

Kunal Punera

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Research Interests

Web Data Analysis, Data Mining, Machine Learning, Information Retrieval

Education

Dept. of Electrical and Computer Engineering, University of Texas at Austin.

- **Ph.D., Computer Engineering (Dec 2004 – Aug 2007)**
- **Master of Science, Computer Engineering (Aug 2002 - Dec 2004),**

Major GPA: 4.0

Overall GPA: 3.9

Relevant Courses: Data Mining, Advanced Data Mining, Machine Learning, Web Mining, Introduction to Neural Networks, Probability and Stochastic Processes I, Information Theory, Bioinformatics, Engineering Programming Languages, Verification and Validation of Software Systems

Sardar Patel College of Engineering, University of Mumbai (Bombay).

- **Bachelor of Engineering, Computer Engineering, (Aug 1997 - May 2001)**

Major GPA: 3.9

Overall GPA: 3.8

Relevant Courses: Artificial Intelligence, Database Systems, Computer Networks, Object Oriented Programming, Computer Methodology and Algorithms, Software Engineering, Structured Systems Analysis and Design

Research Experience

Summer & Fall 2006

Summer Internship, Yahoo! Research

Fall 2005

Full-time Internship, Yahoo! Research

Summer 2005

Summer Internship, IBM Almaden Research Center

Summer 2004

Summer Internship, IBM Almaden Research Center

Summer 2003

Summer Internship, Verity Inc. (now Autonomy Inc.)

Aug 2002 - to present

**Research Assistant, IDEA Lab (with Dr. Joydeep Ghosh)
University of Texas-Austin <http://www.lans.ece.utexas.edu/>**

Aug 2003 – Jan 2004

**Research Assistant, School of Information Science (with Dr. Don Turnbull)
University of Texas-Austin <http://www.ischool.utexas.edu/~donturn/>**

July 2001 - June 2002

**Lab for Intelligent Internet Research (with Dr. Soumen Chakrabarti)
Indian Institute of Technology-Bombay <http://www.cse.iitb.ac.in/laiir/>**

Jan 2001 - May 2002

**Research Assistant to Dr. R.K. Joshi
Indian Institute of Technology-Bombay <http://www.cse.iitb.ac.in/~rkj/>**

Work Experience

Jan 2004 – to date

**Teaching Assistant for Data Mining, ECE Department,
The University of Texas at Austin, <http://www.ece.utexas.edu/>**

Aug 2002 – May 2003

**Teaching Assistant for Electronic Circuits I, ECE Department,
The University of Texas at Austin, <http://www.ece.utexas.edu/>**

Jan 2000 - June 2001

**Acquisnet Software, Bombay, <http://www.acquisi.com/>
Project Designer**

Publications

- with Suju Rajan and Joydeep Ghosh, **Automatic Construction of N-ary Tree based Taxonomies**, 6th IEEE International Conference on Data Mining (ICDM), Dec 2006
- with Aris Anagnostopoulos and Andrei Broder, **Effective and Efficient Classification via a Search Engine Model**, 15th Conference on Information and Knowledge Management (CIKM), Nov 2006
- with Ravi Kumar and Andrew Tomkins, **Hierarchical Topic Segmentation of Websites**, 12th International Conference on Knowledge Discovery and Data Mining (KDD), Dec 2006
- with Joydeep Ghosh, **CLUMP: a Scalable and Robust Framework for Structure Discovery**, 5th IEEE International Conference on Data Mining (ICDM), Nov 2005
- with Suju Rajan and Joydeep Ghosh, **A Maximum Likelihood Framework for Integrating Taxonomies**, 25th AAAI Conference, July 2005
- with David Gibson and Andrew Tomkins, **The Volume and Evolution of Web Page Templates**, 14th International World Wide Web Conference (WWW), May 2005
- with Suju Rajan and Joydeep Ghosh, **Automatically Learning Document Taxonomies for Hierarchical Classification**, 14th International World Wide Web Conference (WWW), May 2005
- with Soumen Chakrabarti and Mallela Subramanyam, **Accelerated focused crawling through online relevance feedback**, 11th International World Wide Web Conference (WWW), May 2002
- with Soumen Chakrabarti, Mukul Joshi, and David Pennock, **The structure of broad topics on the Web**, 11th International World Wide Web Conference (WWW), May 2002
- with Soumen Chakrabarti, R. Jaju, and Mukul Joshi, **Analyzing fine-grained hypertext features for enhanced crawling and topic distillation**, Data Engineering Vol. 25 No.1, pages 34-42, March 2002

Computer Skills

Programming Languages: C, C++, Java, Perl, Visual Basic, ASP, Javascript
DBMS: IBM DB2, MS Access, Berkeley DB
Tools and Libraries: WEKA, MATLAB, SNNS, UML
Operating Systems: Linux /Unix, Windows (95-XP), and DOS
Markup Languages: HTML, XML, Latex

Non-Technical Skills

Organizational and leadership skills: I was the '**Head Boy**' of Naval Public School (high school) in (96'-97'). I **captained the soccer team** in both my high school and undergraduate institution. I also **organized various technical events** in SPACE, our inter-college festival. I honed my **interpersonal skills and ability to work in a team** at Acquisnet Software and later in Intelligent Internet research group at I.I.T.-Bombay.
Extra-Curricular: I captained my undergraduate college's **soccer** team. I also represented my college in **badminton** and **table tennis**. I learnt to play the **guitar** for many years.

Accomplishments

Merit Scholarship Award, Ministry of Human Resources, Govt. of India, 1997
'Dhirubhai Ambani Foundation' scholarship (1997-2001) for being placed 9th in the All India Senior School Certificate Examination (AISSCE) in the state of Maharashtra.
Merit certificate awarded by CBSE for being placed in the **top 0.1%** of all scoring students (approx. 2,500,000) from all over India in the AISSCE.
'Indian Naval Benevolent Association' scholarship (1997,1998,1999,2000).
'Best Senior Student of the year 1995-1996 in Naval Public School. Also elected '**Head Boy**' in the academic year 1996-1997.
Merit Certificate awarded by 'All Goa Mathematics Teachers Association' for being placed in the **4th in the state level Math Competitive Test** in year 1993.

Employability Status: Student Visa (F1).

References: Available on request