

# Ritwik Bera

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## EDUCATION

### TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

MS IN AEROSPACE ENGINEERING  
Aug 2019 - current | College Station, TX  
Cum. GPA: 3.5 / 4.0

### INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, KANPUR

BS IN MECHANICAL ENGINEERING  
May 2018 | Kanpur, India  
Cum. GPA: 9.6 / 10.0

## LINKS

Github:// [ritwikbera](#)  
LinkedIn:// [ritwik-bera-130642173](#)  
Google Scholar: [Ritwik Bera](#)

## COURSEWORK

Theory of Distributions  
Statistical Analysis  
Applied Game Theory  
Robot Motion Planning  
Probabilistic Mobile Robotics  
Linear Algebra  
Advanced Calculus

## SKILLS

### PROGRAMMING LANGUAGES

Python • C++ • Bash • R

### SOFTWARE TOOLS

General Development  
Git • Docker • Linux • PostgreSQL •  $\LaTeX$

### Machine Learning-specific

PyTorch • MLFlow • HDFS • Data Version Control (DVC) • OpenAI Gym • numpy • scipy • scikit-learn • matplotlib • pandas

### Miscellaneous

ROS • Autodesk Inventor • Arduino • MATLAB • UNIX-based OSs

## EXPERIENCE

### TEXAS A&M ENGINEERING EXPERIMENT STATION | GRADUATE

#### ASSISTANT - RESEARCH

Sep 2019 – present | College Station, TX

Worked at **Vehicle Systems and Control Laboratory** headed by *Dr. John Valasek*, spearheading research efforts in human-in-the-loop machine learning sponsored by *Army Research Lab, MD*. Also involved in giving internal presentations and mentoring activities to engage more people in such research. Projects worked on:

- Gaze-guided Imitation Learning
- Plannable Option Discovery Network for learning Composable Skills from Unstructured Demonstrations
- Distributed DDPG for Parrot Anafi Drones Cycle-of-Learning in Gazebo

## PROJECTS

### HUMAN RESEARCH AND ENGINEERING DIRECTORATE, ARL |

#### CONTRACT RESEARCHER

May 2020 – present | Remote

Worked with **Dr. Nicholas Waytowich** on multimodal human-in-the-loop learning, specifically on leveraging human eye-gaze data to improve visuomotor capabilities in quadrotors in an end-to-end learning fashion.

### OTHER PROJECTS

Solutions to Multi-Agent Systems based in Applied Game Theory  
Visual Odometry using Careful Feature Selection and Tracking  
FastSLAM guided semi-autonomous Ground Vehicle for Indoor Exploration  
Flask-served, Arduino-Raspberry Pi powered *Smart Lock*

## AWARDS/HONORS

- 2020 CCDC Army Research Laboratory (ARL) Summer Student Experience
- 2020 TAMU AERO Graduate Research Excellence Fellowship
- 2019 Stillwell Fellowship by UIUC Aerospace Engineering (declined)
- 2018 Banco Foundation Prize for Department Rank 1 at IIT, Kanpur

## PUBLICATIONS

- [1] R. Bera, V. G. Goecks, J. Valasek, and N. R. Waytowich. Podnet: A neural network for discovery of plannable options. In *Proceedings of AAAI Spring Symposium 2020*, 2020.
- [2] R. Bera, V. R. Makkapati, and M. Kothari. A comprehensive differential game theoretic solution to a game of two cars. *Journal of Optimization Theory and Applications*, 174(3):818–836, 2017.