Nikunj Maheshwari, Ph.D

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Summary

- Problem-solving, inquisitive and forward-thinking data scientist with 4+ years of experience in data mining, data analytics and statistics
- Expertise in leading and designing advance data analytics solutions from start to finish (data gathering, cleaning, analyses, visualisation and presentation)
- Energetic team player with excellent project management, organisational and communication skills completed 8 independent projects and 14 presentations conferences

Work Experience

Analytics Manager Nov 2019 - Present

Group Internal Audit, Bank of Ireland, Dublin, Ireland

- Designed, planned and implemented risk assurance platform covering key Group risks through SQL and Tableau
- Integrated and individual assignments on sensitive topics under way

Software developer Sep 2018 – Oct 2019

National Institute for Bioprocessing Research and Training (NIBRT), Dublin, Ireland

- Developed a monitoring and analytical platform for controlling and analysing biopharmaceutical processes, and forecast and predict risk
- Lead the development of Big Data solutions for biopharmaceutical process issues faced by our clients such as Living Lab (Siemens) and Allergan
- Played key part in deploying Hadoop and Spark (backend) and RShiny and Plotly (frontend) in a secure, GMP compliant environment
- Developed machine learning (supervised & unsupervised), time series (forecasting), and multivariate statistical models, using R and Spark (easily translatable to Python/Java)
- Managed sensitive industry data using secure and fault tolerant Hadoop file system
- Managed and maintain code and documentation to high detail and clarity
- Provided strategic recommendations to senior management for improving process quality and final product yield, while decreasing downtime and freeing up resources

Statistical Modeller Oct 2017 – Aug 2018

Centre for Food Safety, University College Dublin, Dublin, Ireland & Creme Global, Dublin, Ireland

- Planned, designed and executed data analytics solution (in R) for Ireland's 5 largest food manufacturing companies – within 8 months. Solution is under patent processing with NovaUCD and Crème Global
- Gathered and formatted complex large-scale microbiome data, and designed and implemented statistical models to (i) identify factors increasing/decreasing risk, and (ii) predict overall risk
- Effective data communication of modelling outputs (using smart visualisations) with industry partners resulting in effective changes in their production lines to prevent growth of pathogenic bacteria
- https://www.cremeglobal.com/food-safety-predictive-microbiome-risk-management/

PhD research graduate - Computational infection biology

Sep 2013 - Sep 2017

Conway Institute, University College Dublin, Dublin, Ireland

- Designed and executed the analyses of 2785 bacterial genomes using custom-built automated pipeline in Perl
- Designed statistical models (in R) to predict bioactivities of peptides
- Mentored and guided undergrad and graduate students for their projects in bioinformatics and machine learning
- Enhanced science communication by attending and organising conferences and symposiums, resulting in 9 presentations in oral and poster format (including best oral presentation award)
- Developed strong project management skills by collaborating with researchers in Ireland and abroad

Research intern - Molecular modelling

CSIR - Institute of Genomics and Integrative Biology, New Delhi, India

- Created structural models of small peptides based on replica exchange molecular dynamics (REMD)
- Gathered experience in uploading and downloading data, and running scripts on supercomputer.

Research project - Structural bioinformatics

May 2012 - Sep 2012

King's College London, UK

- Analysed over 400 PDB complexes for their backbone hydrogen bonds led to identification of vulnerable bonds at the interfaces which differentiates transient and obligate protein complexes
- Gained experience in performing text mining (Perl) and statistical analyses (R)

Research project - Bioinformatics

Jan 2011 - May 2011

SASTRA University, Thanjavur, India

- Analysed and visualised 850 protein sequences belonging to snake toxins and identified over 100 distinguishable sequence properties, each with different weights
- Developed and implemented a classifier to classify snake toxins proteins and subsequently converted it to a webserver which was later published as TFTX server (http://sblab.sastra.edu/submittf.html)
- Organised and attended national level conferences, leading to 5 presentations (including Best innovator category presentation award)

Education

Computational infection biology, Ph.D

Sep 2013 - Sep 2017

University College Dublin, Ireland

Bioinformatics, M.Sc

Sep 2011 - Sep 2012

King's College London, UK

Bioinformatics, B.Tech

Jul 2007 - May 2011

SASTRA University, Thanjavur, India

Focused on developing analytical pipelines and/or machine learning models, and data visualisation

Skills

- Extensive experience in R (7+ yrs), Perl (6+ yrs), Python (2+ yrs) and databases (SQL and MongoDB)
- Familiar with other languages such as PHP, Java, C, C++, CSS and HTML
- Experienced with Agile and Git development framework
- Expertise in several large-scale data analyses, with excellent data and project management skills
- Strong listening skills resulting in incorporating suggestions and feedbacks from colleagues, researchers and industry partners
- Inquisitive and a keen learner
- Strive to finish tasks before deadline
- Tutored several students/professionals in R, Python and Spark through First Tutor website (https://www.firsttutors.com/ireland/tutor/nikunj.maths.computer-skills/)

Awards, honours and hobbies

Recipient of Wellcome Trust PhD scholarship amounting to €183,271

14 oral and poster presentations in conferences in India, Europe and USA

Organiser of 1 national and 1 international conference

2 travel grants for conferences in the UK and the USA

First introduced to computer science at 14, never looked back

Mountain climber (Kilimanjaro and Toubkal), chef, footballer, cyclist, globetrotter

Jan 2013 - Jun 2013