Adona Luiza Iosif

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SUMMARY

Software Engineer passionate about social impact tech work, particularly addressing issues of poverty and inequality in the US. Strong technical and analytical foundation from graduate studies at Carnegie Mellon University, industry experience at Google, and independent work. Highly motivated, quick learner, excited to grow with and contribute to like-minded team.

EDUCATION

University of Cambridge
B.A. Computer Science
2008 - 2011

Carnegie Mellon University
Ph.D. student, Machine Learning
2011 - 2014

SKILLS

General-purpose languages
Python, Java, Dart

Web app development
Django, HTML, CSS, JS, ReactJS

Data analysis
Python, Matlab, R

Data visualization
D3, Matplotlib

Collaboration and code-review workflows using Git.
Coding practices which emphasize **readability and debugging ease.**

TECHNICAL WORK

Independent Work: Web App Development
April 2019 - Current

Learn full-stack web app development:
- Re-implement an existing application (Doodle) as a learning roadmap of core back-end and front-end technical concepts. *[Django, ReactJS]*
- In parallel, explore idea for a novel web application to help parents coordinate childcare. Start by developing a user research plan, including prototyping and user interviews.

Software Contractor
Dec 2018 - Feb 2019

Prototyped an end-user programming language for architects:
- Implemented a floor plan sketching tool, a language for expressing relationships between floor plan elements, and a multimodal interface for adding and editing relationships. *[Dart, HTML, CSS]*

Independent Work: Data Analysis & Visualization
May - Nov 2018

Developed a collection of data stories about poverty in America:
- Explored how common poverty experiences such as housing insecurity are reflected in US Census Data – e.g. Showed that families in poverty are twice as likely to double-up with relatives. *[Python]*
- Built interactive visualizations that support meaningful engagement with poverty data. *[D3, HTML, CSS, Javascript]*

Carnegie Mellon University
Ph.D. Student, Machine Learning
Sept 2011 - Dec 2014

- *Coursework*: Machine Learning, Statistics, Optimization
- *Research*: Develop a theoretical framework and novel algorithms for spectral learning – a class of learning and inference algorithms for models with latent variables, for which log-likelihood methods fail due to high non-convexity.
- *[For health reasons, left program early without a degree.]*

Google (Mountain View)
Software Engineering Intern
June - Aug 2013

Analyzed patterns of thermostat use to inform improvements in the auto-schedule algorithm and user experience of a smart thermostat project. *[R]*

Google (London)
Software Engineering Intern
June - Aug 2010

Front- and back-end development for the iPhone Google Search app. *[Objective C, Java]*

SCIENCE COMMUNICATION WORK

National Academy of Sciences
Program Coordinator, Science & Engineering Ambassadors Program
Jan 2016 - Feb 2017

- Developed workshops on energy and climate for audiences in government, nonprofit, industry, and business sectors.
- Coached energy experts 1-to-1 in communication content, visual design, and delivery.
- Assisted the City of Pittsburgh in developing the City's Climate Action Plan.

Public Communication for Researchers
Co-founder, Carnegie Mellon University
2012 - 2015

- Started a science communication program at CMU teaching graduate students to talk about their work to the media, policy makers, and the public.
- Provided training in storytelling, presentation and writing for non-technical audiences, and talking to the media to 400+ students from across all STEM departments and years.
- Team named one of top 30 U.S. innovators in science communication in National Science Foundation survey.

TEACHING & SERVICE

- **Teaching**: TA-ed two graduate-level Machine Learning courses, designed and taught semester-long science presentation course in the ML department.
- **Volunteering**: With the East End Cooperative Ministry (homeless shelter and soup kitchen), The Big Idea Bookstore (cooperative bookstore dedicated to social justice literature), and the Student Conservation Association (trail maintenance in a North CA National Park).