Sahil Punchhi
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PROFILE

- **Master of Information Technology** (majors: Data Science, AI) student at UNSW with a distinction
- Strong **predictive modelling** and **machine learning** experience with 2 years at ICICI Bank, India
- Programmed and developed new tradable assets for the Global Markets Group at **J.P. Morgan**
- **MITACS Globalink Scholar** (2015) at UNB, Canada for an academic exchange research project
- **Australian professional experience** with UNSW and Platute in IT and JB HiFi in commercial operations

EDUCATION

Master of Information Technology (majors: Data Science, Artificial Intelligence) **Jul 2018 – Aug 2020**
University of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia; **WAM 83/100**
- Awarded UNSW Future of Change Scholarship for the postgraduate program in IT **Jul 2018**

Master of Science (Economics) and **Bachelor of Engineering (Mechanical)** **Aug 2011 – May 2016**
BITS Pilani, Pilani, India; **WAM 8.97/10**
- Awarded 2nd prize for the project 'Collaborative consumption' in the technical fest Apogee **Mar 2015**

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Teaching Assistant – Data Structures, Artificial Intelligence **Feb 2019 – Present**
University of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia
- Tutored and administered multiple advanced programming subjects to 400+ students across 6 courses at UNSW; Tasks included holding classroom tutoring sessions, overseeing lab work, creating assignments, developing examination questions and handling student question forums
- Assisted senior faculty to evaluate and grade students through feedback on classroom performance, together with marking examination papers and assignment submissions

Developer (Contract based) **May 2020 – Jun 2020**
Platute, Sydney, Australia
- Web scraped all the courses from major Australian universities using various libraries in python
- Designed promotional campaign to expand outreach of Platute to Computer Science students at UNSW

Data Analyst, Manager **Jul 2016 – May 2018**
ICICI, Business Intelligence Unit, Hyderabad, India
- Engaged with various business teams to provide analytical solutions and insights to complex problems; Delivered key projects in predictive modelling, machine learning and text mining
  - **Automatic Text Classification**: Classified employees into 4 categories to obtain behavioural characteristic trends and sentiments through document classification and sentiment analysis
  - **Family Members Identification**: Identified accounts of family members of certain set of customers on the basis of address match using Jaccard distance, which were added in monitoring for frauds
  - **Credit and Market Risk**: Developed pooling logic for retail asset portfolios with respect to two different dimensions of risk: Likelihood of default (Probability of Default i.e. PD) and Expected recovery (Loss Given Default i.e. LGD); Assessed factor sensitivity of portfolios using measures like modified duration
- Promoted in 1 year from 'Management trainee' to 'Manager-I' for exemplary performance **Jul 2017**
- Awarded for the project 'IFRS9 Expected Credit Loss Estimation' in the category 'Intelligence' **Oct 2017**

Analyst **Jan 2016 – Jun 2016**
J.P. Morgan Services, Global Markets Group, Mumbai, India
- Developed trading strategies for exotic options and derivatives on python-based platform "Athena"
- Analysed global markets for different trading instruments and their percentage share of profits

ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE

Sales Representative **Nov 2018 – Jan 2019**
JB HiFi, Sydney, Australia
- Set new records for sale and number of customers served; including value generated from upselling
- Provided after sales support, guided clients to improve user experience

MITACS Globalink Intern   **May 2015 – Aug 2015**
University of New Brunswick, Fredericton, Canada
- Worked under Dr. Victoria Chester on 'Kinematic multi-segment foot models' for gait analysis
- Cultural exchange program to get international exposure and work with students from other countries

RELEVANT PROJECTS

Laboratory Earthquake Prediction   **Feb 2020 – Apr 2020**
- Predicted the time that an earthquake will occur in a laboratory test using gradient boosting framework (XG-Boost and Light-GBM); The laboratory test applies shear forces to a sample of rock containing a fault line and if the physics are ultimately shown to scale from the laboratory to the field, billions of dollars could be saved in infrastructure

Task Scheduler for an Embedded System   **Jun 2019 – Sep 2019**
- Designed a feasible schedule for the task set for an embedded system such that all the timing constraints are satisfied using binomial heap-based priority queue

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Arc Delegate, UNSW Data Science Society   **Apr 2019 – Aug 2020**
- Contributed to several programs and hackathons conducted for society members at the post graduate level
- Was responsible for the growth of the society and designed outreach programs to actively recruit new students

Team Leader, UNSW Hero Program   **Dec 2018 – Feb 2019**
- Pitched an innovative development project as part of the Heroes program
- Ranked among top 5 selected to present in the UNSW Service Improvement Conference out of 36 teams

Schooling Operations Head, National Service Scheme   **Aug 2014 – Mar 2018**
- Spear-headed operations at NSS Night School and inculcated community development approach

Joint Coordinator, Creative Activities Club, fine arts society, BITS Pilani **Aug 2013 – May 2015**
- Organized workshops and raised sponsorship for 4 events with 800 guests in cultural fest (OASIS)

CERTIFICATIONS AND CONFERENCES

Machine Learning training by Math Logic   **Apr 2017**
- Focused on machine learning and deep learning models that can lead to 10%-30% performance improvement over traditional modelling paradigms in a variety of use cases

Harvard US-India Initiative Conference   **Jan 2017**
- Addressed some of India's most pressing social, economic and environmental issues in a student run organization that aims to create a dialogue between Indian and American youth

Chartered Financial Analyst, Level-1   **Dec 2016**
- Professional designation received from the CFA institute, formerly AIMR that measures the competence and integrity of financial analysts

TECHNICAL SKILLS

- *Programming:* Python, C, Scala, VBA, HTML, CSS, JavaScript
- *Data management & visualization:* Tableau, Power BI, R, SQL, SAS, Cloud services (AWS)
- *Frameworks:* Big data frameworks (Hadoop, Spark), React JS (Front end development), Git
- *Office tools:* Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, PowerPoint), MS Teams, Slack, Zoom, BB Collaborate

REFEREES

Dr. Michael Thielscher	Anirudh Vanimesetty	Abhinav Krishna
Professor, UNSW	Senior Consultant, KPMG	Associate, J.P. Morgan