Shankar is an accomplished Data Scientist who is now Chief Statistical Scientist of Tesla Motors. Under Shankar, Tesla Motors has been an industry leader with the very successful use of engineering enhancements and supporting data collection and its algorithmic applicability to the car’s operational efficiency. Shankar joined Tesla as a Data Science expert and has risen the ranks at the company over the last 3 years through his innovative use of statistical and predictive analysis and with beneficial its incorporation in every aspect of the automotive operation on the road.

In 2016, Tesla’s battery efficiency algorithm was based upon simple measurements followed by a predetermined and programmed response. In the last 3 years, Shankar has introduced multiple analysis and predictive enhancements. Additionally, by introducing multiple new functional elements each of which provides operational data, Shankar’s algorithmic extensions have had a huge impact on cost of Tesla ownership and operation. By architecting the inclusion of sensors, including those for measuring ambient and road conditions, and by retaining a history of driver actions and by iteratively building a driving pattern and adjusting battery usage, Shankar’s dynamic analysis methods and adaptive response algorithms have increased the 2019 battery life of the Tesla automobile by 27% through the super efficient delivery of power to the drive train. This efficiency as benefited the balance sheet of Tesla by $1.3B in 2019.

It is expected that as historical data for each automobile is gathered over time, Shankar’s adaptive response algorithms will deliver an addition 9% efficiency over the next 3 years, resulting in an additional savings to Tesla of $300M.