Rohit Kandala

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OBJECTIVE: Behavioral Data Scientist seeking to leverage large-scale data operations to drive strategic decision-making and deliver impactful outcomes

TECHNOLOGIES, EXPERTISE & ORGANIZATIONS

Technologies: Python (pandas, numpy, pytorch, scikit-learn, nltk, transformers), R (tidyverse, ggplot2, survey), SQL, Data Reporting (Looker, PowerBI, Tableau), dbt, GCP (BigQuery, Vertex), AWS (Athena, SageMaker), Apache (Airflow, PySpark, Hadoop), Docker, GitHub, Qualtrics

Expertise: Data Science & Statistical Analysis, Machine Learning & Causal Inference, Survey Design & Analysis, Project Management, Stakeholder Management, Media, Social Science

Organizations: Harmony Labs (Advisory Board Member) & AAPOR (Member)

WORK EXPERIENCE

Kamala Harris for President   Wilmington, DE
Senior Survey Analyst   June 2024 - November 2024
- Developed and managed campaign's "always-on" poll, which operated continuously and averaged 1,000 respondents/day. It was the campaign's primary tool to detect movement shifts quickly, and was also used for subgroup analysis to inform outreach efforts
- Wrote reports twice/week for senior leadership, including campaign chair and manager, analyzing survey responses. Utilized methods such as weighting, linear modeling, natural language processing, time series analysis, and data visualization to deliver actionable insights
- Contributed to polling projects, including Battleground Poll, A/B Testing, and Election Forecasting

SBDigital   Washington, D.C.
Senior Digital Associate   April 2020 - June 2022
- Managed $20 million across hundreds of advertising campaigns on multiple digital platforms, supervised other associates' campaigns, and coordinated with leadership to translate client's political goals into clear objectives and KPIs
- Developed client-facing, real-time analytics dashboards in three months, automating reporting and saving 10 hours/week per associate

SELECT DATA SCIENCE PROJECTS

- OkCupid Profiles: Fine-tuned a transformer model to optimize user matching based on input preferences. Applied cosine similarity to enhance match accuracy and developed a Flask app allowing users to connect with existing profiles or create AI-generated profiles
- UChicago Lyft Ride Smart Program: Analyzed ridesharing behavior in Chicago's Hyde Park neighborhood using unsupervised and supervised models. Identified significant shifts in ridership patterns, correlating them with subsidy implementation and policy changes
- Public Perceptions of the ObamaCare Program: Trained three sentiment analysis models (SVM, XGBoost, Random Forest) using Yelp data to analyze Twitter discussions about Obamacare

EDUCATION

The University of Chicago   Chicago, IL
Master of Science in Computational Analysis and Public Policy   June 2024
- Coursework: Computer Science with Applications, Causal Inference, Natural Language Processing, Machine Learning for Public Policy, Advanced Statistics, Math for Machine Learning, Big Data and Cloud Computing, Social Network Analysis, Bayesian Methods, Survey Questionnaire Design, Databases, Linear Algebra, Mathematical Probability, Microeconomics, and Analytical Politics
- Awards: Cognizant Trust & Safety Scholarship ($20k) & LAGRANT Scholarship ($7.5k)
- Leadership Experience: HarrisTech Board Member & AAPOR Planning Committee Member

The University of Connecticut, College of Arts & Sciences   Storrs, CT
Bachelor of Arts in History; Minors: Communications & Philosophy   May 2019