Avinash Balakrishnan

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EDUCATION

Masters of Science in Statistics **Aug 2014 - May 2016**
Analytics Concentration
University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign (UIUC)
Relevant Coursework: Applied Regression Modeling, Data Management, Statistical/Machine Learning, Data Mining, Foundation of Big data Analysis

Bachelors of Technology in Mechanical Engineering **Jul 2010 - May 2014**
SRM University, Chennai, India

SKILLS

Programming Languages: Python, R, SQL, SAS, C, C++.
Big Data Tools: Hadoop, Pig, HIVE, Spark.
Skillset: Data Management, Regression Modeling, Statistical/Machine Learning, Data Mining.
Software: Vagrant, Git, VirtualBox.

EXPERIENCE

Teaching Assistant **Jan 2015 - May 2015**
University of Illinois Urbana Champaign
- Graduate Teaching Assistant for CS 173: Discrete Structures: Responsibilities include leading discussions, guiding students and evaluating work and giving feedback.

Student Researcher **May 2015 - Current**
LCDM Group at University of Illinois Urbana Champaign
- Material Genome Project: Primary student researcher in the project.

PROJECTS

Material Genome **Ongoing**
Research Project
- Use machine learning techniques on features of existing stable Chemical systems to predict properties of currently non-existent systems

Walmart Sales Prediction **Oct 2014 - Dec 2014**
- Developed sales forecast models for individual stores based on historical sales data and store features; Constructed 3 models; Simple median based, Regression and Ensemble (Random Forests) models.
- Compared their performance on a global ranking system, where the best model stood in the top 20%.

Analysis on videogame data **Oct 2014 - Dec 2014**
- Developed discriminant model to classify players into pre-existing rank pools based on multiple features of player gameplay.
- Involved information extraction and feature modeling.

Airline Trends in the US **Feb 2015 - May 2014**
- Find interesting trends in airline routes in the US. The project involved using 'Big Data' tools such as HIVE, PIG and Hadoop to query and extract the data.
- Visualized interesting trends in airline routes, cancellations and airport traffic.