Austin Fairbanks

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Education

University of Massachusetts Amherst, BS in Computer Science University of Massachusetts Amherst, MS in Computer Science (Focus in Data Science) Sept 2023 - May 2026

Sept 2026 – May 2027

- GPA: 4.0/4.0
- Coursework: Practical Applications of Data Management (CS345), Introduction to Machine Learning (CS 389), Introduction to Algorithms (CS 311), Introduction to Software Engineering (CS 320)

Publications

Hyperparameter Optimization Research

Summer 2024

- Developed a guide on the implementation of multiple hyperparameter optimization frameworks (Keras Tuner, Optuna, Scikit-learn)
- Identified and summarized strengths and weaknesses of each framework to aid in future model development
- Elaborated on poorly documented advanced capabilities of each framework
- Tech Stack: Python, TensorFlow, Scikit-learn, Optuna, Keras Tuner

Experience

Intern, Corning Incorporated (through Magnit) - Corning, NY

July 2024 - Aug 2024

- Developed practical implementation guidelines for automated hyperparameter optimization across frameworks
- Engineered reusable data preprocessing pipelines for computer vision applications
- Implemented measurable data comparisons to evaluate tuning algorithm performance

Frontend Developer | ML-Powered Health Analytics Tool, MyEdMaster – Remote

Dec 2024 - Jan 2025

- Redesigned and refactored the React-based frontend for a machine learning application
- Integrated frontend components with a Django backend and AWS infrastructure, ensuring seamless data flow between user inputs, ML model predictions, and results visualization
- Collaborated with data scientists and backend engineers to optimize system performance for scalability

Intramural Manager, UMass RecWell - Amherst, MA

Aug 2024 – Present

- Aid in facilitating intramural sports by assisting participants and training referees.
- Apply conflict resolution, teamwork, and problem-solving skills to ensure enjoyment of participants.

Projects

RateMyProfessors Analytics & Dataset (In Development)

Jan 2025 - Present

- Developed a GraphQL-based web-scraping pipeline to collect 5+ million reviews across the top 100 US universities
- Creating and maintaining an open-source dataset on Kaggle for academic research and analysis
- Building interactive analytics dashboard to provide insights into professor performance metrics and student sentiment
- Used feature engineering and machine learning to analyze trends in professors
- Tech Stack: Python, Pandas, Matplotlib, Jupyter Notebooks, Sumy, Textblob

Skills

Languages: Python, Java, JS, TS, HTML, CSS, C, SQL

Libraries: Keras/Tensorflow, Scikit-Learn, PyTorch, NumPy, Panadas, Matplotlib **Frameworks:** Jupyter Notebook, Keras Tuner, Optuna, React.js, Node.js, React-Native

Other Skills: Hyperparameter Tuning and Optimization, Scientific Writing / Analysis, Webscraping, LaTeX

Leadership & Activities

Hack UMass XI Midwest Blockchain Conference

First Tech Challenge Robotics - Lead Programmer (2021-2023)

MinuteMunch: Nov. '23

MidwestBlockchain: Nov. '24

FTC Flare: 2021 - 2023