpose Audio Representations. IEEE Journal of Selected Topics in Signal Processing (IEEE J-STSP), 2022.

In Conference Proceedings

- 2024 Ashish Seth*, Ramaneswaran S, S Sakshi, Sonal Kumar, Sreyan Ghosh, and Dinesh Manocha. EH-MAM: Easy-to-Hard Masked Acoustic Modeling for Self-Supervised Speech Representation Learning. accepted to (EMNLP) (Main (Oral)), 2024.
- 2024 Ashish Seth^{*}, Sreyan Ghosh^{*}, S. Umesh, and Dinesh Manocha. FusDom: Combining In-Domain and Out-of-Domain Knowledge for Continuous Self-Supervised Learning. accepted in (ICASSP), 2024.
- 2024 Ashish Seth*, Sreyan Ghosh*, S. Umesh, and Dinesh Manocha. Stable Distillation: Regularizing Continued Pre-training for Low-Resource Automatic Speech Recognition. accepted in (ICASSP), 2024.
- 2024 Sreyan Ghosh*, Ashish Seth*, Sonal Kumar, Utkarsh Tyagi, Chandra Kiran Reddy Evuru, S. Ramaneswaran, S Sakshi, Oriol Nieto, Ramani Duraiswami, and Dinesh Manocha. CompA: Addressing the Gap in Compositional Reasoning in Audio-Language Models. accepted in (ICLR), 2024.
- 2024 Sreyan Ghosh, Sonal Kumar, *Ashish Seth*, Chandra Kiran Reddy Evuru, Utkarsh Tyagi, S Sakshi, Oriol Nieto, Ramani Duraiswami, and Dinesh Manocha. GAMA: A Large Audio-Language Model with Advanced Audio Understanding and Complex Reasoning Abilities. *accepted to* (EMNLP) (Main), 2024.
- 2023 Ashish Seth^{*}, Mayur Hemani^{*}, and Chirag Agarwal. DeAR: Debiasing Vision-Language Models with Additive Residuals. In Proceedings of the IEEE/CVF Conference on Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition (CVPR), 2023.
- 2023 Ashish Seth^{*}, Sreyan Ghosh^{*}, S. Umesh, and Dinesh Manocha. SLICER: Learning Universal Audio Representations Using Low-Resource Self-Supervised Pre-Training. In *IEEE International Conference on Acoustics, Speech and Signal Processing (ICASSP)*, 2023.
- 2023 Sreyan Ghosh^{*}, Ashish Seth^{*}, S. Umesh, and Dinesh Manocha. MAST: Multiscale Audio Spectrogram Transformers. In *ICASSP 2023 2023 IEEE International Conference on Acoustics, Speech and Signal Processing (ICASSP)*, 2023.

In Workshops

- 2023 Ashish Seth*, Sreyan Ghosh*, S. Umesh, and Dinesh Manocha. UNFUSED : UNsupervised Finetuning Using SElf supervised Distillation. In 2023 workshop on Self-supervision in Audio, Speech and Beyond, (ICASSP), 2023.
- 2022 Sreyan Ghosh*, Ashish Seth*, Deepak Mittal, Maneesh Singh, and S. Umesh. DeLoRes: Decorrelating Latent Spaces for Low-Resource Audio Representation Learning. In 2022 workshop on Self-supervised Learning for Audio and Speech Processing, (AAAI), 2022.

Professional Work Experience

MTS (Member of Technical Staff) @ Adobe India

2023–2024 Building AI driven Services for B2B Marketing.

- Worked as a software engineer for building AI driven Services for B2B (Business-to-Business) marketing software.
- Led the team in building deep learning models that capture customer behaviors by combining customer and salesperson feedback.

Project Associate @ IIT (Indian Institute Of Technology) Madras

2020 – 2023 Building ASR and TTS models for Indian Languages.

Build Automatic Speech Recognition (ASR) and Text-to-Speech Models for various Indian languages
Presented our findings at many international conferences e.g. ICASSP, InterSpeech, AAAI, etc.

Building end-to-end pipeline for video-to-video translation.

- Developed tools and APIs for video-to-video translation for an e-learning platform like NPTEL (National Program on Technology Enhanced Learning) from English to several regional Indian languages.
- Led the team in building SOTA machine translation systems for various educational domains for Indian languages and collecting diverse data for building such models
- Advisor: Prof. Hema A. Murthy, Prof. S. Umesh

MDSR (Media Data Science and Research) Intern @ Adobe India

May 2022 – Mitigating Societal Bias in Large Foundation Models.

- Aug 2022 Led the team that proposed a novel approach for debiasing Vision-Language models such as CLIP, BLIP, etc, against various protected attributes like race, gender, and age.
- Mentors : Dr. Chirag Agarwal, Mayur Hemani

Research and Teaching Experience

Research Scholar @ GAMMA Lab, University Of Maryland

2024 – Speech and Audio Understanding.

- present I am currently working on building complex Q/A reasoning framework for enhancing and evaluating speech and audio understandability in large foundation models.
- Advisor : Prof. Dinesh Manocha

Teaching Assistant @ University Of Maryland

fall 2024 TA for Graduate NLP (CMSC 723).

Research Scholar @ SPRING Lab, IIT Madras

2021 – 2023 Towards General-Purpose Audio Representation Learning.

- Developed novel self-supervised frameworks to train audio classification models under low resource settings (in terms of data and model size)
- We proposed an open-source benchmark called *LAPE* (Low-Resource Audio Pretraining and Evaluation) which contains multiple speech and non-speech classification tasks.

2022 – 2023 Domain Adaptation in Speech Recognition Models (ASR).

• Proposed novel solutions to tackle domain mismatch while fine-tuning a pre-trained SSL models.

Advisors : Prof. S. Umesh, Prof. Hema A. Murthy

Academic Achievements & Recognitions

- 2023 Best Project Award, at Garage Week, Adobe
- 2023 Best Demo Award at Hack-X, Adobe
- 2023 Awarded IEEE Signal Processing Society Travel Grant
- 2023 Best Presentation/Demo Award in Speech and Language Technology (SLT) Hackathon, Qatar
- 2021 Runner up in Multilingual and Code-Switching ASR Challenges for Low Resource Indian Languages in Interspeech

Community Service

Reviewer IEEE-TNNLS (2024), TMLR(2024), NeurIPS (2024), ICASSP (2024, 2023), EMNLP(2024), ACL (2023)

Programming Skills

Programming Python (Framework: PyTorch, Keras, Numpy, Pandas, Sklearn, Matplotlib, Seaborn), C, Languages C++, Java (Framework: Spring, Scala)

Web HTML 5, PHP, JSP, Javascript, ReactJS

Technologies

Database SQL, MySQL, MongoDb