Imani Finkley

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SUMMARY

Extensive experience in applied machine learning, data science, and communications for software development and machine learning

EDUCATION

Cornell University | College of Arts & Sciences | Ithaca, NY — **Expected May 2024**
Bachelor of Arts with Honors
Honors Thesis: "By AI: Authorship, Literature, and Large Language Models"
Relevant Courses: Information Retrieval; AI Practicum; Language Revitalization; Text Mining for History and Literature; Data Structures & Functional Programming; Object-Oriented Programming and Data Structures; Discrete Mathematics; Linear Algebra
Danish Institute for Study Abroad | Copenhagen, Denmark — **Jan 2023-May 2023**
Relevant Courses: Game Development

PROJECTS

hyggeLIGHT | Desktop Game | GitHub | *Lead Artist & Assistant Game Developer* — **March 2023**
- Collaborate in 3-person team to develop 2D-platform, desktop-only video game in Unity written in C#
- Design game characters, setting, and elements

Bias in Machine Translation | GitHub | Presentation | *Project Manager* — **Aug 2022-Dec 2022**
- Manage a 5-person team to develop project proposal and development plan with Confluence and Notion
- Analyze gender bias in 3 mainstream models — Google, Amazon, and Microsoft — through 800+ English-Arabic and English-Spanish translations of job occupations as listed by the U.S. National Labor Bureau

SPECIALIZED SKILLS

Programming Languages/Libraries: Python, PyTorch, NumPy, Scikit-learn, JAX, FLAX, Java, C#, OCaml, OpenCV
Tools/Frameworks: GitHub, Google Collab, Jupyter Notebook, Unity, Google Cloud
Languages: Chinese Mandarin (Advanced Working Proficiency), Danish (Beginner Proficiency)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Teaching Assistant | *Cornell University* | Ithaca, NY — **Jan 2024-Present**
- Advise students in developing experiments, data collection, and implementing advanced NLP systems
- Grade projects and host biweekly 1-hour office hours for 15-student course, Advanced NLP for Humanities Research (INFO 4940)

Communications Assistant | *Cornell University* | Ithaca, NY — **Sep 2023-Present**
- Assist in development of press releases along with print, digital, and web content
- Compose monthly newsletter that communicates diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging efforts and engagement opportunities in the Ann Bowers College of Computing and Information Sciences
- Create stories, strategies, and promotional materials for multimedia channels and social media platforms with Canva

Visiting NLP Researcher | *Johns Hopkins University* | Le Mans, France — **Jun 2023-Aug 2023**
- Design a PyTorch library version of the Lattice-based Speech Transducer JAX library to demonstrate the benefits of weighted finite state transducers with end-to-end pipelines with real-use speech processing applications with Ehsan Variani
- Research JAX/FLAX and PyTorch APIs to maintain comparable functionality and 32% improvement in system usage

Computer Vision Researcher | *Brown University* | Providence, RI — **Jun 2022-Aug 2022**
- Develop machine learning model for language-based image-to-image domain translation in Python with Daniel Ritchie
- Adapt image-to-image translation model architecture and pre-trained text-image embedding model
- Train and test using Visual Computing Lab computing cluster and Google Cloud

Course Consultant | *Cornell University* | Ithaca, NY — **Jan 2022-May 2022**
- Lead weekly 50-minute discussion sections for 20 students to review their understanding of discrete mathematics
- Grade homework and exams at least once a week in 2-hour sessions for a roughly 280-student course, Discrete Structures (CS 2800)

AWARDS

2024 Outstanding Researcher Award Honorable Mention | Computing Research Association | December 2023
2022 Dean's List Award for Academic Excellence | Cornell University | December 2022
2022 CMD-IT/ACM Richard Tapia Conference Scholarship | Cornell University | September 2022
2021 Grace Hopper Celebration of Women in Computing Scholarship | Cornell University | August 2021