Ali Turfah

Education

September 2019 M.A. in Statistics (Expected December 2020), Columbia University, New York, NY, USA.

to Present o GPA: 4.00

- o Awards and Honors:

- First Place: DataFest Fall 2019

September 2014 B.S.E. in Data Science, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI, USA.

to April 2018 • Minor in Mathematics

- o GPA: 3.31 Cum Laude
- Awards and Honors:
 - Dean's Honor List: Fall 2017, Winter 2018 - Best Software Award: iGEM Competition 2016 - University Honors: Fall 2017, Winter 2018 - Gold Medalist: iGEM Competition 2016, 2017

Core Competencies

- o Programming Languages: Python, R, SQL, Javascript
- o Skillsets: Data Mining, Machine Learning, Data Visualization, API Development, Project Management
- o Technologies: Numpy, Pandas, fastai, Django, React, Chart.js

Experience

June 2018 to **Data Scientist**, Algo.ai, Troy, MI, USA.

- July 2019 o Lead design and implementation of new forecasting modules, improving accuracy by 12% over original forecaster
 - o Appointed customer-facing technical lead of behind-schedule demand planning project, successfully completing the project on time by incorporating new development and requirements-gathering practices
 - o Optimized and corrected SQL in daily ETL processes, lessening system strain and reducing processing errors
 - o Mentored new employees through on-boarding process with pair programming exercises, overviews of relevant statistical concepts, and one-on-one meetings to discuss progress

May 2018 to **Student Researcher**, *University of Michigan*, Ann Arbor, MI.

January 2019

Independent research under Dr. Yves Atchade to explore multinomial bayesian models for cancer-type classification.

- o Researched literature on similar models and analysis of reverse phase protein array (RPPA) data
- o Derived and implemented preliminary classification model, including optimizations for computational efficiency
- o Enhanced original model using spike-slab priors to account for sparsity, in addition to Polyagamma augmentation to yield a closed form posterior for binary case

September 2017 Research Assistant, Center for Molecular Imaging, Ann Arbor, MI, USA.

to April 2018

Student position to support Dr. Craig Galban and his team in medical imaging data analysis.

- o Designed and implemented application to automate processing of new data sets, saving time and reducing errors
- o Built tool consolidating all image analysis scripts into single view, streamlining process flow
- o Assist in the preparation of incoming datasets, including orienting, rotating, and cropping of images

May 2017 to Machine Learning Engineering Intern, Algo.ai, Troy, MI, USA.

- August 2017 o Integrated statistical clustering methods into API, enabling on-demand analysis of store performance data
 - o Developed proof-of-concept system to automate unit testing, simplifying deployment and reducing bug reports
 - Wrote web scraper to augment available customer data using information from Rotten Tomatoes and IMDB, retrieving movie meta data information including genre, ESRB rating, box office, director, and audience response
 - o Built process to export customer data in email and powerpoint formats, allowing results to be readily shared

January 2017 to **Student Researcher**, *ProQuest*, Ann Arbor, MI, USA.

December 2017 Student-run research project to improve the pharmaceutical literature review process using machine learning.

- Researched natural language processing literature to determine appropriate algorithms; final model used GloVe embedding with an LSTM architecture to determine if an article should be reported to the FDA
- o Designed data normalization process to simplify training and streamline implementation of production system
- o Implemented final algorithm to perform document classification, achieving 80% precision and 96% recall
- o Organized meetings with team members, company sponsors, and faculty advisers to report and present progress

Additional

- o Proficient in Arabic, ranked 9th in 2014 national French competition Le Grand Concours
- o Enjoy NBA basketball, rooting for the Toronto Raptors since 2012