CYRIL WEERASOORIYA

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Education_

 $\textbf{\textit{Ph.D.}}, \text{ in Computer Science (GPA 3.9) at } \textit{Rochester Institute of Technology, NY}.$

Present

Related Courses in Data Science, Machine Learning, Deep Learning, and Quantiative Foundations

Bachelor of Science (Honors), in Computer Science at University of Kelaniya, Sri Lanka

March 2017

Recent Research Experience_

Population level label distribution learning for human disagreement prediction

August 2018 - Present

Rochester Institute of Technology, NY

Tools used - Python (Scikit-learn, Keras, and TensorFlow), MongoDB for data storage, and Google Cloud.

- Predicting human disagreements for supervised machine learning algorithms using unsupervised methods.
- Working with clustering methods (K-Means, LDA, and GMM), and supervised learning methods (CNN and LSTM).
- Research work accepted at ECAI 2020* with new methods;
 - Semi-supervised (neighborhood based pooling) learning method for label pooling.
 - Statistical measures for the hyper-parameter selection for clustering and label pooling methods.
- Presently working on predicting human reactions from language based Facebook posts.

LKEMR - Cloud-based Electronic Medical Record System, Sri Lanka

March 2018 - Present

Collaborative project with the Faculty of Medicine, and Colombo North Teaching Hospital, Sri Lanka. Tools used - PHP, MySQL, HTML, CSS, and UNIX. Python for data mining. Hosted on DigitalOcean and AWS.

- Web based electronic patient record management system, tailored for Sri Lanka using PHP backend, and MySQL database.
- EMR currently holds records for over 1,000 patients across several cities in Sri Lanka.
- Currently been used to identify potential patients with COVID-19, as it is the only EMR widely used in Sri Lanka.
- The work also contributes to open sourced EMR Project, Open-EMR.
- Research work published in NITC 2019 and workshop organizing committee for WONCA 2020.

Food Data Aggregation - Project to aggregate nutritional information for crowdsourced recipes from FDA Summer 2019 HEALS Project (part of IBM AI Horizon) at *Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute*, NY.

Tools used - Python for data scrapping and SpaCy for NLP aggregation.

- Research based on natural language processing and information retrieval.
- Conducted research on aggregating food related data sources for food knowledge graph, which is used with IBM Watson.
- The tool was able to generate the nutritional content per FDA guidelines from a crowdsourced recipe.
- Evaluated the method with the 1M Recipe (1 million) crowdsourced dataset.

KeyXtract:Twitter Model - Keyword Extraction Method using syntactic NLP rules.

March 2016 - March 2017

University of Kelaniya, Sri Lanka

Tools used - Stanford CoreNLP (Java) & NLTK (Python) for the keyword extraction & used Python for Data Mining.

- Collaborated with a domain expert from Department of English on gathering & building a model for analyzing Tweets.
- Evaluated measures using standard measures (F1 Score) and human based evaluation (A/B Test).
- Published research on Top-Tier Computer Science conferences in Sri Lanka*,
 - NITC 2016 (National Information Technology Conference). Only 16 papers selected for publication annually.
 - ICTer 2016-2017 (Information Communication Technology for Emerging Regions).

Recent Leadership Experience

Vice-President of the **Doctoral Students Association**, in *Rochester Institute of Technology*, NY.

Present

• Member of the Graduate Student Communication COVID-19 Task Force

Skills

Data Exploration: Tableau, Jupyter Notebooks (Colab), and Excel

Programming: Python, R, Java, C, SQL, and PHP

Scientific Programming: Matlab, Keras, TensorFlow, Genism, and scikitlearn

Cloud Management: UNIX, Google Cloud, AWS, and DigitalOcean.

Awards and Certifications_

Competent Gavelier Leader, awarded by Toastmasters International USA 2017

Competent Gavelier Communicator, awarded by Toastmasters International USA 2017

Social and Behavioral Research Certificate, by Citi Program 2018 Research Interests_

Machine learning, Label distribution learning, Deep learning, Data science, Algorithms, Statistics, Probabilistic learning, Human computation, Crowdsourcing, Information retrieval, Natural language processing, Sociolinguistics, Computational chemistry, and Analytical chemistry

Selected Recent Publications

h-index = 2, Citations (February 2, 2021) = 23

Weerasooriya, T. C., Liu, T., & Homan, C.H. (2020). Neighborhood-based Pooling for Population-level Label Distribution Learning. 24th European Conference on Artificial Intelligence (ECAI 2020).

Mendis, K., Weerasooriya, T. C., Withana, S., Liyanage, P., Silva, A. W., Wickramasinghe, R., & Weerabaddna, C. (2019). Cloud-Based Open Source Primary Care Electronic Patient Record System for Sri Lankan Citizens. 2019 National Information Technology Conference (NITC), pp. 41–46.

Weerasooriya, T., Perera, N., & Liyanage, S. R. (2017). A Framework for Automated Corpus Compilation for KeyXtract: Twitter Model. 2017 International Conference on Advances in ICT for Emerging Regions (ICTer), pp. 43–48.

Weerasooriya, T., Perera, N. and Liyanage, S.R. (2016). A Method to Extract Essential Keywords from a Tweet Using NLP Tools. 2016 International Conference in Advances in ICT for Emerging Regions (ICTer). pp. 29-34.

Perera, N., & Weerasooriya, T. (2016). The Racecourse of Then and Now: Evolution of the Sri Lankan English Vocabulary Over Two Generations of SLE Speakers. VISTAS Journal, 10, pp. 1–23..

Weerasooriya, T. (2016). Automated Railway Ticketing System: Replacing the paper based ticket with the Electronic National Identity. ICT for Development Working Paper Series, 6(1–2), pp. 67–77.

Recent Work Experience_

Tech Lead at LKEMR (Cloud-based Electronic Medical Record System)

March 2018 - Present

- Leading a team for building a web based electronic patient record management system, tailored for Sri Lanka.
- Created the pipeline to manage an instance based EMR implementations for clinics on AWS using CI/CD.
- EMR currently holds records for over 1,000 patients across several cities in Sri Lanka and expanding nationwide.

Adjunct at Rochester Institute of Technology, NY.

Summer 2020

• Taught CSCI 635 - Introduction to Machine Learning.

Research Assistant for HEALS Project (part of IBM AI Horizon) at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, NY. Summer 2019

- Conducted research on NLP methods to aggregating food related data sources for food knowledge graph.
- Worked on a way to extract information from ADA guidelines based on the queries using doc2vec.

Intern at Research and Development Team, Lesova Holdings Private Limited, Sri Lanka February 2016 - December 2016

- Implemented and maintained customer relations management (CRM) System using Zendesk and Freshdesk.
- Designed and Developed Official Website for T-Shirts.LK Maldives Website.

Teaching Assistant at Department of Computer Science, University of Kelaniya, Sri Lanka March 2017 - August 2018

Assisted in teaching Programming in C, Object Oriented Programming and Data Structures and Algorithms for approximately 150 students.

Research Assistant (Analytical Chemistry) at University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka December 2014 - March 2015 Science and Technology Research Partnership for Sustainable Development Laboratory at *University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka*• Experienced in the analysis of TOC, BOD and COD in water samples collected from different lakes around Kandy.

Leadership Experience_

HackLN 2017, Hackathon organized by the Department of Computer Science, University of Kelaniya, Sri Lanka. 2017

• Guided the students as the teaching assistant in charge for the Department for Vidya 50, the 50th Celebratory Exhibition of Faculty of Science.

Gavel Club affiliated with Toastmasters International, USA.

November 2014 - November 2017

- Organizing Committee Member of Inter University Best Speaker Contest 2014 2017.
- Designed, developed and maintained the official Club Website, Contest Website and the online account management system for the executive committee.

Career Fair organized by the Career Guidance Unit, University of Kelaniya, Sri Lanka.

January 2015 - December 2016

• Designed, developed and maintained the event website and coordinated the registrations for 600+ undergraduates annually.

^{*}Publications available for reference at me.cyrilw.com