# Shanmugha Balan

M.Sc. Physics and B.E. Electrical and Electronics Engineering Birla Institute of Science and Technology, Pilani - 8.0/10.0

Passionate about Astronomy and Machine Learning. Avid blogger, loves to teach and share knowledge!

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## **EXPERIENCE**

# **Undergraduate Research Scholar**

- 📕 Astrophysics and Cosmology Research Group, Dept of Physics 🏻 🛗 Dec 2020 present 👂 BITS Pilani, Rajasthan
- Working on star cluster data from the Gaia Mission by the European Space Agency
- · Studied structural properties and stability of clusters using unsupervised learning algorithms

## **Machine Learning Intern**

- 📕 Army Base Workshop 🏻 🛗 May Jul 2021 👂 Pitharogarh, Uttarakhand
- · Hi me from the future, fill in this stuff, please
- · DONT SEND THIS ANYWHERE BEFORE FILLING IT MAN

## Junior Research Scholar

- 📕 Raman Lab, Computational Systems Biology Lab 🏻 🛗 Apr Jun 2018 🛭 🗣 IIT Madras, Chennai
- · Analysed protein networks for E. coli using data from the STRING database
- · Made a protein network graph with NetworkX to identify potential drug targets

# **PERSONAL PROJECTS**

#### **SEU Detection for CASSIOPE**

Trained a random forest model to protect the CASSIOPE satellite from solar disruptions with a highly unbalanced dataset and got 87.6% accuracy

## **Traffic Sign Classifier**

Trained a custom CNN on the German Traffic Sign Benchmark dataset of around 50000 images with 92% accuracy and made a GUI to deploy the model

# **SKILLS**

**Machine Learning** 

**Data Science** 

**Scientific Computing** 

TensorFlow, PyTorch, Scikit-Learn

Numpy, Pandas, Matplotlib

C/C++, MATLAB, Python (Anaconda)

## **COURSES**

## **University Courses (Math)**

Math 1 (Calculus) | Math 2 (Linear Algebra+Complex Analysis) | Math 3 (Differential Equations) | Probability and Statistics

## **University Courses (Physics)**

Classical Mechanics | Electromagnetic Theory | Optics | Quantum Mechanics | Nonlinear Dynamics and Chaos

#### **MOOCs (Certified)**

Deep Learning Specialization (5 courses, deeplearning.ai) | Applied Data Science Specialization (5 courses, U Mich) | TensorFlow in Practice (4 courses, deeplearning.ai)

## **MOOCs (Audited)**

Intro to DL (MIT OCW) | CNNs for Visual Recognition and NLP for DL (Stanford Online) | Deep Reinforcement Learning (UC Berkeley)

## **EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

#### Microsoft Learn Student Ambassador

Conducted games for APOGEE and paper discussions with the ML student interest group

#### FreeLunch

Senior Editor of the Science and Technology section of a research oriented blog

#### The Radio Astronomy Club

Manage the blog and perform data analysis of gravitational wave signals

## **Physics Association**

Made educational posts and conducted talk series to promote physics