PANKHURI KUMAR

pankhuri.kumar@columbia.edu · (206) 209-9928 · www.linkedin.com/in/pankhuri-kumar/

EDUCATION

Columbia University   New York, NY
Dual M.S. Computer Science and Journalism *GPA: 3.87 (current)*   Aug 2017 - May 2019
Courses: Analysis of Algorithms, Advanced Machine Learning for Personalization, Databases, Artificial
Intelligence, Data Visualization, UI Design, Computational Journalism

BITS Pilani   Rajasthan, India
B.E. Computer Science and M.Sc. Mathematics *GPA: 8.1/10*   Aug 2012 - Jul 2017

EXPERIENCE

Pew Research Center   Washington, D.C.
Google News Initiative Fellowship Recipient   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   Bangalore, India
Digital Intern   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   Hyderabad, India
Software Intern   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

Rakt: Blood Bank App *Python, Flask, SQLAlchemy, PostgreSQL*
A web application to help hospitals and blood banks track blood unit transfers. Users can also store and retrieve donation records and donor history, along with blood transfers.

Ocktave: 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 enbeddings 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 APIs and analytics, P5, D3, Mapbox

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*