Nicholas Sarris **7411 Chipping Road**

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**Education:**

**Norfolk Collegiate School**

*Graduated with advanced diploma*

**University of Virginia**

* Attending UVA School of Engineering and Applied Sciences
* Looking to major in Computer Science with a focus in Machine Learning/Data Analytics

**Work Experience:**

**NASA Langley Research Center**

*Summer Intern*

* Mentors:
  + Manjula Ambur, Chief Knowledge Officer, Leader: Big Data Analytics and Machine Learning
  + Jeremy Yagle, AST, Data Analyst, Big Data Analytics and Machine Learning
* Research involved designing and coding a program using Python and machine learning that would analyze and scan carbon-fiber sheets for delaminations after they had been hurled at a wall, essentially testing their structural integrity for later use.

**Accolades/Achievements:**

**Kaggle:** <http://www.kaggle.com>

“In 2010, Kaggle was founded as a platform for predictive modelling and analytics competitions on which companies and researchers post their data and statisticians and data miners from all over the world compete to produce the best models.”

* Out of over 600,000 users, I am ranked: 586 / 600,000 +

*Notable Competitions and Results:*

* **Expedia Hotel Recommendations** (89th of 1974): The goal of this competition was to create an algorithm that could predict the correct hotel cluster that a customer would book a room at given logs of their behavior and background. My submission consisted of an ensemble of neural networks and GBM models that scored approximately 0.50001 when evaluated on a MAP@7 scale
* **Predicting Red Hat Business Value** (108th of 2271): The goal of this competition was to create a classification algorithm that accurately identifies which customers have the most potential business value for Red Hat based on their characteristics and activities. My submission consisted of a single GBM model that scored 0.991971 when evaluated using the area under the ROC curve between the predicted and observed outcomes.
* **Allstate Claims Severity** (114th of 3055): The goal of this competition was to create an algorithm that could accurately predict the severity of insurance claims. My submission consisted of a weighted ensemble of neural networks and GBM models that scored approximately 1113.62896 when evaluated using the mean absolute error between the predicted and actual loss.