Greater Vancouver Area BC, Canada

# **Gautham Pughazhendhi**

Portfolio | LinkedIn | GitHub | Kaggle

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## **EDUCATION**

Master of Data Science, UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA, Grade: 96%

Sep 2021 — Jun 2022

Bachelor of Engineering (Computer Science and Engineering), ANNA UNIVERSITY, CGPA: 8.44/10

Jun 2014 — Apr 2018

#### **EXPERIENCE**

### Machine Learning Engineer (Infra), Electronic Arts (EA Games), Canada

Aug 2022 — Present

- Contributed to the development of services for an in-house, flexible AI Platform to experiment, train, tune, and serve ML models
  of different game titles such as FIFA, NFS, Madden, etc. Cut the cost for the game titles by up to 23% for training and 400% for
  serving models, and reduced the serving p99 latency from 210 ms to 10 ms when compared to AWS SageMaker.
- Machine Learning Consultant, Trusting Pixels Inc., Canada (MDS Capstone Project, unpaid co-op)

May 2022 — Jun 2022

- Worked on building a computer vision-based (CNN) model using PyTorch to authenticate thousands of photos per day by
  detecting and locating different types of retouching in edited images with over 90% accuracy and recall.
- Contributed to the **design and development** of the **machine learning pipeline** using AWS services such as **AWS SageMaker**.
- Teaching Assistant, The University of British Columbia, Canada

May 2022 — June 2022

- Teaching assistant for the course **DSCI 100 (Introduction to Data Science)**, responsible for educating the undergraduate students on the use of data science tools to summarize, visualize, and analyze data as part of the teaching team.
- · Software Engineer Machine Learning, Sirius Computer Solutions, LLC, a CDW company, India

Jun 2018 — Jul 2021

- Reduced the total budgeted manpower cost by 20% for a US banking firm by building an NLP-based contextual chatbot with smart KB article recommendations to automate the firm's issue-creation for internal requests in Salesforce and ServiceNow.
   Fine-tuned the intent classification and dialogue models and contributed to the design and architecture of the NLP pipeline.
- Minimized the support team turnaround time by 20% for a US global payments company by developing a classification model using LSTM, a recurrent neural network (RNN), and eliminating the manual categorization of emails. Built a data pipeline to clean, transform, and derive additional features; articulated and presented the data insights to the onsite team.
- Cut down the allocated workforce cost by 70% by building multiple conversational AI assistants to automate the mission-critical IT operations of a US retail MNC; automated the CI/CD pipeline of bots using Azure DevOps and Kubernetes Service. Improved the security of bots and monitored the performance of ML pipelines. Created Python API for integration with external services.

## MAJOR ACADEMIC PROJECTS

- StrapvizPy and StrapvizR (Graduate): Created Python and R packages named StrapvizPy and StrapvizR to streamline bootstrapping samples, creating insightful plots and tables with relevant statistics for reports and papers.
- FOREST FIRE AREA PREDICTION (Graduate): Trained and tuned a Support Vector Regression(SVR) model to predict forest fire areas using weather and soil data; improved the model by removing outliers using the Cook's distance method.
- EARTHOSYS (Undergraduate Capstone): Developed an ensemble model using Random Forests to predict tsunamis. Implemented an efficient search algorithm on the NASA dataset to find the nearest coastal distance with coordinates from the NOAA's tsunami dataset. Developed a web application's backend, a chatbot, and an IoT-based alert device using Raspberry Pi.

  Published as part of Proceedings of ICCIDE 2018.

  2017 2018

#### TECHNICAL SKILLS

Languages: Python, R, SQL. Frameworks: Tensorflow, PyTorch, RASA, React, Flask, Django. Databases: MySQL, Postgres, Mongo.
 Libraries: Scikit-Learn, Pandas, NumPy, Spacy, Gensim, Keras, PySpark, Matplotlib, Altair, Plotly Dash, SQLAlchemy.
 Jupyter, PyCharm, VS Code, RStudio, git, Docker, Sourcetree, Android Studio. Cloud Platforms: Azure, AWS.

# **HACKATHONS**

- WiDS 2022 Datathon, Stanford University: Ranked 1<sup>st</sup> in Vancouver and 16<sup>th</sup> overall in the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual WiDS Kaggle Datathon. Built an ML model to predict the energy efficiency of buildings to help policymakers target plans that maximize emission reductions.
- HCL Commerce hackathon 2020: Won the Most Creative award with my team for implementing a smart voice assistant to shop on an e-commerce site and integrating it with Google Assistant.
- FLEX 2.0, Codes and Gears 2020, a 36-hour Hackathon, Sirius Computer Solutions (Winners): Built a computer vision-based prototype to convert sign language into words on-screen to help differently-abled with speech and hearing loss.

  Demo
- FLEX, Codes and Gears 2019 (Winners): Developed a computer vision-based prototype to detect bad postures, control smart home devices, and convert gestures into action words by estimating body poses to help people with disabilities.

  Demo

#### **AWARDS**