Dheeraj Chand

[RESEARCH, ANALYSIS, ENGINEERING] \rightarrow UNDERSTANDING

Austin, TX (30.2672°N, 97.7431°W)

GitHub: github.com/dheerajchand

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Political research and redistricting expert with 15+ years building systems that matter. Discovered systematic demographic coding errors affecting all Black and Asian-American voters, developed geospatial ML algorithms improving classification accuracy from 23% to 64%. Expert in electoral analysis and redistricting optimization.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS AND IMPACT

Predictive excellence: Utilized advanced sampling methods to decrease survey margin of error from $\pm 4.2\%$ to $\pm 2.1\%$ • Increased voter turnout prediction accuracy from 71% to 87% • Legal precedent: Data analysis utilized in Supreme Court case • Expert methodology validated at highest judicial level

CORE COMPETENCIES

Programming and Development • Machine Learning & AI • Data Infrastructure

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Siege Analytics | Partner - Austin, TX 2005 - Present

Data Science & Political Analytics

- \bullet Discovered systematic race coding errors affecting all Black and Asian-American voters, developed geospatial machine learning algorithms improving demographic classification accuracy from 23% to 64%
- Built redistricting platform used by thousands of analysts nationwide with real-time collaborative editing and Census integration
- Utilized advanced sampling methods to decrease survey margin of error from $\pm 4.2\%$ to $\pm 2.1\%$, increasing voter turnout prediction accuracy from 71% to 87%, and ensuring survey results more closely reflected true population attitudes
- ullet Trigonometric algorithm for boundary estimation reduced mapping costs by 73.5%, saving campaigns and organizations \$4.7M and enabling smaller nonprofits to conduct analysis
- Built real-time FEC analysis systems using Python, Pandas and PySpark to detect likely fraud, money laundering and financial crimes across billions of records daily, performing time series analysis on trillions of records in the political spending sub-economy valued over \$2 trillion
- Provided expert testimony and press briefings on electoral data integrity and demographic modeling accuracy

Myers Research | Senior Analyst - Austin, TX 2012 - 2014

Political Research & Analysis

- \bullet Designed comprehensive survey instruments for specialized voting segments and niche markets
- \bullet Developed sophisticated analytical products and reports that delivered actionable insights to clients
- Co-developed a web application to manage all aspects of survey operations, from instrument design to data collection and analysis

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PCCC | Research Director - Washington, DC August 2011 - August 2012 Political Research & Data Analysis (FLEEM System)

- Conceived, architected, and engineered FLEEM web application using Twilio API handling tens of thousands of simultaneous phone calls using emulated predictive dialer for regulated political surveys
- Developed IVR polling system for early quantitative research supporting Senators Martin Heinrich and Elizabeth Warren
- Built comprehensive tabular and graphical reporting system with Python, GeoDjango, PostGIS, and Apache webserver

The Feldman Group | Field Director - Austin, TX 2011 - 2012

Political Campaign Management

- Managed all aspects of survey fielding for a multi-million dollar research firm, including scheduling, oversight, sampling, and quality control
- Developed and implemented data warehousing solutions for efficient storage and retrieval of research findings
- Created custom reports and data visualizations based on specific client requirements

Lake Research Partners | Programmer - Austin, TX 2008

Political Polling & Research

- Designed questionnaires and analyzed data for complex market research studies across diverse industries
- \bullet Conducted statistical modeling and analysis to address multifaceted consumer behavior questions
- Pioneered the integration of advanced mapping techniques into standard reports, including choropleths and hexagonal grid maps

KEY PROJECTS

FLEEM Political Polling System

About: Web application using Twilio API for regulated political surveys, handling tens of thousands of simultaneous calls with predictive dialer functionality

Technologies: Twilio API, Python, Django, PostgreSQL, JavaScript, Apache

Impact: Saved PAC \$840,000 annually in polling costs while significantly improving data collection efficiency

National Redistricting Platform

About: Cloud-based GeoDjango platform for redistricting analysis with real-time collaborative editing and Census integration, used by thousands of analysts nationwide during 2021 redistricting cycle

Technologies: GeoDjango, PostGIS, AWS, Docker, React, Python, Redis

Impact: Reduced mapping costs by 73.5%, saving organizations \$4.7M in operational expenses. Served 12,847 analysts across 89 organizations.

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Geospatial Demographic Classification System

About: Machine learning platform for demographic analysis that discovered systematic coding errors and improved classification accuracy from 23% to 64%

Technologies: Python, Scikit-learn, PostGIS, GeoPandas, TensorFlow, AWS

Impact: Corrected demographic data affecting all Black and Asian-American voters,
improved electoral prediction accuracy by 22%

TECHNICAL SKILLS

PROGRAMMING AND DEVELOPMENT Python (15+ years: NumPy, Pandas, Scikit-learn, TensorFlow, Django, Flask, GeoPandas, Asyncio); R (12+ years: Statistical modeling, ggplot2, dplyr, spatial packages (sf, sp), Shiny); SQL/PostGIS (15+ years: PostgreSQL/PostGIS, MySQL, complex spatial queries, optimization, database design); JavaScript (10+ years: React, D3.js, OpenLayers, Node.js, real-time applications, WebSockets); Java (8+ years: Enterprise applications, Spring framework, geospatial libraries (GeoTools)); Other Technologies (Shell scripting, Git, Docker, Kubernetes, infrastructure as code)

MACHINE LEARNING & AI ML Frameworks (Scikit-learn, TensorFlow, PyTorch, XGBoost, LightGBM); Geospatial ML (Spatial feature engineering, geographically weighted regression, spatial clustering); Techniques (Classification, regression, ensemble methods, time series, NLP, computer vision); Validation (Cross-validation, A/B testing, statistical significance, model interpretability)

DATA INFRASTRUCTURE Processing (Apache Spark, PySpark, Dask, parallel computing, distributed systems); Pipelines (Airflow, dbt, ETL design, data quality monitoring, automated testing); Storage (Data warehousing, data lakes, columnar storage (Parquet), data modeling); Streaming (Kafka, Redis, real-time processing, event-driven architecture)