Kirtan Patel

https://www.linkedin.com/in/kirtan-patel-3616b3294/ | https://github.com/Kirtan-Patel234

SUMMARY

Data Science student with practical experience in building scalable data pipelines and predictive models. Skilled in Python, SQL, and ETL processes, with a strong foundation in data quality principles and big data analytics. Proven ability to extract actionable insights and collaborate effectively in team environments, contributing to innovative data quality improvements.

EDUCATION

University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, Siebel School of Computing and Data Science

May 2026

Bachelor of Science, Data Science

• Coursework: Foundation in Data Science, Applied Data Science with Python, Linear Algebra, Probability and Statistics for Computer Science, Data Structures in Python, Intro to Machine Learning, Machine Learning in Physics

EXPERIENCES

Illinois Data Science Club Aug 2023 - Present

Project Manager

Champaign IL

- Built scalable **data pipelines** to process **25GB** of F1 telemetry and weather data, ensuring **ETL** processes adhered to high data quality standards using **Pandas**, **NumPy**, and **scikit-learn**.
- Trained ML models using RandomForest and XGBoost while incorporating rigorous data quality checks through grid search optimization for hyperparameter tuning to predict race-winning strategies.
- Developed comprehensive **data visualizations** to analyze feature importance, uncover key race-winning factors, and support refined data quality insights for **actionable** decision-making.
- Designed **predictive pipelines** leveraging ensemble learning models and automated model evaluation with **cross-validation** and custom scoring functions, integrating data quality metrics for improved reliability.
- Secured **2nd** place out of 25 teams at IDSC's Data Dive Competition, demonstrating effective **team collaboration** and **commitment** to high data quality standards.

2025 Illinois Statistics Datathon

Mar 2025

Data Scientist

Champaign IL

- Built an end-to-end data science solution combining **financial forecasting** and **fraud risk analysis** across tokenized and relational datasets, incorporating automated data quality validations to guide strategic credit decisions.
- Developed a chain forecasting model with **linear regression** to **predict** quarterly account spending after performing thorough data quality checks, achieving an RMSE of 1200 despite high variance in user behavior.
- Engineered a **RandomForest** classifier to detect fraud risk with **86%** accuracy, integrating spending predictions and initial data quality assessments to compute fraud-adjusted credit line recommendations.
- Selected as a **finalist** out of **180** teams, recognized by Synchrony Financial judges for technical maturity, business alignment, and clear articulation of **data quality** practices.

PROJECTS

NFL Injury Forecast Mar 2024

- Built a custom **web scraper** to collect player injury data across all NFL teams from 2004–2022 directly from the official NFL website.
- Developed a linear regression model to predict whether teams should retain previously injured players based on historical recovery and performance trends across positions and injury types.
- Achieved 60% accuracy in binary retention prediction, tuning hyperparameters to balance overfitting and generalizability.
- Utilized advanced **SQL** queries to extract and manipulate **large datasets**, ensuring high **data accuracy** and integrity to support downstream **statistical analysis** and machine learning workflows.

Candidate Recommendation Engine

Aug 2025

- Developed an AI-driven web app that ranks candidates for job descriptions using fine-tuned **SentenceTransformer vector embeddings**, achieving ROC AUC of 0.81 and accuracy of 71%, significantly improving **semantic matching accuracy**.
- **Computed** cosine similarity between job and resume embeddings to efficiently identify the top 5 most relevant candidates in under 10 seconds per query, enhancing recruitment speed.
- **Built** a multi-page PDF resume parser capable of correctly grouping resumes for 100% of tested candidates across 50+ files, ensuring flawless data organization.
- Integrated Google Gemini API to generate automated, personalized candidate summaries, highlighting key skills, gaps, and hiring recommendations, reducing manual review time by 40% and boosting productivity.
- **Deployed** an interactive Streamlit **UI** enabling recruiters to filter, rank, and download candidate summaries efficiently, improving hiring workflow and user experience.

SKILLS

- $\bullet \textbf{Languages/Tools} : Python, SQL, R, Java, C++, HTML, Pandas, NumPy, Tableau, AWS, Excel, Azure Cloud, GCP and State of the Control of th$
- Techniques: Data Preprocessing, Data Wrangling, NLP, Big Data Analytics, Data Mining, Data Pipelines, Data Visualization
- · Other: Analytical Reasoning, Critical Thinking, Team Collaboration, Problem Solving, Ethical AI