

# Pinak Mandal

Glebe - 2037, Sydney, NSW

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## Education and Employment

- **University of Sydney, Sydney** 2023 - 2025  
Postdoc (Machine Learning and Dynamical Systems)  
Supervisor: [Georg Gottwald](#)
- **International Centre for Theoretical Sciences, Bengaluru** 2017 - 2023  
PhD (Applied Mathematics and Deep Learning)  
Supervisors: [Amit Apte](#), [Vishal Vasan](#)  
Thesis: Numerical Filter Stability, Fokker-Planck Equations and Infinite Dimensional Optimization with Deep Learning
- **Jadavpur University, Kolkata** - MSc (Mathematics) 2014 - 2016
- **Jadavpur University, Kolkata** - BSc (Mathematics) 2011 - 2014

## Projects

I have worked on a broad range of applied problems with a recent focus in fundamental machine learning. Some of them are listed below.

- **Unlearning via orthogonalization in generative models, USyd** 2025  
Developed new model-agnostic algorithms for forgetting sensitive data in generative models that are  $\sim 150\times$  faster than gradient surgery.
- **Learning dynamical systems from data with Random Feature Maps, USyd** 2024  
Developed data-driven sampling for tanh random feature maps; implemented deep and local variants of RFMs, achieving state-of-the-art forecast times for chaotic dynamical systems with  $\sim 15\text{-}20\times$  smaller models than traditional ML architectures.
- **Solving partial differential equations and constrained optimization problems with deep learning, ICTS** 2021-2023  
Developed deep learning algorithms for solving high-dimensional Fokker-Planck equations and problems in calculus of variations and identified a special failure mode of physics-informed neural networks for parabolic equations.
- **Data Assimilation, ICTS** 2020-2021  
Developed a fast, scalable method for assessing the stability of numerical filters, including EnKF and particle filters, and demonstrated exponential stability in both cases.
- **Predicting Visual Stimuli from fMRI Data, Neuromatch Academy** 2021  
Used fMRI data to predict images seen by human subjects (in collaboration with an international group of graduate students).
- **Atmospheric Plume Modelling, ICTS** 2019  
Developed a PDE-based model for atmospheric plume, and combining with it open-source data from OpenStreetMap, estimated air pollution levels in [Peenya](#).

## Selected Conferences and Seminars

- Mathematical and Computational Foundations of Climate Modeling - **BIRS, CMI** | **Talk:** Unlearning via orthogonalization in generative models 2025
- Co-organized minisymposium titled: Data-driven reconstruction and forecasting of dynamical systems - **SIAM DS25, Denver** 2025
- Machine learning seminar - **USyd** | **Talk:** Learning dynamical systems with hit-and-run random feature maps 2025
- Numerical methods for complex high dimensional systems - **Jervis Bay** | **Talk:** From Random to Reliable: Good sampling for random features in ML 2024
- New directions for SDE and machine learning - **ICMS, Edinburgh** | **Poster:** Success and failure of PINNs and solving Fokker-Planck equations 2024
- Variational principles of plasma confinement in 3D magnetic fields - **ANU** | **Talk:** Deep learning for stellarator design (with Zhisong Qu) 2023
- 7th Indian Control Conference - **IIT Bombay** | **Talk:** Stability of nonlinear filters - numerical explorations of particle and ensemble Kalman filters 2021

## Achievements

- 2nd place at national level mathematics exam IIT-JAM 2014
- 9th place at national level mathematics exam TIFR-GS 2016
- 15th place at national level math exam (for lecturership in India) NET 2016
- Future Research Talent Fellow (Australian National University) 2021
- Recipient of Infosys-TIFR Leading Edge travel grant 2023

## Publications and Visualizations

- I have published several first-author articles in high-impact journals, including **Nature Communications**, **Foundations of Data Science**, **Physica D**, and **IEEE**. A list of my research articles can be found [here](#).
- A gallery of visualizations illustrating some of my projects is available on my [GitHub page](#).

## Technical Skills

I have authored multiple software packages in Python, and bring several years of experience with Python's scientific computing and machine learning stack, including expertise in TensorFlow and PyTorch.

- **Languages:** Python (primary), C, MATLAB, SQL
- **Libraries:** PyTorch, TensorFlow, NumPy, SciPy, Pandas, Matplotlib
- **ML Techniques:** Deep Learning, Generative Models (VAE, GAN, WGAN, WGAN-GP, Diffusion Transformers, Flow Matching), Gradient Surgery, Random Feature Maps
- **Other:** Git, GPU Computing, Data Visualization, Google Colab, Hugging Face
- **Some open-source GitHub projects authored by me:** [DeepRFM](#), [forget](#), [fp-solvers](#)

## Referees

- [Georg Gottwald](#) - University of Sydney, Sydney
- [Amit Apte](#) - Indian Institute of Science Education and Research, Pune
- [Vishal Vasan](#) - International Centre for Theoretical Sciences, Bengaluru
- [Sreekar Vadlamani](#) - TIFR - Centre for Applicable Mathematics, Bengaluru