SKAND VIJAY

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EDUCATION

Carnegie Mellon University **Expected Graduation, Dec 2025**
Master of Information Systems Management GPA: 3.85/4.0
Coursework: Generative AI Labs, Artificial Intelligence (Deep Learning), Product Management Essentials, Data Science for Product Managers, Agile Methods

Vellore Institute of Technology, **Jul 2018 - May 2022**
Bachelor of Technology in Electronics and Communication Engineering GPA: 3.96/4.0

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Privacy Economics Experiment (PeeX) Lab, Pittsburgh, PA **Jan 2024 - Present**
Research Assistant

- Conducted consumer behavior analysis on ad-blockers and anti-trackers by surveying 1200+ participants, helping shape new privacy-focused product features, reducing unintentional data exposure by 57% and improved user trust
- Formulated a product spec document, driving design discussions with engineering teams to implement efficient JavaScript-based data collection workflows, increasing data collection speed by 64%

Gap Inc, Client Location: San Francisco, CA **Jun 2022 – Jul 2024**
Product Manager

- Spearheaded market research and user discovery through structured interviews with **15+** enterprise clients, identifying inefficiencies in journal approval workflows, and optimizing workflows to boost efficiency by **44%**
- Led the implementation of an AI-powered financial reconciliation system, automating transaction matching and anomaly detection, reducing manual effort by **80%** and improving accuracy by **93%**, resulting in a **50%** faster reconciliation process
- Collaborated with Design and Finance teams to create wireframes and mockups for a journal approval automation tool, leading to a successful pilot adoption across **92+** finance users, saving **5,500+** manual processing hours annually
- Worked with product marketing team to launch an internal automation tool to reduce backlog accumulation of journals for finance teams, driving **100%** adoption across all business units and reducing manual journal tracking by **97%**
- Led product strategy and backlog management for STCA microservice, managing JIRA workflows and sprint planning, reducing backlog churn by **65%** and accelerating feature releases by **87%**

PROJECTS

Carnegie Mellon University
Enhancing LLM Performance: Precision-Tuned Prompt Engineering for AI Optimization **Spring 2025**

- Optimized GPT-4o-mini's prompt engineering for text summarization and translation increasing accuracy by 27% and reducing token usage by 35% through structured prompts, few-shot learning, and chain-of-thought prompting enabling more precise and cost-efficient AI-driven content generation

Retrieval-Augmented Generation (RAG) System for Large Language Models (LLMs) **Spring 2025**

- Designed a Retrieval-Augmented Generation (RAG) system using Pinecone, FAISS, and OpenAI embeddings, enhancing LLM response accuracy by 25% through sentence and paragraph-level chunking, optimizing query retrieval from a 500+ page dataset, and improving retrieval precision from 68% to 91% for policy document search across LLMs like Google Gemma

CMU, School of Computer Science – Intro to Deep Learning (PhD Level) **Fall 2024**
Sketch2Product – Convert Sketches into Product Ready Visuals

- Developed a Generative AI application for product design, leveraging diffusion models to convert sketches into high-resolution visuals, fine-tuning custom LLMs (BLIP, Stable Diffusion, BERT), reducing design iteration time by 60%, and deploying the solution on Google Cloud Engine for scalable performance and seamless user experience

SKILLS

Product Management: Product Roadmaps, Feature Prioritization, Customer Research, Competitive Analysis, A/B Testing
Generative AI: Prompt Engineering, Fine-tuning LLMs, Stable Diffusion, Integrating AI APIs (OpenAI, Google Vertex AI, AWS Bedrock), MLOps, Hugging Face, RAG (Retrieval-Augmented Generation), AI Agents, Vector Databases (Pinecone, FAISS)
Technical Skills: Python (Pandas, NumPy, Matplotlib, Scikit-learn, TensorFlow, PyTorch, NLTK, SpaCy), SQL
ML Algorithms: Regression (Linear, Logistic), Decision Trees, Random Forest, XGBoost, K-Means Clustering, PCA
Frameworks & Tools: REST APIs, Cloud Platforms (AWS, GCP, Oracle Financial Cloud), JIRA, Confluence, Git, Figma, Oracle BI

LEADERSHIP & ACHIEVEMENTS

Vice President: Analytics Club, Carnegie Mellon University
Awards: Dean's List Candidate for outstanding academic performance, CMU Fall 2024