1) Which program & batch are you part of at INSAID?

I am enrolled for Global Certificate in Data Science and AI program and part of Aug 2019 Batch.

2) Tell us more about your current work profile?

I am working as **Software Engineer in Test** atExpedia. I am heading the Quality Assurance team at my company and am responsible for **Software Quality activities like Writing Test Automation frameworks**.

3)Walk us through your career journey

I have done Bachelor of Technology in Computer Science and I have worked for Product Based companies like Adobe and Expedia. My Software quality profile has enabled me to do **analysis of software and systems to avert risk and prevent issues going into production. I am involved** in the quality assurance stage of software development and deployment and conducts automated and manual tests to ensure the bug free software.

4) Would you like to tell us more about some projects you’ve undertaken in Data Science?

So far in INSAID, I have undertaken 2 projects. First one is Exploratory data analysis on IPL data and found useful insights which can be used for participating in dream 11. Second one Prudential Insurance Risk prediction which is a Supervised Machine Learning classification problem and I have applied my Machine Learning Skills to implement that.

4) What got you interested in Data Science & Machine Learning?

I love maths and programming from my childhood and college days and now I have started learning statistics and since **Data science** is an **inter**-**disciplinary** field that uses **all these skills**, I chose Data Science**. Now, I am** finding this field very interesting and exciting

4) What all tools and packages in Data Science & Machine Learning have you mastered in your Data Science & AI program at INSAID so far?

I am learning a lot since I joined INSAID, but would like to highlight only a few like Python programming which any non-coder can easily learn , Numpy for numerical computations, Pandas for data pre-processing and Scikit learn for Basic Machine Learning

5) Discuss the scope of Data Science and AI in your industry.

In online travel industry, data science and AI is applied in problems like

* Revenue management tools for suppliers
* Hotel photo quality assessment
* User review moderation and sentiment analysis
* Fraud detection
* Metasearch and SEM bidding
* Chatbots and conversational interfaces

6) What are some major business problems in your industry that Data Science would

solve?

* Revenue management tools for suppliers
  + Lot of their inventory gets unsold and they don’t know at what price they should sell that inventory
  + building machine learning models can help them to predict a good price for a hotel which suppliers can sell all their unsold inventories.

7) Can you talk about some applications of Data Science and AI in your domain happening

around you that particularly stroke your interest

* Chatbots and conversational interfaces
* There is a Live person messaging feature implemented at our sites which are like automated chat bots which are answering the customer problem

8) In what ways do you think you can contribute to your current role once your training as a

Data Scientist is complete?

* Since I have 2.5 years of domain experience in Travel domain and after learning data science and I can start contributing in solving these problems of building better chatbots and revenue management tools for suppliers.

9) What were your objectives and expectations before enrolling with INSAID and how do

you think INSAID has helped you achieve them so far?

My objective is to master my skills required to transition into Data Science profile.

INSAID is helping me in transitioning though building good resume, linked profile, github profile and how to participate in Kaggle competitions

10) Do you think the INSAID curriculum is designed to help beginners in Data Science &

ML? What would you say about the way the course has been structured?

Yes, definitely it is designed to help beginners as it has starter kits and lot of assignments to practice to get hands on and solidify your concepts and slowly helps them to transition using a structured curriculum.

11) Who is your favorite faculty at INSAID and what did you learn from him the most?

Suchit is my favorite faculty and I learned a lot from him, especially what is data science and how to do good EDA and find useful insights from data.

12) Have you attended any Speaker sessions at INSAID, what were your major takeaways

from them?

Yes, I attended all the speaker sessions and they are very uselful specially one taken by **Srindihi Rao**, at, The Math Company which helps us to understand how we can convert business problems into data science or machine learning problems and what are the right set of questions we should ask when talking to our stakeholders.

13) Do you feel you are ready to appear for Data Science interviews? In what ways, would

you say INSAID has helped you to increase your chances for getting shortlisted for Data

Science roles?

I still need to practice interview questions on python, pandas, seaborn and scikit learn packages, but yes slowly I am getting confident with the help from INSAID.

14) What are some of initial challenges when you got started on your Data Science journey and how did you overcome it?

I lacked self-confidence whether I would be able to do it or not because of being in software quality domain and I thought initially data science domain is only for software developers and then I joined INSAID and met Manav in Data Science Webinar and then Suchit and Lavi taught EDA and Machine Learning and now I have overcome all of my challenges and today I am not only confident but very sure that I will definitely be able to transition into Data Science profile.

8) What is the goal of Data Science?

Transforming data into value by applying tools and techniques.

9) In your view, how has Data Science evolved in last few years?

More and more data science applications can be seen now days…like Face recognition, Healthcare Cancer Detection

10) What are the current trends in Data Science that you are most excited about?

**1.** Democratization of Data Science  
**2.** Super-sized Data Science in the Cloud - Data Science moving to Cloud  
 (Azure ML, AWS and Google Cloud Platform)  
**3.** Automation in Data Science  
**4.** Natural Language Processing  
**5.** Data Privacy and Security

11) What current trends in Data Science & AI do you see becoming very big in coming years?

NLP and Deep Reinforcement Learning, Driverless Cars, Healthcare,

12) Which are the top two Data Science & AI influencer you follow?

Andrew Ng – Founder and CEO of Landing AI will help great companies become great AI companies

Abhishek Thakur, Kaggle 3x Grandmaster

Yann Lecun, Vp and chief AI at facebook

Cassie Kozyrkov , Chief data scientist at google

13) Which are some of the blogs that you follow?

Medium, Towards Data science, Analytics Vidhya etc., kaggle

14) At INSAID, students are encouraged to build high quality github profiles. Have you built a github portfolio and how do you think this will help you?

Your **GitHub** account is the best representation of the skills of a developer

Good github profiles are resume these days and more important than resume in data science as that shows your work and how frequently you are involved by looking at github commit history.

15) Crafting a great Data Science resume is critical part of getting shortlisted for Data Science roles. Tell us some ways in which you have improved your resume as part of Data Science Career Launchpad

Working on real world datasets

16) I\_N\_S\_A\_I\_D\_’s\_ \_m\_i\_s\_s\_i\_o\_n\_ \_i\_s\_ \_t\_o\_ \_G\_r\_o\_o\_m\_ \_D\_a\_t\_a\_ \_l\_e\_a\_d\_e\_r\_s\_ \_o\_f\_ \_tomorrow. What do you understand by a Data leader? And how is a Data leader different from a Data Scientist

Data leader- your time is better spent learning business strategy. than diving deep into the hottest new algorithms. Your job is now about helping other people to do their jobs.

Evangelise Data Science and giving talks at big conferences. Empower your team and make them understand why it’s important to do

**Data leaders** are equally discerning about the hype and potential of the analytics used on their **data**. They focus on the problems the business needs to solve, and investigate new analytic techniques that can make their **data** “talk” in increasingly valuable ways

17) What are some of applications of Data Science & Machine Learning in industries that you are excited about?

Virtual Assistants, chatbots, NLP, Computer vision, Deep Reinforcement learning like Alphago

18) What is your advice to anyone wanting to start a career in Data Science?

Unlearn and Start as soon as possible, as it’s the future. Become future ready.