Senior Staff Research Scientist, Manager \bullet Google \bullet manaalfar@gmail.com \bullet +1 479-430-6664

Experience

Google Gemini New York City Senior Staff Research Scientist, Manager 2023 - Present • Co-lead of the core modeling team; managing a team of 14 software engineers and research scientists. • Working on producing high quality post-training finetuning data for Gemini across workstreams. • Overall lead of the instruction following, and reasoning pillars; Tech-lead of factuality, and safety pillars. • Post-training recipe optimization, and evaluation. **Google Assistant** New York City Staff Research Scientist, Manager 2021 - 2023 • Managed a team of 5 software engineers and research scientists. • Made interactions with Assistant more natural wherein the users and assistant can interrupt each other. • Launched the best NLU models on TPU chips in Pixel phones. **Google Assistant** New York City Senior Research Scientist 2018 - 2021 • Brought speech signals from ASR to NLU for end to end optimization of losses for Google Assistant • Improved NLU for noisy user queries including disfluencies.

Google Research New York City 2016 - 2018 **Research Scientist** • Worked on understanding language structure through edits made by users on Wikipedia.

• Improved the quality of "People also ask" questions on Google search.

Education

Carnegie Mellon University	Pittsburgh, PA
PhD, Computer Science.	2012 - 2016
Thesis: Diverse Context for Learning Word Representations	

Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur

B.Tech & M.Tech (Hons.) in Computer Science

Relevant Information

Publications: My most recent publications and patents can be found on Google Scholar. Book: Cross-Lingual Word Embeddings, Synthesis Lectures on HLT, Morgan & Claypool Publishers, 2019. Awards: Best Paper Award at NAACL 2015 for Retrofitting Word Vectors to Semantic Lexicons. Service: Senior Area Chair and Area Chair at ACL, ICLR, EACL, NAACL, EMNLP through the years.

Kharagpur, India 2007 - 2012