Office of Alumni Affairs, IIITA, Prayagraj
Brief Biodata of the Speaker Dr. Aasish Pappu
(IIITA Alumnus, B. Tech. IT 2003 Batch, Enrollment No. B2003002)
Title of Talk: **"Query Understanding and Intent Prediction for Music and Podcasts"**

AASISH PAPPU, PH.D.

EDUCATION

2007	BTech. (Information Tech.)	Indian Institute of Information Tech., Allahabad, India
2010	M.S. (Computer Science)	Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh PA, USA
2014	Ph.D. (Computer Science)	Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh PA, USA

EXPERIENCE

02/19 -	Senior Research Scientist and Research Lead, Spotify, New York, NY, USA
10/14 - 01/19	Senior Research Scientist, Yahoo Research, New York, NY, USA

PERSONAL STATEMENT

I am a Research Scientist and Research Lead at Spotify, New York. I work on Knowledge Graphs and Transformer methods for podcast search and content-based podcast recommendations. I was previously at Yahoo Research working on Discourse and Dialogue problems where he received the Master Inventor Award for innovative and impactful work. Prior to Yahoo, I obtained a PhD in 2014 from the School of Computer Science at Carnegie Mellon University. My research interests are Semantic Knowledge Bases, and Multilingual Discourse Processing. I previously worked on problems related to Spoken Language Processing,Spoken Dialog Systems, Learning Semantic Knowledge Bases for Dialog Agents, and Multiparty Conversational Agents. I served as area chair at EMNLP, session chair at IJCNLP and serve as a member of the program committees of major conferences in the field of Natural Language Processing and Speech Processing (SIGDial, ACL, NAACL, Interspeech, EMNLP) and as a reviewer for several international journals viz., Discourse and Dialogue, Natural Language Engineering, Computational Linguistics, Speech Communication.

At Spotify, I currently lead the research on semantic search and entity-driven retrieval where I develop query semantic representations for effective understanding of user intent. I previously led the podcast knowledge graph population efforts and we worked on large scale entity extraction methods. Over recent years, podcasts have emerged as a novel medium for sharing and broadcasting information over the Internet -- we curated and released one of the largest audio datasets available for research. Paired with the audio files, they are also a resource for speech processing and the study of paralinguistic, sociolinguistic, and acoustic aspects of the domain. This has been successfully adopted by the research community and we conducted a new TREC task on podcast search and summarization. At Yahoo, I led the efforts on unsupervised large scale multilingual entity extraction and linking. This work was instrumental in powering document processing pipeline of news articles displayed on Yahoo.com

GRANTS & AWARDS

Yahoo Master Inventor Award for innovative and impactful research work	December 2018
Four Yahoo! Patent Milestone Awards recognition for filing patents.	2015-2019
Press coverage on Automatic Humor Detection in Gizmodo and MIT Tech Review.	July 2015
Yahoo! SPOT Bonus Award for above-and-beyond, outstanding research in Q1 2015.	March 2015