Apurva Bhandari

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Education

- **University of Massachussets, Amherst** Aug 2019 - May 2021(Expected)
  Master's in Computer Science (Specialization in Data Science)
  Coursework: Algorithms for Data Science*, Neural Networks*, Natural Language Processing*
- **Birla Institute of Technology & Science, Pilani K.K. Birla Goa Campus, India** Aug 2013 - May 2018
  B.E.(Hons.) in Computer Science + M.Sc.(Hons.) Biology - Integrated course - CGPA: 8.54
- **XII - CBSE, India** June 2011 - May 2012
  Specialization: Science - Percentage: 92%

Professional and Research Experience

- **Software Engineer, Lithium Technologies R&D, Bangalore** July 2018 - July 2019
  - Fine tuned a question answering model on top of a general language model, BERT.
  - Enhanced the TensorFlow model to accept a stream of input questions and make predictions >96% faster; reduced request serving time from 9 seconds to 0.33 seconds.
- **Data Science Research Intern, NUS, Singapore** Jan 2018 - May 2018
  - Successfully deployed a React, Redux & Firebase application and integrated it with Moodle.
  - Enabled collection of the student activity data on the application to perform analysis.
  - Enabled Google Colaboratory's notebook checking as a service- Created a service in Python to automate running and testing of the notebooks.
- **Software Development Intern, Amazon** July 2017 - Dec 2017
  - Successfully built and deployed a payment portal for a new payment method called PayAtStore. Code is live at storedashboard.amazon.in
  - With a 4900% increase in the number of users in less than a year, the PayAtStore functionality was made available across 200 stores all across the nation within a year of launch.
- **Software Development Intern, Astech Systems Mumbai, India** May 2015 - Jul 2015
  - Developed front-end of a website and of a web application.

Selected Projects

1. **Extract house number sequence correctly from an image using Computer Vision and Machine Learning.** May 2017
   - Given an image of arbitrary size and an indication about the position of each number in this image, trained a model to predict the house number sequence using Convolutional Neural Network, implementing the training with Keras.
   - The final model was trained with a considerable amount of augmented data on an AWS g2.2x large instance. The accuracy obtained was 80.4%.
2. **Time series analysis for Maritime Logistics** Apr 2018
   - Removed trend and seasonality from time-series data using Gaussian Process Regression.
   - Made predictions for 'n' weeks into the future given Cargo-transportation data for 3 years.
3. **Fire alarm system-software and hardware design** Jan 2016 - Apr 2016
   - Designed hardware and implemented software for a fire alarm system of a 3-floored building; Monitoring system on each floor along with a central monitoring system to collect data, turn on the sprinklers on respective floor and make a telephone call to the nearest fire station in case of a fire.

Selected Courses

- Data Structures & Algorithms, Design & Analysis of Algorithms, Object Oriented Programming, Machine Learning, Information Retrieval, Practical Deep Learning for Coders, Effective Public Speaking, Principles of Economics

Technical Skills

- Python, Scikit-learn, Jupyter notebook, AWS, DynamoDB, Google Colaboratory, Firebase
- Java, Object Oriented Programming, C++, JavaScript, JSP, Mockito, JUnit, HTML, CSS

Position of Responsibility

- **Basketball team captain**
  - Represented my city twice at State's basketball tournaments, in 2 different years in school.
  - Built a team in 2013 and lead it to win 300% more trophies in 2015 under my captaincy.
  - In 2016, stood first runner's up in BITS Dubai's sports fest leading to felicitation by Diego Maradona.
- School Secretary(2010), School Marshal(2012)