Adhitya Thirumala

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EDUCATION

University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign — 2024-Present
Major: Computer Science + Linguistics

Fox Chapel Area High School — 2020-2024
GPA: 4.32/4.0, SAT: 1550 (790 Math, 760 EBRW)

RELEVANT COURSEWORK

College: CS 124, CS 124 Honors, LING 100, MATH 241 (Calculus III)
High School: Linear Algebra, Data Structures and Algorithms, AP Computer Science A (5), AP Physics C: Electricity and Magnetism (5), AP Calculus BC(5), AP Calculus AB(5), AP Physics C: Mechanics (4)

SKILLS

Languages: Python, Java, HTML, Bash, LaTeX
Tools: Git/GitHub, Github Actions, VS Code, Huggingface, Linux, Maven, Pip, Prompt Engineering
Libraries: pandas, NumPy, Matplotlib, Tensorflow, pyTorch, Sci-Kit Learn, Swing(Java)

PROJECTS

Clickbait Classification and Spoiling Using NLP (arXiv) | *Python, Torch* — Oct 2022 - May 2023
- Developed natural language processing models to classify and spoil clickbait
- Utilized Large Language Models and prompt engineering alongside traditional transformers models to generate spoilers
- Results submitted to *The 17th International Workshop on Semantic Evaluation*: Toronto, Canada 2023
- Mentored by Dr. Elisa Ferracane

Extractive Question Answering on Queries in Hindi and Tamil (arXiv) | *Python, Torch* — Oct 2021 - May 2022
- Developed Extractive Question Answering (QA) models in Tamil and Hindi with public dataset
- Improved performance of such models as compared to gold-standard
- Modified RoBERTa tokenizer to accept input in Hindi and Tamil to minimize need for data and training
- Received 26th Annual Senior Division Carnegie Science Award presented at annual Gala to fundraise for Carnegie Science Center and to honor Pittsburgh's scientists and researchers
- Mentored by Dr. Elisa Ferracane

S.W.I.F.T.- Surveillance With Intelligent Field Technology | *Python, Tensorflow* — Sept 2020 - May 2021
- Created machine learning classifier that can detect the presence of certain bird species (such as chimney swifts) in an image
- Utilized openCV and Tensorflow to create machine learning models
- Collaborated with Audubon Society of Western Pennsylvania to deploy product in local Chimney Swift towers

Java Jackpot Fox Den Casino | *Java, Swing, Maven* — May 2024
- Created Baccarat game for Data Structures and Algorithms class with persistent scoreboard, and HTTP Client utilizing Random.org API for true-random Casino mechanics.
- Hosted source code on Github
- Presented project in front of district administration as part of in-classroom enrichment opportunity

WORK EXPERIENCE

Private Debate Coaching — 2024 - Present
- Conducted 4 hours of research weekly for national circuit debate competitors from Whitney M. Young Magnet High School
- Met to teach important debate skills and review past tournament performance twice a week
- Coached two teams of underclassmen to quarterfinals at national circuit season opener in competitive field of 77 teams

Kumon | *Assistant for Center Operation - Fox Chapel Center* — 2021 - 2024
- Successfully improved the self-initiated learning abilities of over 200 students (Pre K-9) in English & math (arithmetic-calculus)
- Graded students' daily work and tutored students through concepts.

ACTIVITIES

Clubs: Association for Computing Machinery, GNU/Linux User Group, Illini Global Forensics Speech and Debate, SIGNLL (ACM NLP Special Interest Group)

MISCELLANEOUS

High School Clubs: Speech and Debate (President), Science Fair (President)
High School Awards: 2x State Championship Policy Debate, NMSQT Finalist, Broadcom MASTERS Top 300, Premier Distinction NSDA Honor Society, Presidential Volunteer Service Bronze Award, Presidential Volunteer Service Gold Award