

# SRIYASH PODDAR

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## EDUCATION

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**University of Washington** September 2023 – Present  
PhD in Computer Science and Engineering  
*Advisors: Prof. Abhishek Gupta and Prof. Natasha Jaques* GPA:4.0/4.0

**Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur** July 2018 – September 2023  
M.Tech and B.Tech in Computer Science and Engineering  
*Advisor: Prof. Partha P. Chakrabarti* GPA: 9.40/10.0

## PUBLICATIONS

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- [1] **From Crowd Motion Prediction to Robot Navigation in Crowds**  
S. Poddar, C. Mavrogiannis, S. S. Srinivasa  
*International Conference on Intelligent Robots and Systems (IROS) 2023.* [PDF]
- [2] **Winding Through: Crowd Navigation via Topological Invariance**  
C. Mavrogiannis, K. Balasubramanian, S. Poddar, A. Gandra, S. S. Srinivasa  
*IEEE Robotics and Automation Letters (RA-L) 2023.* [PDF]
- [3] **Optimal sequential decision-making with changing action space**  
T. Anand, P. Badjatiya, S. Poddar, J. Subramanian, G. Theocharous, K. Balaji  
*US Patent App. 17/659,983* [PDF]
- [4] **Understanding the Role of Affect Dimensions in Detecting Emotions from Tweets: Multi-task Approach**  
R. Mukherjee, S. Poddar\*, A. Naik\*, S. Dasgupta, N. Ganguly  
*International ACM SIGIR Conference on Research and Development in Information Retrieval 2021.* [PDF]

## EXPERIENCE

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**Graduate Researcher, UW Robotics -** September 23 - Present  
Human in the loop RL and distributional preference learning for real-world robot learning and LLMs.

**Undergraduate Researcher, UW Robotics -** advised by Prof. Siddhartha Srinivasa April 21 - March 23  
Model predictive control and human motion prediction for safe and adaptive robot navigation in crowded and challenging scenarios. Developed and tested the frameworks on Honda's experimental self-balancing robot.

**Research Intern, Mila - Quebec AI Institute -** advised by Prof. Sarath Chandar May 22 - July 22  
Intrinsic motivation for handling non-stationarity in multi-agent reinforcement learning algorithms.

**Research Intern, Adobe Inc. -** Media and Data Science Research Lab May 21 - July 21  
Lifelong learning to generate agents for dynamic action spaces in environments such as recommenders system.

## SERVICE

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**Reviewer** ICRA 2023, HRI 2024, T-RO 2024

**UW CSE PhD Admissions Reviewer** 2024

**Pre Application Mentorship Service (PAMS) Volunteer** Fall 2023

**Teaching Assistant - Reinforcement Learning, IIT Kharagpur** Fall 2022