# **Sulav Timilsina**

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## **EDUCATION**

Bachelor's Degree in Computer Engineering November 2017 - April 2022 Pashchimanchal Campus, Institute of Engineering, Tribhuwan University, Nepal

(10+2) in Science

June 2015 - June 2017

SOS Hermann Gmeiner School Bharatpur, Bharatpur, Chitwan, Nepal

### WORK EXPERIENCE

Palua.Al

June 2022 - Present

Artificial Intelligence Engineer

- Trained a BERT(110 M Parameters) based Language Model in Nepali, with data scraped from Nepali News Sites.
- Developed the first-ever benchmark for Nepali NLP tasks inspired by GLUE Benchmark.
- Working on Active Learning for NLP to reduce the training data drastically.

# **PUBLICATIONS**

1. Timilsina, S., Gautam, M., Bhattarai, B., NepBERTa: Nepali Language Model Trained on a Large Corpus, Asian Chapter of the Association of Computational Linguistics (AACL), 2022. (PDF) (Project Site)

#### **PROJECTS**

# <u>Transformer-based Model for Nepali Language Understanding</u>

- With about 14.5 GB of text data (0.8 Billion words) by scrapping the top 35 Nepali News Sites, a BERT base model (110 M parameters) was pre-trained from scratch on TPU v3-128.
- Finetuned on 5 different downstream tasks (NER, Sentiment Classification, Sentence Pair Similarity, Content Classification, POS Tagging).

# **Single Image Super-Resolution**

- Implemented SR-GAN from scratch on Tensorflow.
- Used Wasserstein Distance with Gradient Penalty to enforce smooth training of the generator-discriminator network.

# **Mero Health**

- Built an Android app for Hospital/Doctors Appointment
- Used Flutter in frontend and Node JS in the backend with Mongo DB
- Implemented Naive Bayes Algorithm for the recommendation of doctors as per the symptoms.

# **TECHNICAL SKILLS**

- Python with libraries used for machine learning and deep learning like Pandas, Numpy, Scikit-Learn, Open-CV, Tensorflow, Huggingface, etc
- Cloud Computing with Google Cloud Platform
- Deployment platforms like Streamlit and Kubernetes
- Distributed training using GPU and TPU
- Version Controlling with Git
- Linux skills like shell scripting and familiarity with different Linux distributions

## **HACKATHONS**

 Winner of LeapFrog Code Camp 2019, a three-day event where my team presented a cheap EKG machine capable of detecting early signs of heart abnormalities leveraging the power of Deep Learning

# **CERTIFICATES**

- <u>Deep Learning Specialization</u> from deeplearning.ai on Coursera
- Al for Medicine Specialization from deeplearning.ai on Coursera (On-Going)
- Winter School in Al (11-Day Event) organized by NAAMII, a non-profit research organization in Nepal

#### AWARDS AND GRANTS

- **TPU Research Cloud** grant by Google Cloud Team, where I was offered a TPU v3-128 pod with unlimited usage for 90 days.
- Mahatma Gandhi Scholarship 2015, provided by Indian Embassy in Nepal

# LANGUAGES

- Nepali: Native/ Bilingual Proficiency
- English: Fluent/ Full Working Proficiency

#### REFERENCES

- <u>Binod Bhattarai</u>, Palua.Al, Senior Research Fellow, UCL
- Laxmi Prasad Bastola, Assistant Professor, Tribhuvan University
- <u>Urbara Bhandari</u>, Assistant Professor, Tribhuvan University