# Ritika Akode

Virginia, USA(Open to Relocate) | ritikaakode05@gmail.com | +13305545705 | LinkedIn | Portfolio

# **Objective**

Business Analyst with proven expertise in both **technical** areas (data analytics, SQL, Power BI, machine learning) and **non-technical** functions (stakeholder engagement, BRDs, UAT, business process mapping). Skilled at translating business needs into actionable insights and effectively bridging the gap between business and technology teams to support strategic decision-making.

#### Education

Kent State University. Kent, Ohio.

M.S. in Business Analytics

Little Flower Degree College. Hyderabad, India.

B. Com in Computer Applications

Aug 2023 - Dec 2024 | GPA: 3.8/4

Specialization: Machine Learning

Jun 2018 – Jul 2021 | GPA: 3.36/4.0

#### **Technical Skills**

#### **Data Analytics & Forecasting:**

R, SQL, SSMS, Excel (Power Query, Pivot Tables, Macros), Power BI, Tableau, MATLAB, Python

#### **Machine Learning & Modeling:**

Random Forest, XGBoost, Decision Trees, SVM, Naïve Bayes, Neural Networks, Feature Engineering, Time Series Forecasting, Clustering, EDA, Model Evaluation (Accuracy, Precision, Recall, F1-Score, RMSE, MAE)

## Visualization & Dashboarding:

Power BI, Tableau, Excel Charts, Heatmaps, Geospatial Visualization, Dashboard Design.

#### **Business Analysis & Documentation:**

BRDs, User Stories, Functional Specifications, UAT Testing, Process Mapping, JIRA, Confluence, Lucidchart, PowerPoint

#### **Software Proficiency:**

Microsoft Office 365 (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook, Teams), Google Workspace (Drive, Docs, Sheets, Slides, Forms)

## **Methodologies & Domains:**

Agile, Scrum, KPI Monitoring, ERP Systems, CRM Reporting, Campaign Analytics

#### **Business Skills:**

Analytical Thinking, Attention to Detail, Problem Solving, Cross-Functional Collaboration, Client Communication, Stakeholder Management, Time Management, Adaptability, Presentation Skills

# **Professional Experience**

**Business Analyst**Sep 2021 – Jul 2023 **Nextgen Solutions**Hyderabad, India

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Hyderabad, India

Led end-to-end requirement gathering and documentation (BRDs, user stories, process flows) using JIRA and Confluence for ERP

- Led end-to-end requirement gathering and documentation (BRDs, user stories, process flows) using JIRA and Confluence for ERP implementations in Agri-Tech and Retail domains, improving team alignment and reducing rework by 30%.
- Built 12+ real-time dashboards using Power BI and Tableau to track order fulfillment, SLA compliance, and sales trends for e-commerce clients, increasing operational visibility and decision-making speed by 25%.
- Automated manual reporting tasks through Excel Macros and Power Query, streamlining sales and inventory reports for retail ERP systems and cutting manual effort by 40%.
- Monitored operational costs and purchasing trends to support financial alignment in ERP systems
- Coordinated with external vendors during **ERP module implementation and dashboard integration** to ensure timely delivery and data compliance
- Participated in Agile sprint planning and review meetings, ensuring stakeholder alignment and prioritization of requirements
- Extracted and analyzed domain-specific data using SQL and SSMS, identifying procurement and SKU performance trends that helped reduce excess inventory by 15% for Agri-Tech clients.
- Created and optimized process flow diagrams in Lucidchart for logistics and billing modules in ERP systems, enhancing developer clarity and shortening release cycles by 20%.

**Tools & Techniques:** Power BI, Tableau, SQL, SSMS, Excel (Power Query, Macros), JIRA, Confluence, Lucid chart, PowerPoint. Skilled in BRDs, user stories, process mapping, UAT testing, Agile methodology, and KPI reporting for ERP in Agri-Tech, Retail & Ecommerce.

# Business Analyst (Internship)

Aug 2024 - Dec 2024

AB Technologies Austin, Texas(Remote)

- Spearheaded the development of automated sales forecasting reports in R and Excel, reducing manual effort by 40% and improving forecast accuracy for senior stakeholders.
- Designed interactive dashboards in Power BI to monitor campaign performance, customer churn, and lead conversion metrics,

- accelerating decision-making cycles by 30%.
- Conducted customer segmentation and deep-dive analysis on market datasets using SQL, uncovering untapped segments and increasing campaign targeting effectiveness by 20%.
- Collaborated with CRM and marketing teams to map and optimize reporting workflows in Lucid chart, reducing report turnaround time by 25% and enhancing data accessibility.
- Documented user stories and business requirements for marketing analytics initiatives using JIRA and Confluence, ensuring seamless coordination across analytics, CRM, and business teams

**Tools & Techniques:** R, SQL, Power BI, Excel (Power Query, Pivot Tables), Lucidchart, JIRA, Confluence, CRM Reporting, Sales Forecasting, KPI Monitoring, Exploratory Data Analysis (EDA), Data Visualization, Campaign Performance Tracking

## **Academic Projects**

## Capstone Project (IMDB Movie Success Prediction)

- Predicted movie success ('hit' or 'flop') by evaluating **24 machine learning models** (e.g., **Decision Trees**, **SVM**, **Neural Networks**, **Naïve Bayes**) in **MATLAB**.
- Improved accuracy using top 10 features selected via MRMR, Chi-Square, ReliefF, ANOVA, and Kruskal-Wallis.
- Ran 27 experiments with varying feature sets and validation methods; benchmarked using Accuracy, F1-score, and Confusion
  Matrix.
- Introduced CPU time as a metric; used the Ohio Supercomputer Center to identify efficient models (e.g., Gaussian Naïve Bayes, RUSBoosted Trees).

# **Walmart Sales Forecasting**

- Built a Random Forest model in R to forecast weekly sales, incorporating holiday, promotion, and lag features.
- Captured seasonal patterns using time series decomposition; evaluated with RMSE, MAE, R-squared.
- Identified key sales drivers to guide inventory planning and promotion strategies.

## **Uber Data Analysis & Visualization**

- Analyzed **geospatial** and **time-based ride data** using **R** and **Excel** to identify peak hours and demand zones.
- Applied EDA and clustering to uncover ride behavior patterns.
- Built heatmaps and dashboards to support surge pricing and driver allocation decisions.