



# Girish Gupta

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## **Wrote a memoir, Always Go**

March 2021 – September 2021

## **Chief Technology Officer, Deepnews**

April 2020 – March 2021

- Led technology and worked with founders on strategy towards a business that scored journalistic writing based on reporting quality, not sentiment or emotion.
- Rebuilt entire system and machine learning architectures from scratch which hugely improved efficiency, usability and accuracy. Evolved NLP model from convolutional to transformer network.
- Built software to parse, score and rapidly query hundreds of thousands of articles per day, an SSE-based website to show scoring and an API. (GCP, Python, Tensorflow, PyTorch, PHP, MySQL)

## **Head of Data Science, IDFC Institute**

May 2019 – May 2020

- Created a broadly-skilled data science unit at the public policy non-profit—funded largely by Rockefeller, Gates and Ford foundations. Liaised with funders, government officials and academics.
- Data science team conducted and published research, built platforms, created interactives, and advised government on urban mobility, open-source mapping, privacy/data governance and COVID-19.

## **Founder/Chief Executive Officer, Data Drum, Inc.**

May 2018 – April 2020

- Created a U.S. corporation providing automated, clean and elegantly-presented economic data.
- The idea was to make public data accessible—faster and cleaner than *Reuters* and *Bloomberg*.
- Led developers, economists and regional experts. Met with potential customers and investors.
- Created database architecture (MySQL, PHP) and website. Managed mobile apps (React Native), API (Python), Google Sheets and Microsoft Excel add-ins (JavaScript; highlighted at Microsoft developers' conferences) and data acquisition (PHP, Python).

## **Creator, Venezuela Econ (absorbed into *Data Drum, Inc.*)**

December 2014 – April 2018

- Created the go-to data platform on one of the world's most opaque countries, used by thousands of people including politicians, investors and journalists.
- Wrote iOS/WatchOS (Swift), Android (Java) and web apps, as well as an API (PHP).

## **Senior Correspondent, *Reuters***

June 2015 – May 2018

- Produced groundbreaking investigations, including showing that the results of a national Venezuelan election were fabricated; secrets about the country's military, including surface-to-air missile inventories and lists of soldiers arrested for treason and rebellion; that the country's Chief Justice was arrested on suspicion of murder; and multi-billion dollar corruption at Venezuela's state oil company.
- Produced text, photos and TV on Venezuela's hyperinflation, social decay, food riots and protests.
- Reported in Iraq and Afghanistan, as well as across the Americas.
- Wrote software to automate story-writing, data-gathering and admin.
- Coordinated on-the-ground and digital security in an extremely hostile environment.

**Freelance foreign correspondent**, *Reuters, New Yorker, New York Times, TIME, Financial Times, NPR, BBC...*

*October 2010 – May 2015*

- Produced text, photos, video and radio in Venezuela, as well as [Brazil](#), Colombia, [Cuba](#), Ecuador, Egypt, [Guyana](#), [Jordan](#), Lebanon, Peru, and [Mexico](#), for more than 40 major news outlets.
  - Covered the cancer, election and [death](#) of Venezuela's Hugo Chávez, the messy transition to Nicolás Maduro's rule and the crisis that followed, including daily [violent unrest](#).
  - Investigated [diamond smuggling](#) from [illegal jungle mines](#) in the Amazon, a Colombian paramilitary massacre and the killing of wildcat gold miners there.
  - Conducted on-the-ground investigations for *Control Risks*, *K2 Intelligence* and *Ergo* across the region.
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**Physics (Master's/MPhys) at University of Manchester**

*September 2006 – June 2010*

- Abstract to Master's project—a computer simulation (C) of the heart exploring atrial fibrillation—[published](#) in the *Proceedings of The Physiological Society*.
- Bachelor's project on negative index of refraction; first year essay on the physics of music.
- Officer Cadet, *MSUOTC*. First aid, weapon handling, drill, leadership, fieldcraft and military tactics.

**Natural Sciences (Math, Physics, Chemistry, Geology) at King's College, Cambridge University**

*September 2005 – June 2006*

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Courses: [Founder, First 50 and Writer fellowships 2020/1 On Deck](#)  
[Introduction to Computer Science 2020 Harvard/edX](#)  
[Deep Learning Specialization 2020 deeplearning.ai/Coursera](#)  
Hostile Environment Training 2015 *Hawthorne/Reuters*  
Surviving Hostile Regions 2012 *AKE/Rory Peck*  
Military Training Qualification 1 2007 *Officers' Training Corp/British Army*

Side-Projects: [Math for Journalists 2021](#) Very quick iOS app to help journalists with basic math.  
[According to Documents 2020-](#) Highlight document-based investigative reporting.  
[Readwise2Roam 2020](#) Convert *Readwise* book and article highlights to *Roam* notes.  
[GlobalOTP 2019-](#) Forward text messages to email.  
[Music Goes On 2000-1](#) Music website listed by *MTV* as one of the web's top 20 sources.

Code: C, C++, Java, Swift, PHP, Python, R, MATLAB, SQL, HTML, JavaScript, CSS.

Server: AWS (Lightsail, EC2, RDS, SES, Route 53).  
GCP (Compute Engine, App Engine, Cloud Run, Kubernetes Engine, Cloud SQL, Firestore).

Languages: English, Spanish, Hindi/Urdu, basic French and basic Arabic.

Interests: Science, math and their history. Health and fitness. [Photography](#). Travel. Music.

Online: [Website](#), [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#), [GitHub](#), [AngelList](#).