NILANJAN SARKAR

https://www.linkedin.com/in/nilansarkar/

EDUCATION

BITS Pilani, Hyderabad Campus

Master of Engineering in Computer Science (on campus-full time); CGPA: 8.91

Hyderabad, India Nov. 2020 – July. 2022

Heritage Institute of Technology

Bachelor of Technology in Computer Science and Engineering; CGPA: 7.31

Kolkata, India Aug. 2011 – July. 2015

Email: nilansarkar@gmail.com

EXPERIENCE

University of Surrey

Guildford, UK

Research Assistant under Prof. Nishanth Sastry

 $July\ 2023$ - Present

- GDPR Compliance for Web Cookies: Working on the development of, a tool for automated GDPR consent cookie settings, enhancing privacy across 25 countries.
- Unlearning in LLMs: In Progress

WESEE Project - Indian Navy Collaboration with IIT Hyderabad

India

Senior Research Engineer

Aug 2023 - Present

• Code Compliance Initiative: Leading the development of a robust code compliance framework for critical defense software systems. Using clang, llvm to analyze and optimize codebase, ensuring stringent adherence to security and performance standards.

Digital Green

Bengaluru, India

Software Engineer -2

Nov 2022 - Mar 2023

- Agri.Chat An AI-Driven Agricultural Chat Bot: Engineered and integrated an AI-powered chatbot, Agri.Chat, into the agricultural domain, enhancing digital assistance for farmers and agronomists. Implemented RAG vector embeddings for efficient retrieval of vectorized agricultural data.
- FarmStack: Catalyzed secure data transfer protocols for the agritech startup, funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, through the innovative "Farmstack" initiative. Utilized Python, Django, and REST APIs to bolster backend development. Achieved a secure data exchange compliance rate of 97%.

Amazon

Bangalore, India

Applied Scientist (Intern)

Jan 2022 - June 2022

- Innovative Session-Based Refinement Recommendation: Spearheaded the design and implementation of BERT4Ref and BERT4Ref+, pioneering session-based refinement recommendation models, during my tenure in the International Machine Learning (IML) unit. Executed complex data analysis on a vast dataset, featuring over 1 million unique products and exceeding 200 million user-product interactions.
- Advanced NLP Techniques and Deep Learning Models: Employed advanced NLP techniques and deep learning models including fastText, word2vec, GRU4Rec, and BERT variants, to decode and predict user behavior with high precision. Enhanced the session-based recommendation accuracy significantly, surpassing heuristic baselines by 54.5% and 50.3% in P@1 and P@5 metrics, respectively.
- Impactful Business Metrics: My contributions led to a substantial increase in operational success, with top-1 and top-5 recommendations capturing 6.56% and 37.55% of all purchase sessions, respectively. This work underpins a direct correlation between refinement usage and improved purchase rates—60% with a single refinement and 110% with multiple.
- Contribution to Amazon's Knowledge Base: Synthesized research findings into a compelling paper, which was selected for presentation at the Amazon Machine Learning Conference (AMLC) with a 20% acceptance rate, illustrating high-quality research and innovation.
- Technical Expertise and Tools Utilized: Expertly navigated AWS SageMaker, Pytorch, fastText, and Huggingface tools to model intricate customer preference patterns. Devised a novel ASIN representation strategy that encapsulates each product as a dictionary of attribute-value pairs, providing a nuanced understanding of customer refinement preferences.

 ${\bf Infosys}$

Hyderabad

Senior Systems Engineer

Aug 2015 - May 2019

Project: Facilitated the backend development of client applications leveraging Java and Spring MVC frameworks.
 Optimized performance through effective use of multithreading and concurrency principles, resulting in a 30% increase in application efficiency.

PROJECTS

- Spectre Attack- CPU Side Channel Attack: POC Implementation of Spectre Attack https://github.com/nsbits/spectre
 - Using cache as side channel built a POC of the Spectre attack, we can get CPUs to execute (out-of-order) a protected code branch even if the condition checks fails, essentially defeating the access check.
- File Transfer using MP-QUIC Protocol: Developed a file transfer system which uses Multipath-Quic protocol to transfer large files.
 - Demonstrated MP-Quic's benefits over simple Quic protocol. 135% faster than just using single path transmission over network. Used mininet (network emulator) to emulate multipath network.
- Using Fuzzy Inference System to predict mortality on Heart failure clinical records dataset: For discretization of continuous attributes, used Genetic Algorithms for feature selection.

 Used decision trees to select the best rules.
 - Built a Fuzzy Inference System in MATLAB using these rule Github: https://github.com/nsbits/ADM_Project_FIS

PROGRAMMING SKILLS

• Languages: C++,C, Python, SQL, Java

Technologies: AWS, Pytorch, Tensorflow

Subjects

• Coursework: Operating Systems, Computer Networks, Data Mining, Data Structures and Algorithms Research: Machine Learning, Deep Learning, Natural Language Processing, Recommender Systems