

AKANKSHA BINDAL

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EXPERIENCE

LinkedIn, Flagship Applied AI

Aug 2022 – Current

- Senior AI/ML Tech Lead responsible for leading multiple cross functional initiatives within Feed Applied AI Team.
- Key Contributor and Tech Lead for multimodal content embeddings at LinkedIn. (First author) Work submitted to RecSys2024. Led to 0.1% sessions increase, 0.42% revenue increase and 0.21% interactions increase.
- Key contributor to the design for next generation retriever and ranking systems for Feed Ranking at LinkedIn.
- Set the strategy for initiatives in the team that 10 engineers are now working on. Identified high ROI areas for the team to work on. Authored and reviewed 30+ design docs and 500+ code reviews. Mentored 10+ engineers. Filed for patent and papers. Session chair and reviewer for Microsoft's MLADS conference.

Meta, Instagram & Facebook Search

Dec 2022 – Aug 2022

- Led the advancement of the core machine learning algorithm to analyze user interactions within Instagram Business Messaging, resulting in a significant lift in user engagement. Implemented calibration, user interaction and affinity modeling techniques, leading to a 0.6% sessions, 0.3% retention and 1.4% revenue increase.

Apple, Siri

July 2018 – Dec 2022

- Led acoustic false trigger mitigation model deployment to en-US population minimizing False Alarms and False Rejects when interacting with Siri by 10.7%. The model enabled a new (streaming) UX and achieved a reduction in runtime peak memory performance of 77%. *Demo to leadership and presented at Apple ML Summit & ICASSP conference.*
- Led XFN initiatives on problems spanning relevance ranking, natural question generation, FTM, emotion recognition and proactive suggestions. Worked with teams of 30+ researchers and engineers spanning global locations. *Mentored 10+ engineers. Published 3 papers and 2+ patents.*
- Launched key initiatives to 1B+ customers. Organized ML conferences and was a panelist at 3+ ML conferences.
- Founding cohort of the AI/ML rotation program which is a key Apple ML program for New College graduates in industry (*Over 60+ hires*)

NVIDIA

May 2017 – August 2017

- Led projects to improve gamer experience and guide business strategy. Worked with data scientists, researchers and business functions to decide pricing strategy.

EDUCATION

Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta - Masters, Computer Science (GPA: 4.0)

Aug 2016 – 2018

- Coursework: Computer Vision; Machine Learning; Statistical Techniques in Robotics; Game AI; Graphical Models.
- Research Assistant and Teaching Assistant to a class of 1000+ students

Delhi College of Engineering, India - Bachelors, Computer Science (GPA: 3.93)

Jul 2012 – April 2016

- Coursework: Pattern Recognition; Artificial Intelligence; Operating Systems; Databases; Algorithms;

PROJECTS

- **(Research Thesis) Deep Reinforcement Learning for Assistive Robotics, GETUP:** Train a TRPO and Actor-critic policy to simulate a robot aiding a fallen human in standing up. *Advisor:* Professor C. Karen Liu [Link](#)
- **VMware CodeHouse Challenge:** React and Clarity-Angular2 framework for a career assessment tool. **Won 1st prize** among 50 teams across silicon valley.

TECHNICAL PUBLICATIONS

- Patent, filed Jan 2021 : Serial 68/138,156 - Using visual context to improve a virtual assistant
- "Streaming on-device detection of device directed speech" - [ICASSP 2022](#)
- "Generating Natural questions from Images" - [ICASSP 2021](#)
- "Analyzing Maps on Large Datasets", International Journal of Computer Applications-[IJCA Journal](#)
- "Segmentation of Basal Ganglia in Brain MRI Using Denoising Based Sparse Autoencoders"-[ARXIV publication](#)

AWARDS

- **Tata Scholar:** Funded as part of the TATA global leaders program for graduate studies. 500 out of 6M applicants
- **Mahindra Scholar:** Awarded scholarship for pursuing a career in computer science. 60 selected out of 2M applicants.

LANGUAGES AND TECHNOLOGIES

- **Proficient:** Python; R; SQL; **Familiar:** C#; C++; *Objective-C; Scala*; JavaScript; NodeJS; HTML5; CSS3
- *Tensorflow*, Theano; *PyTorch*, Keras. Matlab; PostgreSQL; OpenCV; Hadoop; Deep Learning, System Design