

# Rakshika Rajakumar

📍 Los Angeles, CA   ✉️ [rakshikaraj@gmail.com](mailto:rakshikaraj@gmail.com)   ☎️ +1 (323)646-3734   🌐 [rakshika.me](https://rakshika.me)   in [rakshika](#)   📷 [rakshikaraj](#)

A versatile problem solver leveraging machine learning, cloud computing, and software development to tackle diverse challenges efficiently.

## Education

- University of Southern California** **August 2023 - May 2025**  
*Master of science in Electrical and Computer Engineering- Machine Learning and Data Science*  
◦ **GPA: 3.44/4** ; Courses: Deep Learning systems, Reinforcement learning, Information retrieval and web search engines, Data structures
- Anna University - Coimbatore Institute of Technology** **July 2019 - May 2023**  
*Bachelor of Engineering in Electronics and Communication*  
◦ **GPA: 9.1/10** ; Courses: Machine Learning, Web Development, Data analysis and Networking

## Experience

- Machine Learning Engineer** *Los Angeles, CA*  
*WorkUp* **May 2024 - July 2024**  
◦ Leveraged deep learning models to put together a SOTA recommender system for a TikTok-style application for employment using Nvidia Merlin for pipeline creation and AWS for Cloud deployment. Personal contribution: Candidate retrieval system and model development (Merlin with Two tower architecture)
- Associate Trainee Intern** *Chennai, India*  
*Kanini software solutions* **February 2023 - June 2023**  
◦ Developed and deployed web applications using React.js, Node.js, and .NET Framework; special focus: front end  
◦ Managed databases using DBMS tools; worked on software deployment on AWS, utilizing C# for back end development
- Machine Learning- Artificial Intelligence Intern(remote)** *Ohio, USA*  
*MSAI* **November 2022 - February 2023**  
◦ Collaborated with a group to optimize GPU utilization to ensure 99% model up-time while reducing costs by almost 20%  
◦ Optimized a Faster R-CNN model for customer emotion analysis, achieving 2-checkpoint reductions in error metrics.
- Machine Learning Research intern** *Waterloo, Canada*  
*Teach Digital Lab- MITACS* **June 2022 - October 2022**  
◦ Conducted predictive modeling to test digital fluency among Ontario's education professionals.  
◦ Worked with a team under Dr. Julie Mueller, in partnership with InkSmith Technologies, on developing a rover prototype for K-12 education. The project was funded by the Canadian Space Agency.  
◦ Researched on using R-CNN for object detection in space rovers.
- Machine Learning Intern (remote)** *Bengaluru, India*  
*Zebo.AI* **October 2021 - January 2022**  
◦ Pioneered development of advanced fraud detection models, leveraging anomaly detection and pattern recognition for financial transactions, reduced false positives, and improved precision by 17%

## Skills

**Programming Languages:** Python, C++, C#, JavaScript, HTML, CSS, MATLAB  
**Frameworks and Libraries:** PyTorch, TensorFlow, NumPy, Pandas, Matplotlib, Scikit-learn, Selenium, React.js, Node.js, Bootstrap, Tailwind  
**LLMs:** LLaMa2, BERT, OpenAI GPT, Cohere, RoBERTa  
**Databases:** MySQL, SQL, MongoDB  
**Tools:** Docker, Kubernetes, AWS, GitHub, Hypervisors, Visual Studio, VSCode, Atom, XCode, Jupyter Notebook, Google Colab, Hadoop, Spark, ML Flow  
**Domains:** Deep Learning, Computer Vision, Natural Language Processing, Generative AI, Cloud Computing, Web Development, Web Crawling  
**Languages Known:** English, Tamil, Hindi, Telugu, Bahasa Indonesia

## Projects

- Federated Learning in 3D Brain-tumor segmentation**  
◦ Developed a federated learning model for 3D brain MRI segmentation using BraTS dataset, with a UNet architecture and FedPer to address client data variability by centralizing encoder and personalizing each client's decoder.  
◦ Compared model performance with TransUnet, refining segmentation adaptability across client environments.
- Wildfire Aftermath Analysis using Satellite Imagery**  
◦ Created a comprehensive object detection and segmentation pipeline to assess wildfire damage from satellite images. Extracted RGB and Near-Infrared (NIR) values (using virtual electromagnetic shift) from satellite imagery using ERDAS software. Formulated a dataset of 16,000 entries to quantify impact of wildfires across different regions. Leveraged Detectron2 and Mask R-CNN for object detection and segmentation, accurately identifying burnt areas. Applied the Burnt Index Ratio to assess fire damage intensity in wildfire-affected areas.
- Optimization for Empathy-Driven Conversational AI (LLMs)**  
◦ Developed an emotionally adaptive chatbot with a custom state-of-mind class to analyze user conversation styles across formality, emotion, frustration, and rush. Ongoing: Using LLMs and an adaptation layer to guide users toward an optimal emotional state.
- Movie recommender system**  
◦ Built a Movie Recommendation system using Restricted Boltzmann Machines for content-based filtering, compared with K-means.
- Intelligent Sensory assistive glove**  
◦ Researched with a team to design a computer vision and IoT-based wearable glove system to detect and identify obstacles(types-32) via an ultra-sonic sensor, providing real-time speech output through optical character recognition to aid visually impaired people

## Publications

- Performance Analysis of CNN Architectures in Multi-label Image classification** **February 2023**  
*International Journal of Computer Applications 184(48):14-18, February 2023*
- Assessment of Machine Learning Algorithms for Predicting Campus Placements** **March 2023**  
*Mobile Computing and Sustainable Informatics: Proceedings of ICMCSI 2023 (pp. 221-231 Springer)* [🔗](#)