Nitish Poddar

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Education

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign   *December 2021 (Expected)*
B. S. Computer Science (College of Engineering)
Economics Minor   *Urbana, IL*

GPA: 3.96; Dean's List; James Scholar Honors Student
- ◦ **Courses:** Discrete Structures, Probability & Stats for CS, Data Structures & Algorithms, Computer Architecture, Numerical Methods, Software Design Studio, Applied Linear Algebra, Microeconomic Theory, Economic Statistics
- ◦ **Organizations:**
    - Member of the development team for HackIllinois, one of the nation's largest hackathons
    - Contributing to the development of the API which is being developed using Go and MongoDB
    - Member of ACM's Special Interest Group (SIG) for Data Science and Analytics (ADSA)

Experience

University of Illinois - Department of Computer Science   *Aug 2019 – Present*
Course Developer (CS 125 – Intro to CS)   *Urbana, IL*

- Developing a lecture slide tool in ReactJS with Gatsby to make lectures more immersive
- Working with the Ace code editor to develop a modular coding tool which can be embedded anywhere
- Will be working with websockets to develop a diverse set of tools for assistance during lectures

TIMAN Research Group   *Aug 2019 – Present*
Undergraduate Researcher   *Urbana, IL*

- Part of Professor ChengXiang Zhai's Text Information Management and Analysis Group (TIMAN)
- Working to port the User Centered Adaptive Information Retrieval (UCAIR) project to a server side model
- Working to improve the relevance of the data presented to the user by the UCAIR agent

Supertron Infotech Pvt. Ltd.   *Summer 2019*
Software Development Intern   *Kolkata, India*

- Led a team to develop a query answering chat bot from scratch for a local university
- Developed the complete UI and server for the bot using ReactJS and NodeJS
- Developed the database in MongoDB to store user query data for the university

Projects

Data Compression Library   *github.com/nitishp1812/data-compression*

- Working on a data compression library in C++
- Implementing Huffman Coding and LZW Compression alongside other algorithms

Gesture Recognition Engine (for ASL)   *github.com/nitishp1812/gesture-recognition*

- Implemented a neural network using Keras for the recognition of ASL (American Sign Language) gestures
- Training and improving the model based on ASL datasets available on Kaggle

Skills

Proficient: C++, Java, Python, Go, JavaScript, Android, ReactJS, MongoDB, Git, NodeJS
Familiar: HTML, CSS, Unix, SQL, Racket