

Pranay Varada

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Education

HARVARD UNIVERSITY

B.A. in Statistics (Data Science track) and Government, secondary in Computer Science. GPA: 3.98.

Cambridge, MA

May 2025

Technical Skills

Programming: Python, R, HTML, CSS, SQL, Java.

Web Development: pranayvarada.com (personal), geogenius.org (geography education project). Experience with Figma.

Experience

WORLD DATA LAB

Data Science Intern

Vienna, Austria

June 2023 – present

- Developing and presenting breakdowns and forecasts of market growth to major current and prospective clients such as L'Oréal, leveraging World Data Lab's novel data science approaches to highlight strategic business opportunities of over 6% annual growth in emerging markets.
- Building predictive models 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, thus enabling smarter business strategy.

HARVARD COLLEGE STATISTICS DEPARTMENT

Teaching Fellow – Stat 110

Cambridge, MA

September – December 2022

- Led weekly sections and office hours to teach key concepts in probability, such as conditional independence, expected value, and distributions of random variables.
- Assisted with creating teaching materials and grading for Harvard's largest undergraduate course (~750 students).

INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE

Civic Digital Fellow – Data Science Intern

Remote work

June – August 2022

- Improved the accuracy of automated webpage classification from 20% to 50%, furthering the IRS's mission of improving accessibility to taxpayers by providing them with useful metadata to quickly find relevant information.
- 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

Co-Founder & UX Researcher

Cambridge, MA

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.
- Finalist in the 2022 MIT IDEAS Social Innovation Challenge, receiving \$1,000 in funding.

Projects & Activities

HARVARD SPORTS ANALYSIS COLLECTIVE

Soccer Team Lead

Cambridge, MA

September 2021 – present

- Applied statistical modeling practices in R to analyze factors that affect soccer players' transfer values, as well as how the relationships between these factors change with differences in the quality of Europe's top 5 leagues.
- 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

Solicits Chair & Executive Content Editor

Cambridge, MA

September 2021 – present

- Directing a 10-person team conducting interviews with dignitaries and international affairs experts worldwide.
- Brought 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 fields such as space law and language revitalization.
- Published articles dissecting great power dynamics in the South Pacific and resource management in Mongolia.