VASUDHA VARADARAJAN

🎓 Graduate Student at Stony Brook University   📖 Natural Language Processing, Computational Social Science

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in vasevarad   🐙 vasevarad   Google Scholar

EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant
Stony Brook University

📅 Dec 2020 – current   📍 Stony Brook, NY

- Adaptive language-based assessments for better conversational AI.
- Human-centric NLP to identify latent cognitive constructs from language.

Data & Applied Scientist Intern
Microsoft

📅 May 2022 – August 2022   📍 Bellevue, WA

- Exploring fairness in recommendation systems
- Using NLP to augment recommendation systems with pertinent information.

Research Intern
AT&T Labs

📅 May 2021 – July 2021   📍 Remote, New Jersey

- **Applying NLP to Dark-web forum posts** to understanding jargon used and to track posts with malicious intent.
- NLP to understand and classify ticket logs- free-text entries to better understand routine problems in the network.

Teaching Assistant
Stony Brook University

📅 Jan 2020 – Jan 2021   📍 Stony Brook, NY

- CSE306: Operating Systems (Spring 2020)
- CSE312: Legal and Ethical Issues in Information Systems (Fall 2020)

AREAS OF INTEREST

- Natural Language Processing
- Data Science and Machine Learning
- Computational Social Science / Psychology

SKILLS

Python
Tensorflow, Pytorch
Spark, Hadoop
C/C++
Java
Oracle, MongoDB
R

PUBLICATIONS

- **ALBA: Adaptive Language-Based Assessments for Mental Health** To Appear in North American Association for Computational Linguistics 2024.
- **Transfer and Active Learning for Dissonance Detection: Addressing the Rare-Class Challenge** Association for Computational Linguistics 2023.
- **Assessing Anxiety from Language: Discourse-Level Embeddings Improve Prediction.** Association for Computational Linguistics 2023.
- **Detecting Dissonant Stance in Social Media** The Role of Topic Exposure. NLP+CSS at EMNLP 2022
- **Discourse Relation Embeddings: Representing the Relations between Discourse Segments in Social Media.** Unimodal and Multimodal Induction of Linguistic Structures Workshop at EMNLP 2022.

EDUCATION / COURSES

PhD in Computer Science + STRIDE (Science Training and Research to Inform Decisions)
Stony Brook University: GPA 3.94/4.0

📅 January 2020 – current

Bachelor of Engineering in Computer Science + Int. MSc Physics (Hons.)
BITS Pilani: GPA 8.58/10

📅 Aug 2013 – Aug 2018

HONORS & AWARDS

- **Outstanding Paper Award at ACL 2023** For our paper on transfer and active learning for addressing rare class challenges, at the prestigious ACL conference.
- **2022 DARPA Riser** Selected as a Defence Advanced Research Projects Agency Forward Riser for my project on detecting cognitive dissonance from language.
- **INSPIRE scholarship** awarded by Dept. of Science and Technology, India– merit-based support for five years of undergraduate education (2013-18)
- **BITS IPCD Travel grant** Awarded travel to Inria, France in 2018 for undergraduate thesis.
- **National Talent Search Examination** Recipient of the highly selective National Talent Search scholarship in India