

# PANKHURI KUMAR

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## EDUCATION

### Columbia University

Dual M.S. Computer Science and Journalism *GPA: 3.66 (current)*

New York, NY

Aug 2017 - May 2019

*Courses:* Analysis of Algorithms, Advanced Machine Learning for Personalization, Databases, Artificial Intelligence, Data Visualization, UI Design, Computational Journalism

### BITS Pilani

B.E. Computer Science and M.Sc. Mathematics *GPA: 8.1/10*

Rajasthan, India

Aug 2012 - Jul 2017

## EXPERIENCE

### Pew Research Center

*Google News Initiative Fellowship Recipient*

Washington, D.C.

Jun 2018 - Aug 2018

- Developed and tested internal organization-wide pipelines for data collection and storage from the Twitter and Census API, using Python and Django.
- Assisted in survey design, analysis of response data for lead findings and drafting a report about public opinion on social media bots ([report here](#)).

### GE Digital

*Digital Intern*

Bangalore, India

Jan 2017 - Jun 2017

- Augmented dashboard with asset data visualization to improve visibility for project managers using Javascript, HTML & CSS.
- Re-configured a job scheduler to match business unit requirements, improved on-time delivery by 40%.
- Analysed and suggested methods to improve product quality by 15% by studying factors affecting textile production.

### Quadratic Insights

*Software Intern*

Hyderabad, India

Jun 2015 - Jul 2015

- Developed a tool prototype that helps businesses grow by exploring customer behavior over social media platforms like Twitter & Facebook.
- Worked with REST APIs to aggregate public information about customers.
- Adapted Python Natural Language Toolkit and Stanford Named Entity Recognizer to analyze posts and recognize customer interests.

## PROJECTS

### Fairness in Machine Learning *Python, HTML/CSS, D3*

An interactive visualization to explain the conflicting nature of fairness definitions in machine learning, using ProPublica's data and methodology from the story *Machine Bias* ([project here](#)).

### Oktave: Music Feature App *Flask, Python/Spotipy, Google Firebase*

A music recommender based on technical attributes, like tempo and frequency, to cater to dancers and music students. Built with adherence to rigorous testing and continuous integration ([app here](#)).

### Hybrid Variational Autoencoder for Collaborative Filtering *Python*

Published a paper in RecSys KTL on modified variational autoencoder to enhance user-movie recommendations by combining movie embeddings from IMDb with user ratings from the MovieLens 20M dataset ([link to paper](#)).

### India's Case for Women Empowerment *P5, HTML/CSS, Mapbox*

A data story using National Family Health Survey-4 to argue the importance of women literacy, awareness and empowerment in lowering infant mortality rate in India ([project here](#)).

## SKILLS

Programming Languages:	Python, C/C++, JavaScript, HTML/CSS, R, MATLAB
Databases:	MySQL, PostgreSQL
Tools & Technologies:	Google Cloud Platform and analytics, P5, D3, Mapbox, Leaflet

## AWARDS

**GE Digital Interns Hack-a-thon** *Second place in hackathon for interns*

May 2017

**Inspire Scholarship, Govt. of India** *Awarded to top 1% of all high school students*

2012 - 2017

**CBSE Merit Certificate, Govt. of India** *High school, 99.9 percentile in Physics*

May 2012