

Sai Koti Reddy Danda

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Research Interests

My primary research interests lie in [Reinforcement Learning](#) and [Stochastic Optimal Control](#). Recently, I have started exploring the role of [Game Theory](#) in making multi-agent reinforcement learning algorithms more practical to real-world business applications.

Amongst the application domains, I am interested in [Supply chains](#), [Smart grids](#) and [Robotics](#). On the software engineering side, I built several [Blockchain](#) based solutions for Finance and Auto manufacturing sectors. I am currently building AI based solutions for various use-cases in supply chains. More broadly, I am excited by research at the intersection of computer science, mathematics and software engineering.

Education

Indian Institute of Science M.Sc(Engg). in Computer Science, Advisor: Prof. Shalabh Bhatnagar – Thesis: Stochastic Newton methods with enhanced Hessian estimation	Bangalore, Karnataka 2014 - 2017
NRI Institute of Technology B.Tech. in Information Technology, Advisor: Dr. Viswanath Pulabaigari – Thesis: An Improvement to k-Nearest Neighbor Classifier	Guntur, A.P 2008 - 2012

Experience

IBM Research India Research Engineer position at AI for Supply-chains Group Projects: AI for MEBNs, Blockchain Solutions – AI based analytics for Sterling Commerce Multi Enterprise Business Networks – Led the development of IPDC Supply Chain and Dealer Finance Blockchain Platform – Invoice Reconciliation Using Blockchain for Bajaj Auto Limited first of a kind project	Bangalore, Karnataka Jul 2017 - Current
Robert Bosch Center for Cyber Physical Systems Project Assistant position at Stochastic System Lab under Prof. Shalabh Bhatnagar Project Title: Distributed Multi-Agent Algorithms for Dynamic Control of Microgrids – Explored the role of reinforcement learning for the distributed control of microgrids – I also co-written research proposal along with my project mentor, which is accepted and funded by Department of Science Technology - India – My research work during this period resulted in two top tier publications.	Bangalore, Karnataka Dec 2016 - Jun 2017
IBM Research India Summer Intern position at Mathematical Modeling and Industrial Solutions Group Project Title: Use-cases on Blockchain – Built initial version of invoice discounting (supply chain finance) project for Mahindra & Mahindra on hypeledger fabric 0.6.	Bangalore, Karnataka May - Nov 2016

Publications

- [1] K. Sampath, **S. Danda**, P. Dayama, and S. Sankagiri, “Spot collaborative shipping sans orchestrator using blockchain”, in *Accepted in IEEE Blockchain*, 2020.
- [2] K. Sampath, P. Dayama, **S. Danda**, and V. D. Pandit, “Invoice reconciliation using blockchain”, in *Accepted in INFORMS Annual Meeting*, 2020.
- [3] K. Sampath, **S. Danda**, P. Dayama, and V. D. Pandit, “Collaborative shipping sans orchestrator using blockchain”, in *Accepted in INFORMS Annual Meeting*, 2020.
- [4] S. Nayak, C. A. Ekbote, A. P. S. Chauhan, R. B. Diddigi, P. Ray, A. Sikdar, **S. Danda**, and S. Bhatnagar, “A stochastic game framework for efficient energy management in microgrid networks”, in *Accepted in IEEE PES Innovative Smart Grid Technologies Conference (ISGT)*, 2020.
- [5] **S. Danda**, A. Saha, S. G. Tamilselvam, P. Agrawal, and P. Dayama, “Risk averse reinforcement learning for mixed multi-agent environments”, in *Proceedings of the AAMAS*, 2019, pp. 2171–2173.
- [6] R. B. Diddigi, **S. Danda**, P. KJ, and S. Bhatnagar, “Actor-critic algorithms for constrained multi-agent reinforcement learning”, in *Proceedings of the AAMAS*, 2019, 1931–1933 (**Joint First Author**).
- [7] D. R. Bharadwaj, **S. Danda**, and S. Bhatnagar, “A unified decision making framework for supply and demand management in microgrid networks”, in *2018 IEEE International Conference on Communications, Control, and Computing Technologies for Smart Grids (SmartGridComm)*, IEEE, 2018, 1–7 (**Joint First Author**).
- [8] K. Chandramouli, K. Prabuchandran, **S. Danda**, and S. Bhatnagar, “Generalized deterministic perturbations for stochastic gradient search”, in *2018 IEEE Conference on Decision and Control (CDC)*, IEEE, 2018, pp. 5734–5739.
- [9] **S. Danda**, L. Prashanth, and S. Bhatnagar, “Improved hessian estimation for adaptive random directions stochastic approximation”, in *2016 IEEE 55th Conference on Decision and Control (CDC)*, IEEE, 2016, pp. 3682–3687.
- [10] **S. Danda**, T. H. Sarma, P. Viswanath, and S. Raghava, “An improvement to k-nearest neighbor classifier”, *3rd International Conference on Data Management*, pp. 314–324, 2013.

Patents

- Decentralized Online Multi Agent Visual Question Answering
- System and Method for Factchecking AI models using Blockchain
- Option-based Distributed Reservation System
- Date Quality Control

See full list of defensive publications on saikotireddy.com/research/

Skills

- **Programming Stack:** Python, Golang, Matlab, C
- **Frameworks:** AngularJS, NodeJS, Dash
- **Databases:** MongoDB, Neo4j
- **Tools:** Git, Bash, L^AT_EX

Courses

Selective course work :

- **Artificial Intelligence:** Reinforcement Learning, Machine Learning, Deep Learning, Big Data Specialization
- Computational Methods in Optimization, Design and Analysis of Algorithms, Game Theory
- **Mathematics:** Stochastic Models and Applications, Linear Algebra and Applications, Real Analysis

Awards and Achievements

- IBM Research Spotlight Award 2020
- IBM Research code re-usability championship 2020
- IBM Research India travel award to attend Prof. Yann Lecun talk as part of ACM Annual event in IIT Gandhinagar. 2020
- Project mentored by me in my teaching pod is featured in Neuromatch Academy highlights. 2020
- IBM Client Value Outstanding Technical Achievement Award 2019
- IBM Research Accomplishment Award 2018
- MHRD Scholarship for securing rank among the top 1% in Graduate Aptitude Test in Engineering 2014–2017
- Secured 2nd rank during my undergraduate studies in Information Technology Department. 2008–2012

Teaching

- **Teaching Assistant** at Neuromatch Academy, July 2020
Computational Neuroscience
- **Teaching Assistant** at Indian Institute of Science, Fall 2016
Algorithms and Programming

Academic Service

Conference Reviewer:

- IEEE International Conference on Data Mining 2020
- American Control Conference 2020
- IEEE International Conference on Data Mining 2019
- ACM International Conference on Information and Knowledge Management 2019
- IEEE Conference on Decision and Control 2017