

# Mukund Srinath

E345 Westgate Building, University Park, PA 16802

[mukund@psu.edu](mailto:mukund@psu.edu) ♦ [mukundsrinath.github.io](https://mukundsrinath.github.io)

## EDUCATION

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### **Pennsylvania State University**

*August, 2019 - Present*

PhD, Informatics

Research Interests: Natural Language Processing, Information Retrieval

Co-supervised by C. Lee Giles and Shomir Wilson

### **Pennsylvania State University**

*August, 2017 - May, 2019*

MS, Information Sciences and Technology

GPA: 3.88

### **Visvesvaraya Technological University, India**

*August, 2011 - May, 2015*

BE, Electrical and Electronics Engineering

GPA: 8.94

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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### **Human Language Technologies Lab**

Pennsylvania State University

*Research Assistant*

*August, 2019 - Present*

- Applying NLP and IR methods to analyze privacy policies at scale.
- Crawled 1 million privacy policies and currently designing a ranking function based on policy merit.
- Implemented a classifier which separated privacy policies from other documents with F1 score of 0.94.

### **University Libraries**

Pennsylvania State University

*Graduate Assistant*

*August, 2018 - July, 2019*

- Designed experiments to study the effects of digital badges on student library engagement, and effects of information literacy skills on student performance in undergraduate courses.
- Collated data from 7 undergraduate courses, ~4000 students, ~8000 library use records and 10 digital badges.

### **PIKE Group**

Pennsylvania State University

*Researcher*

*August, 2017 - July, 2019*

- Designed a novel technique to select best answers from a list of non-fact-based questions by generating questions.
- Implemented a Convolutional Neural Network based algorithm using TensorFlow to rank answers achieving a precision@1 score of 0.452 and MRR of 0.59, thereby setting a baseline for a novel dataset.

## WORK EXPERIENCE

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### **ClearAvenue**

Columbia, MD

*Software Engineering Intern*

*May, 2018 - August, 2018*

- Designed a proof of concept to improve medical device security in software defined networks.
- Explored unsupervised anomaly detection methods to detect potential network security threats.

### **McFadyen Digital**

Bangalore, India

*Software Engineer*

*July, 2015 - July, 2017*

- Implemented a full-life-cycle webapp of a human resource information system supporting ~500 users.
- Developed backend and frontend eCommerce features for search, payment and checkout functionality.

## AWARDS

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- **2nd place** in HackPSU, 2019 for *Beyond Tweet*, an application that combines geospatial census data with tweet sentiment to help make market predictions.
- **2nd place and \$17.5k funding** in Nittany AI Challenge, 2018 for *ProFound: a professor search engine*.
- **3rd place** in HackPSU, 2018 for *WeatherOrNot* an application to recommend vacation destinations.
- **1st place and honorable mention by IBM** at HackPSU, 2017 for *FindViser* an application that suggests research advisers to graduate students.

## SELECTED PROJECTS

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### Fake News Prediction

Designed a two-stage approach to fake news detection based on text coherence and sentiment features. Obtained state of the art results on AICS18 workshop challenge with an accuracy of 86%.

### ProFound: Professor Search Engine

Designed an end-to-end system to track professors based on research topics and interests. Crawled, indexed and ranked ~500 websites of professors using Elasticsearch after automatic categorization.

### Facebook Check-in Prediction

Developed a machine learning model to predict where a user will check-in based on location and time. Worked with large data-sets with over 30 million data points and 100 thousand classes.

## SKILLS

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<b>Programming Languages</b>	Python, Java, Javascript, C++
<b>Frameworks and Packages</b>	TensorFlow, PyTorch, ElasticSearch, Scrapy, Django, SQL

## PUBLICATIONS

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**Srinath, M.**, Wilson, S., Giles, C. L. (2020). Privacy at Scale: Introducing the PrivaSeer Corpus of Web Privacy Policies. arXiv preprint [arXiv:2004.11131](https://arxiv.org/abs/2004.11131).

**Srinath, M.** (2019). Convolutional Neural Network and Question Generation Based Approaches to Select Best Answers for Non-Factoid Questions. (Master's thesis, Pennsylvania State University) <https://etda.libraries.psu.edu/catalog/16516mus824>