Kota Shida

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EDUCATION

University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA)   **Sep. 2024 - Present**
Bachelor of Science: Statistics and Data Science   Expected Graduation Date: Dec. 2026
- **Cumulative GPA:** 3.92/4.00

WORK EXPERIENCE

KPMG Japan   **July 2024**
Data Analyst Intern   Tokyo, Japan
- Generated data-driven insights and strategic recommendations to 8+ senior managers through comprehensive data analysis and compelling presentations, directly informing business strategy decisions and highlighting key opportunities and risks.
- Collaborated in the development of an interactive online platform leveraging advanced data visualization techniques to facilitate effective communication of business intelligence, enhancing data accessibility and understanding for stakeholders.

PROJECTS

National Favorability and Sentiment Bias: Insights from Wikipedia Articles About U.S. Presidents
Report: 📄 National Favorability and Sentiment Bias
- Leveraged NLP techniques and Large Language Models to analyze sentiment in 751 Wikipedia articles across 17 languages, uncovering national biases toward U.S. Presidents.
- Investigated correlations between country favorability ratings and Wikipedia sentiment scores, identifying subtle cultural biases in online political narratives across diverse linguistic contexts.

USD/JPY Exchange Rate Prediction
GitHub: https://github.com/kotashida/usdjpy_predictor
- Engineered a complete time-series forecasting pipeline to predict the USD/JPY exchange rate, incorporating lagged prices, moving averages, and technical indicators from API-sourced data.
- Conducted robust model evaluations by benchmarking a suite of models from Linear Regression to LSTMs, identifying that a simpler model outperformed complex architectures prone to overfitting.

Los Angeles Public Transit Accessibility Analysis
GitHub: https://github.com/kotashida/la-transit-accessibility
- Constructed a directed graph model of the LA transit network in Python using NetworkX, parsing complex GTFS schedule data with Pandas and integrating geospatial stop data with GeoPandas.
- Executed a large-scale network analysis by applying Dijkstra's algorithm to compute a travel-time matrix, then interpolated these accessibility scores onto a high-resolution grid for visualization with Folium.

LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

Japanese Student Association Career Team Head   **Mar. 2025 - Present**
- Oversaw cross-functional team operations, delegating strategic responsibilities and guiding the team to successfully execute career fairs and events.
- Cultivated and maintained professional relationships with Japanese organizations, managed event logistics, and provided on-site leadership to ensure a seamless experience for attendees.

SKILLS

- **Programming:** Python (Scientific Stack: Pandas, NumPy, Scikit-learn), R, SQL
- **Quantitative Methods:** Machine Learning, Statistical Modeling, Time-Series Econometrics, Stochastic Processes
- **Technical Skills:** Git/Version Control, Linux/Unix Environment, Financial Data APIs
- **Certifications:** Google Data Analytics Professional Certificate (April 2023)
- **Languages:** English (Native), Japanese (Native), Korean (Intermediate)

INTERESTS

- Artificial Intelligence, Cooking, Piano, Clarinet, Archery