Pranay Varada

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Education

HARVARD UNIVERSITY

Cambridge, MA

B.A. in Statistics (Data Science track) and Government, secondary in Computer Science. GPA: 3.99.

May 2025

Work Experience

WORLD DATA LAB Data Science Intern

Vienna, Austria

June – August 2023

- Developed and presented breakdowns and forecasts of market growth to industry-leading clients such as L'Oréal and McKinsey, leveraging predictive analytics to highlight strategic business opportunities of over 6% annual growth in emerging markets.
- Built forecasting models in R for future global and national consumer spending on food, beauty products, and oral care, creating opportunities for targeted market research across age and spending groups in 180 countries.
- Tackled missingness issues in leading economic data sources through linear and boosted regressions, providing reliable core indicators for market modeling up to the year 2034.

HARVARD UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS

Cambridge, MA

Teaching Fellow – Stat 110: Introduction to Probability

September – December 2022

• Facilitated upper-level instruction and student evaluation for Harvard's largest undergraduate course, teaching key concepts in probability in weekly sections and office hours.

INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE

Remote work

Civic Digital Fellow - Data Science Intern

June – August 2022

- Improved the accuracy of automated webpage classification from 20% to 50%, furthering the IRS's mission of enhancing accessibility to taxpayers by providing them with useful metadata, using NLP libraries in Python.
- Investigated the efficiency of general and customized versions of Google's BERT language model in generating text embeddings and webpage tags, suggesting next steps to reach 20 million non-English-speaking taxpayers.

REROOT Cambridge, MA

Co-Founder & UX Researcher

October 2021 – May 2022

- Collaborated with 5 graduate students to develop reRoot, a support platform using U.S. Census data to help members of prospective migrants figure out the optimal location for them to move to, given their desired factors.
- Received \$1,000 in funding as a finalist in the 2022 MIT IDEAS Social Innovation Challenge.

Projects & Activities

HARVARD OPEN DATA PROJECT

Cambridge, MA

President

April 2024 – present

- Lead Harvard's largest undergraduate data science community, managing a 100-student organization.
- Partner with Harvard agencies to improve data transparency, including academic, dining, and policing data.
- Run 12-week-long bootcamps teaching data science in Python to 25 new members each semester.

HARVARD SPORTS ANALYSIS COLLECTIVE

Cambridge, MA

Editor in Chief

December 2023 – present

- Helming the country's leading collegiate sports analytics blog, with an annual readership of over 15,000.
- Worked with NJ/NY Gotham FC to improve strategy by developing interactive postgame reports with R Shiny.
- Used machine learning methods in Python to evaluate how offensive line skill affects quarterback pocket area on over 10,000 passing plays, in a project for the NFL's Big Data Bowl.

HARVARD INTERNATIONAL REVIEW

Cambridge, MA

Solicits Chair & Executive Content Editor

January 2023 – present

- Directing a 10-person team conducting interviews with dignitaries and international affairs experts worldwide.
- Bringing new perspectives to 400,000+ global readers, including interviews with Timor-Leste President and Nobel Peace Prize laureate José Ramos-Horta, as well as leaders in space law and language revitalization.