

KARIM BENHARRAK

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SUMMARY

Distinguished computer science undergraduate student with a passion to leverage AI methods to create intelligent applications to deliver adaptive user experiences. Experienced founder of two startups with proven track record of driving innovation in high paced entrepreneurial settings. Three years of academic research experience within the field of Human-Computer-Interaction. Recipient of Germany's most prestigious academic scholarship due to outstanding academic performance and personal achievements.

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA Nov 2022 – May 2023
Bachelor Thesis in augmented/virtual reality combined with data visualization (supervised by Dr. Dominik Moritz and Dr. David Lindlbauer)

University of Bayreuth, Bayreuth, Germany Oct 2019 – May 2023
Bachelor of Science (B.Sc.) in Computer Science (Top 5% of Class, German GPA 1.7)

- Scholarship recipient of the German Academic Scholarship Foundation which is Germany's most prestigious scholarship foundation only admitting exceptional academic talents which expected to make an outstanding contribution to society
- Selected for the Entrepreneurial Skills Program for High Potentials at the University of Bayreuth
- Relevant Coursework: Software Engineering I, Programming concepts, Formal basics in computer science

San Jose State University, San Jose, CA Fall 2021
Semester abroad at SJSU in Computer Science (GPA 4.0)

- Relevant Coursework: Mobile Device Development, Blockchain & Cryptocurrencies, Big Data, Management of Innovation

WORK EXPERIENCE

TeamViewer Goeppingen, GER May 2022 – Oct 2022
Working Student Software Engineering

- Developed interactive AR applications for iOS using ARKit in combination with ML methods to make remote controlled support more interactive
- Implemented a new intelligent face blurring algorithm that will be tested on high-volume customers

University of Bayreuth Bayreuth, GER Nov 2020 – Oct 2022
Student Researcher (Research Group Human-Computer-Interaction + Artificial Intelligence)

- Research focused on improving user interfaces using computational methods to make digital technology more effective
- Authored and published research papers at renowned conferences such as ACM UIST and ACM IUI
- Created a new user interface and interaction concept by utilizing continuous automatic NLP text summarizations and realizing AI-support for the metacognitive writing strategy "reverse outlining" and thus significantly improved user's writing process
- Developed a Python Flask API which provides abstractive and extractive NLP summarization methods using pre-trained language models like T5 and GloVe Word Embeddings

Simsa Bayreuth, GER Nov 2020 – Jan 2022
Co-Founder & CTO (B2B startup providing individualized e-learning services to construction companies)

- Developed a learning management system by utilizing technologies like Django, Django REST framework and React.js
- Created workflows for Learning Analytics to individualize the user's learning experience by utilizing xAPI and data analytics
- Simsa's solution for virtual collaboration in the construction industry was selected out of 493 teams as a semi-finalist of the HILTI Global IT Competition

Legmon Langen, GER Dez 2019 – Nov 2021
Co-Founder & CTO (Social startup developing a mobile app providing a lifestyle tracking feature and an online community with courses and videos)

- Led a diverse team of 17 to develop and publish an iOS and Android application with 2500+ installations and 400+ daily active users

PUBLICATIONS

- Dang H., Benharrak K., Lehmann F., Buschek D. Beyond Text Generation: Supporting Writers with Continuous Automatic Text Summaries. ACM UIST 2022 Full Paper
- Benharrak K., Lehmann F., Dang H., Buschek D. SummaryLens: A Smartphone App for Exploring Interactive Use of Automated Text Summarization in Everyday Life. ACM IUI 2022 Poster

SKILLS & INTERESTS

- Coding & Software: Python, Java, SQL, Android Studio, XCode, C++, HTML5, CSS3, JavaScript, React, Django, Excel, XML, JSON, Flask
- Specialization and research areas: Human-Computer-Interaction, Intelligent User Interfaces, AI, Natural Language Processing
- Languages: English (fluent), German (native)
- Social Engagement: Leader of Google Developer Student Club Bayreuth, Co-Initiator of instrumentheroes.de, IT-Expert Volunteer at Law&Legal