Sanchit Agarwal

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EDUCATION Carnegie Mellon University, School of Computer Science, Pittsburgh December 2016

Master of Science in Intelligent Information Systems Indian School of Mines (ISM), Dhanbad

4.04/4.00May 2013

Integrated Master of Technology in Mathematics and Computing

9.37/10.00

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Programming: C, C++, Java, Python, MATLAB, Postgres, Android development, IATEX

Technologies: Eclipse, Git, SVN, Perforce, Lucene, PySpark, Hadoop, Scikit-learn, Stanford CoreNLP

Work

Amazon Inc., Cambridge, USA

May 2016 – August 2016

EXPERIENCE

Machine Learning Scientist Intern

Worked with Alexa science team to investigate the problem of miss-recognition of product names during voice shopping on Amazon Echo. Built a statistical re-ranker to extract the "best" product name starting with n-best ASR hypothesis. The re-ranker showed 11% relative decrease in product name mismatch.

Samsung India Electronics, Noida, India

June 2013 – July 2015

Lead Engineer

Worked on the app team of Samsung's intelligent personal assistant, SVoice as Android developer.

Projects

Re-ranking machine generated questions

Jan 2016 – April 2016

Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, USA

Advisor: Prof Teruko Mitamura Built a generic question re-ranking module using Learning-To-Rank (LETOR) approach that can serve as last component of a question generation system. Experimented with length based, linguistic and language model based features. Used open source software SVM^{rank} for training the system.

Classifying real and fake text

Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, USA

Built a classifier to segregate real Broadcast news articles from trigram-generated fake articles. Used features such as n-grams, tf-idf, article length and perplexity w.r.t 3-gram and 4-gram models. SVM with linear kernel provided the best accuracy.

Question Generation and Answering System

Jan 2016 – April 2016

Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, USA

Worked in a team of 4 to build a system that can produce coherent, grammatical and fluent questions and answers. Used Wikipedia articles as dataset. The system was written in python using NLTK and Stanford CoreNLP tools and provides a command-line interface. Our team won the best project award.

Text based Information Retrieval

Sept 2015 – Dec 2015

Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, USA

Built Ranked Boolean, Okapi BM25 and Indri retrieval models in Java using Lucene search engine library. Implemented several query operators and added query expansion and learning-to-rank capabilities. Conducted experiments to analyze the performance of the search engine on ClueWeb09 dataset using metrics like Mean Average Precision and Precision@N.

Analysis of fMRI data using Machine Learning

Nov 2015 - Dec 2015

Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, USA

Performed multi-class kernelized SVM classification to categorize the activity being performed by test subjects using their fMRI scans. Used PCA with ridge regression to predict missing voxels in fMRI scans of test subjects. Used holdout testing and cross-validation to test the model accuracy and prevent any over-fitting. Implementation was done in python using scikit-learn library.

Predicting star ratings from customer reviews

Nov 2015

Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, USA

Built a machine learning system from scratch to preprocess data, extract features (bag of words), and learn a multi-class logistic regression classifier. Implemented stochastic gradient descent (SGD) and batched SGD to train the logistic regression model. Implementation was done in python and experiments were run on a dataset from Yelp with 1 million reviews.

Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, USA

Developed, in MATLAB, a collaborative filtering based recommender system for movies using a subset of Netflix Prize dataset. Implemented both memory-based and model-based approaches for rating prediction. Tried clustering techniques to address cold-start problem.

Fuzzy Transform and its Applications

May 2012 - May 2013

Indian School of Mines, Dhanbad, India

Worked on Fuzzy Transform for discrete and continuous functions in one and two variables. Implemented in MATLAB, an approach to solve ordinary differential equations using fuzzy transform. Investigated the approach by comparing it to the exact and Euler's solutions. Also looked into image compression and reconstruction using fuzzy transform.

SELECTED COURSEWORK

Graduate: Machine Learning, Search Engines, Machine Learning for Text Mining, Natural Language Processing, Language and Statistics

Undergraduate: Computer Organization, Data Structures, Algorithms Design & Analysis, Operating Systems, Software Engineering, Theory of Computation, DBMS, Probability and Statistics, Statistical Inference, Optimization Techniques, Mathematical Modeling & Calculus of Variations, Stochastic Process, Abstract Algebra, Linear Algebra, Numerical Methods, Fuzzy Set Theory and Applications

Honours and Awards

Awarded the Best Student Shield by The President of India at the convocation in May 2014

Selected twice for the University of Auckland International Summer Scholarship in 2011 and 2012

Topper of the college for the academic year 2009-2010

Recipient of the INSPIRE scholarship from the Department of Science and Technology, Govt. of India from 2008-2012

Placed in the National top 1.5% in the IIT-JEE 2008

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Won Best Stock Price Data Hack (Sponsored by FINRA) at PennApps XII, Sept. 2015

Placement Representative, Integrated M.Tech Mathematics & Computing, Batch 2k13

Hostel Prefect, Amber Hostel (3rd yr. hostel) for the academic session 2010-2011

Selected among top 150 Indian students to attend Level-0 session of Mathematical Training and Talent Search (MTTS), at Sambalpur University, Orissa from June 2009 - July 2009 (MTTS is a summer school organized by the National Board of Higher Mathematics (NBHM))

Hobbies: Reading