

Shikhar Srivastava

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EDUCATION

University of Rochester

PHD, COMPUTER SCIENCE | Advisor: [Christopher Kanan](#)

GPA: 3.98/4.0 | RESEARCH: Enabling large models to learn continually; memory and learning dynamics of LLMs.

Rochester, NY, USA

Expected 2027

Manipal Institute of Technology

B.TECH, COMPUTER SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING

GPA: 9.58/10.0 | HONORS: Academic Excellence Award

Manipal, India

"Institute of Eminence", Gov. of India

EXPERIENCE

EleutherAI

SUMMER RESEARCH | Advisor: [Catherine Arnett](#)

Tokenizer metrics that predict downstream LLM performance, and conversely, tokenizer designs that optimize these metrics. Work under review at EMNLP 2026.

Summer 2025 – Present

Mohamed bin Zayed University of AI (MBZUAI)

PRE-DOCTORAL RESEARCH | Advisors: [Mohammad Yaqub](#), [Dwarikanath Mahapatra](#), [Karthik Nandakumar](#)

Bio-inspired approaches to lifelong learning, with applications to real-world medical imaging.

2020 – 2022

- Work on continual learning for clinical applications won a **Best Paper Award** at **MICCAI 2021** (FAIR Workshop).
- Won **2nd place** in the MoNuSAC post-challenge at **IEEE ISBI 2020**.

Deutsche Post DHL

LEAD DATA SCIENTIST | Smart-Trucking, [DHL eCommerce India](#)

Led data science across India for DHL eCommerce's ~\$100M, ~500-employee Smart-Trucking business. Contracted through **McKinsey & Company**, working in the office of the CEO/COO.

2018 – 2020

SELECTED WORKS

[LayerRoPE: Dynamic Depth-wise Magnitude & Angular Superposition.](#)

S. Srivastava, C. Kanan

Under review | Actionable Interpretability, COLM 2026

[No Single Tokenizer Feature Reliably Predicts Downstream Language Model Performance.](#)

A. Lopardo, L. F. Salim, **S. Srivastava**, K. Jiang, M. Sharma, C. Arnett

Under review | EMNLP 2026

[SHARP: Sleep-based Hierarchical Accelerated Replay for Long Range Non-Stationary Temporal Pattern Recognition.](#)

J. Dey, **S. Srivastava**, I. Lerner, C. Kanan, D. Kudithipudi

CoLLAs 2026

[The Unreasonable Benchmark.](#)

F. Perez-Cruz, B. Hitaj, G. M. Dimitri, O. Deb, A. M'Charrak, **S. Srivastava**, C. Kanan, et al.

DMLR (JMLR), 2026

[Improving Multimodal Large Language Models Using Continual Learning.](#)

S. Srivastava, M. Y. Harun, R. Shrestha, C. Kanan

CoLLAs 2025

Also at: Scalable Continual Learning for Lifelong Foundation Models, NeurIPS 2024

[Revisiting Multi-Modal LLM Evaluation.](#)

J. Lu*, **S. Srivastava***, J. Chen, R. Shrestha, et al.

Benchmarking & Expanding AI Multimodal Approaches, CVPR 2025

Also at: Navigating and Addressing Data Problems for Foundation Models, ICLR 2025

[Continual Learning for Chest X-Ray Classification in Low-Resource Clinical Settings.](#)

S. Srivastava, M. Yaqub, K. Nandakumar, Z. Ge, D. Mahapatra

Best Paper Award | FAIR, MICCAI 2021

AWARDS & ACHIEVEMENTS

Top Reviewer Award | Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS) 2025

Academic Compute Grant (\$2,000) | Modal Labs

Kearns STEM Teaching Fellowship | David T. Kearns Center, University of Rochester

Best Paper Award | FAIR Workshop, Medical Image Computing and Computer-Assisted Intervention (MICCAI) 2021

2nd Place, MoNuSAC Post-Challenge | IEEE International Symposium on Biomedical Imaging (ISBI) 2020

1st Place, Philips Healthcare India Hackathon | Cash prize of 100,000 INR

Indian Academy of Sciences (IASc) Summer Fellowship | 2% acceptance rate across all candidates in India

Institute Academic Excellence Award | 1st rank in class, 3rd in a batch of 236 students

Department Gold Medal & Certificate of Appreciation | Cumulative GPA > 9.5/10

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

REVIEWER: NeurIPS (2024–2026), CoLLAs (2024–2026), EMNLP 2024, IEEE TMI 2023

TEST SCORES: GRE: 333 (Q: 167, V: 166, AWA: 5.0) | TOEFL: 117