Avni Kothari

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EDUCATION

University of California, San Diego

2021 - 2023

M.S. in Computer Science

Thesis: Foundations for Model-Agnostic Recourse Verification

Advisors: Berk Ustun & Lily Weng

Coursework: Machine Learning; Recommender Systems; Neural Networks & Pattern Recognition; Con-

vex Optimization; Statistical NLP; Probabilistic Reasoning & Learning; Networking Systems

University of Texas at Austin

2011 - 2016

B.A. in Mathematics & B.A. in Economics

Minor in Computer Science

Coursework: Databases; Programming Languages; Software Design; Real Analysis; Number Theory;

Discrete Mathematics; Differential Equations; Linear Algebra & Matrix Theory; Econometrics

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Machine Learning, Algorithmic Fairness, Algorithmic Recourse, Interpretability, Natural Language Processing, Deep Learning, ML for Healthcare, Responsibly Deploying ML models in Safety Critical Settings

Papers

Prediction without Preclusion: Recourse Verification with Reachable Sets

Avni Kothari*, Bogdan Kulynych*, Lily Weng, Berk Ustun

ICLR - International Conference on Learning Representations, Top 5% among submissions, 2024

* denotes equal contribution

Poster Presentations UCSF Retreat, AI Convergence: Preparing for the Age of AI; San Francisco, CA FEB 2024

ICML Workshop on Data-centric Machine Learning Research; Honolulu, HI July 2023

ICML Workshop on Spurious Correlations, Invariance and Stability; Honolulu, HI July 2023

ICML Workshop on Artificial Intelligence & Human Computer Interaction; Honolulu, HI July 2023

Awards

DeepMind Fellow (Article)

2021 - 2023

University Honors 2011 – 2014

Work

UCSF; San Francisco, CA

Sept. 2023 – Present

Experience Data Scientist

- Researching and deploying healthcare ML models at Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital under Jean Feng
- Creating and evaluating a 30-day all cause readmissions model for deployment at the hospital
- Building a data pipeline to process electronic health records from thousands of patients to make data compatible with machine learning algorithms
- Researching and implementing methods with large language models to align tabular machine learning models with clinical intuition for model interpretability and reliability

Edovo; Chicago, IL

Jan. 2020 - May 2021

Software Engineer

- Designed and developed an educational content platform to handle 700K+ requests per day
- Created a pipeline and nightly job to merge 4 billion rows of user event data in PostgreSQL
- Spearheaded team sessions to improve software development practices and adopt new frameworks

8th Light; Chicago, IL

Aug. 2017 - Mar. 2019

Lead Software Engineer

- Developed a diabetes management iOS app to connect patients with diabetic nurse specialists
- Enhanced a Java-based continuous deployment pipeline, seamlessly integrating with internal tools
- Mentored peers and residents through pair programming sessions and code reviews

 $Resident\ Apprentice$

Jan. 2017 - Aug. 2017

- Created games and applications with a focus on Test Driven Development and SOLID Design
- \bullet Created an HTTP Server in Java without libraries for app deployment

• Gave company-wide talks on "Hashing Functions" and "Fun with Prime Numbers"

EXPERIENCE Course taught by: Berk Ustun

Teaching

Interests

Supported instruction for 30+ MS/PhD students in an introductory research course

Differential Calculus Tutor; UT Austin

MAY 2011 – Aug. 2013

 $S\text{EPT. }2022\!-\!D\text{EC. }2022$

Tutored undergraduates on limits, Riemann sum, continuity, derivatives, and differentiation rules

Skills & Software: Python, Java, Swift, Javascript, AWS, Elasticsearch, Elixir, SQL, Terraform

Libraries: Pytorch, CPLEX, Numpy, Pandas, Sklearn, Redux, React Interests: Cycling, Gardening, Knitting, Hiking, Swimming, Fiction

Interpretability & Explainability in Machine Learning; UC San Diego