

Arafat Rahman

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EXPERTISE IN

Applied Machine Learning, Biomedical Signal and Image Processing
Biometrics, Ubiquitous Computing, Healthcare Systems

EXPERIENCE

UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA | RESEARCH ASSISTANT

Jan 2023 - Present | Charlottesville, Virginia, USA

Collaborating with UVA Health to Develop Objective Digital Biomarkers for Neuromuscular Disorders

- Designed and implemented a machine learning pipeline to derive a multimodal upper-limb skeleton and ultrasound-based disease progression index for Spinal Muscular Atrophy (SMA) and Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy (DMD).
- Contributed to the preparation of an NSF Smart and Connected Health grant proposal on digital biomarker-based evaluation of upper extremity function in neuromuscular disorders (under review).
- Developed a Riemannian Shape Variational Autoencoder (VAE) for predicting disease severity of stroke patients from motion-capture (mo-cap) data.
- Built a Transformer-based survival analysis pipeline that predicts Multiple Sclerosis (MS) progression from longitudinal wearable gait accelerometry.

Fair and Adaptive Framework for Work-Related Musculoskeletal Disorders (WMSDs)

- Built a Disentangled Variational Autoencoder (DVAE) that estimates hand-loads from wearable IMU time series, with fairness regularization to reduce performance disparities across sex.
- Contributed to the development of a real-time adaptive framework that recalibrates predictions to new instances of multivariate gait-sensor streams and enhances performance of hand load prediction.

QATAR UNIVERSITY | RESEARCH ASSISTANT

Apr 2021 – Jun 2022 | Remote

Deep Learning-Based Biomedical Signal Processing and Biometrics

- Designed a deep learning model (LinkNet++) for fetal ECG extraction from maternal abdominal ECG.
- Developed a multimodal EEG and keystroke dynamics-based biometric system using Self-organized Operational Neural Network (Self-ONN).

UNIVERSITY OF DHAKA | RESEARCH ASSISTANT

Jul 2018 – Jul 2019 | Dhaka, Bangladesh

3D-Printed Myoelectric Prosthetic Hand

- Designed a low-cost myoelectric prosthetic hand in SolidWorks, 3D printed and built a deep learning algorithm for EMG-based control.

EDUCATION

UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA

PHD, SYSTEMS AND INFORMATION
ENGINEERING

Jan 2023 - April 2027 | Charlottesville,
Virginia, USA

UNIVERSITY OF DHAKA

MS, BIOMEDICAL PHYSICS AND
TECHNOLOGY

2021 | Dhaka, Bangladesh

UNIVERSITY OF DHAKA

BS, ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC
ENGINEERING

2018 | Dhaka, Bangladesh

GRADUATE

COURSEWORK

Natural Language Processing,
Geometry of Data,
Signal Processing, Machine Learning and
Control,
Data Mining,
Human Factors,
Network and Combinatorial
Optimization,
Cyber-Physical System Safety and
Security

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Programming Languages: Python, R,
MATLAB

Software Frameworks: PyTorch,
scikit-learn

Software: SolidWorks, Proteus

Hardware: AVR and Arduino-based
system design

Machine Operation: Laser Cutter, CNC,
3D printer

SOCIETIES

Treasurer: ABS UVA

Member: ACM, IEEE

INTERESTS

Traveling, Sports, Reading, Fishing

SELECTED JOURNAL ARTICLES

- **Rahman, A.**, Lim, S. and Chung, S., 2025. Fairness in Machine Learning-Based Hand Load Estimation: A Case Study on Load Carriage Tasks. *Applied Ergonomics*, 130, p.104642.
- Kumar, S., **Rahman, A.**, Gutierrez, R., Livermon, S., McCrady, A.N., Blemker, S., Scharf, R., Srivastava, A. and Barnes, L.E., 2025. A Shape-Based Functional Index for Objective Assessment of Pediatric Motor Function. *PLOS ONE*, 20(10), p.e0332383.
- **Rahman, A.**, Nahid, N., Schuller, B. and Ahad, M.A.R., 2024. A Stacked CNN and Random Forest Ensemble Architecture for Complex Nursing Activity Recognition and Nurse Identification. *Scientific Reports*, 14(1), p.31667.
- **Rahman, A.**, Mahmud, S., Chowdhury, M.E., Yalcin, H.C., Khandakar, A., Mutlu, O., Mahbub, Z.B., Kamal, R.Y. and Pedersen, S., 2023. Fetal ECG Extraction from Maternal ECG Using Deeply Supervised LinkNet++ Model. *Engineering Applications of Artificial Intelligence*, 123, p.106414.
- **Rahman, A.**, Chowdhury, M.E., Khandakar, A., Tahir, A.M., Ibtehaz, N., Hossain, M.S., Kiranyaz, S., Malik, J., Monawwar, H. and Kadir, M.A., 2022. Robust Biometric System Using Session Invariant Multimodal EEG and Keystroke Dynamics by the Ensemble of Self-ONNs. *Computers in Biology and Medicine*, 142, p.105238.

MANUSCRIPTS IN PROCESS

- Multimodal Skeleton and Ultrasound-Based Modeling for Predicting Upper Limb Disease Severity Progression in Neuro-muscular Disorders.
- Riemannian Shape Variational Autoencoder (VAE) for predicting disease severity of stroke patients using motion-capture (mo-cap) data.
- Transformer Survival Analysis-Based Disease Severity Progression Prediction in Multiple Sclerosis.

SELECTED CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

- Ahmed, M.S., **Rahman, A.**, Rucker, M. and Barnes, L.E., 2025. SocialPulse: An On-Smartwatch System for Detecting Real-World Social Interactions. In *Companion of the 2025 ACM International Joint Conference on Pervasive and Ubiquitous Computing (UbiComp Companion '25)*.
- Nahid, N., **Rahman, A.** and Ahad, M.A., 2020. Deep Learning-Based Surface EMG Hand Gesture Classification for Low-Cost Myoelectric Prosthetic Hand. In *2020 Joint 9th International Conference on Informatics, Electronics & Vision (ICIEV) and 2020 4th International Conference on Imaging, Vision & Pattern Recognition (icIVPR)* (pp. 1-8). **[Excellent Paper Award]**
- Nahid, N., **Rahman, A.**, Das, T.K., Khabir, K.M., Islam, A. and Alam, M.S., 2019, May. Design and Implementation of DUFAB Hand, a Low-Cost Myoelectric Prosthetic Hand. In *2019 Joint 8th International Conference on Informatics, Electronics & Vision (ICIEV) and 2019 3rd International Conference on Imaging, Vision & Pattern Recognition (icIVPR)* (pp. 206-211).

WORKSHOP ARTICLES

- **Rahman, A.**, Hassan, I. and Ahad, M.A.R., 2021, September. Nurse Care Activity Recognition: A Cost-Sensitive Ensemble Approach to Handle Imbalanced Class Problem in the Wild. In *Adjunct Proceedings of the 2021 ACM UbiComp and ISWC* (pp. 440-445).
- **Rahman, A.**, Nahid, N., Hassan, I. and Ahad, M.A.R., 2020, September. Nurse Care Activity Recognition: Using Random Forest to Handle Imbalanced Class Problem. In *Adjunct Proceedings of the 2020 ACM UbiComp and ISWC* (pp. 419-424). **[3rd Place Award]**

AWARDS

- 3rd Place at the 2nd Nurse Care Activity Recognition Challenge (ACM UbiComp/ISWC) 2020
- IAPR travel grant to attend IAPR/IEEE Winter School on Biometrics 2020, 2021
- NASA Space Apps Challenge Runner-up (Dhaka Region) 2019