Syed Zain Raza

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EDUCATION

Dominican University of California, San Rafael, CA
B.S. Applied Computer Science (expected Dec 2021)
- Accelerated 2.5-year program involving several **computer science** and **machine learning projects.**

EXPERIENCE

Teaching Assistant (**Tensorflow, Keras,** Docker**)**   *Dominican University of California, Fall 2021*
- Supporting 20+ students in gaining **machine learning conceptual knowledge** (e.g. contributed to guided walkthrough lessons on using deep learning for image classification, and deployed a companion REST API).
- Hosted weekly Office Hours to support students **to achieve their goals on their technical projects.**
- Revamped 30 Python exercises for professor's upcoming textbook on Data Science and Machine Learning.

PLM Software Development Intern, R&D (**Java**, HTML/CSS, Javascript)   *PTC, June 2021-Aug 2021*
- Gained **practical knowledge of OOP principles** and design patterns via internal learning resources.
- Contributed UI improvements to enhance error handling and information disclosure in Windchill.
- Collaborated with teammates to review code, fix bugs, and introduce a new e2e testing framework to the team.

Open Source Developer, headsetsGoodbye (**Tensorflow.js, Self-Driven)**   *IQ3Connect Inc., Feb 2021-May 2021*
- Developed **computer vision** application to demo facial expression analysis for interfacing with a digital robot.
- Implemented a face tracking app where the user's line of sight moved the camera's field of view in a 3D space.

Software Engineer Intern, Carbon0 (**Tensorflow,** Django**,** Docker)   *Carbon0 Games, Aug 2020-Mar 2021*
- Acquired 500+ users in about 90 days for a green-field MVP at a startup, accelerated progress to funding.
- Added new features like a **CNN** that achieved 70% accuracy in **classifying plant disease via Keras**.
- **Raised model's accuracy to 89%** using transfer learning with Inception V3, and exported to production**.**
- Merged 100 pull requests for a team of six developers without hassle by utilizing **automated testing** with CI.
- Streamlined environment setup using Docker, **decreasing friction for OSS contributors.**
- Ingested a dataset of 87,000 RGB images by optimizing memory usage in training with data generators.

Passion Project, Tinydoor (**Python, AWS Rekognition**)   *Microsoft Summer Challenge, Jun-Aug 2020*
- Produced a web app to help retailers track unbiased customer satisfaction metrics using **computer vision**.
- Cultivated a team of four and led pitch to an audience of recruiters and software engineers from Microsoft.

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

Peer Mentor   *Make School, Aug 2020-Present*
- Mentored first-year students in their transition to Make School, increased overall student retention rates.
- Facilitated group discussions with peers to reinforce productive work habits, based on *Getting Things Done.*

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Productive - Python*,* Keras, Git, Unix commands, Javascript, Django, Docker, NumPy, Java, Heroku
Familiar - Tensorflow/Tensorflow.js*,* Scikit-Learn, Flask, SciPy, AWS, Flask