

# VARNICA SHARMA

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## Education

### Chandigarh University

*B.Sc. in Computer Science, Statistics and Mathematics*

Sep 2021 – May 2024

*Kharar, Punjab*

### Manipal Academy of Higher Education

*M.Sc. in Data Science*

Aug 2024 – May 2026

*Manipal, Karnataka*

## Experience

### Code Clause

*Data Science Intern*

Oct 2023 – Nov 2023

*Remote*

- Applied essential machine learning methods on sample datasets.
- Applied data visualization to communicate insights from exploratory data analysis.
- Practiced interpreting data analysis results and summarizing insights in clear terms.

## Projects

### Public Perception Analysis of Indian Government Health Policies | *Python, spaCy, scikit-learn* 2025

- Processed **1,196 Reddit comments** (735 for classification + 461 added for clustering) with a **spaCy** pipeline for tokenization, lemmatization, and text cleaning; generated emotion labels using **NRCLEX**.
- Benchmarked **five ML models**—SVM, Naïve Bayes, Decision Tree, KNN, and Random Forest—achieving a **41.5%** best accuracy with **SVM** under low-data settings.
- Determined **k=5** via Elbow Method; compared **K-Means (94.6% SVM accuracy)** and **BERTopic (52.5%)** for thematic clustering and topic coherence.
- Validated **DistilBERT (40.4%)** against a **3-rater, 100-comment gold set**, performing qualitative error checks to interpret model misclassifications.

### Graph Neural Network for Alzheimer's Diagnosis | *Python, PyTorch Geometric, GCN, Streamlit* 2025

- Built a multi-modal Alzheimer's GCN on ADNI data (demographics, cognition, CSF, MRI) with modality-weighted k-NN patients.
- Exposed the model via an explainable Streamlit app showing probabilities, modality impact, and similar-case exemplars.
- Ensured patient-level splits, fairness checks (gender/APOE/age), and reproducible PyTorch Geometric deployment.

## Technical Skills and Interests

**Languages:** Python, SQL

**Data Science Tools:** VS Code, Jupyter, Google Colab, Jamovi

**Tools:** Excel, PowerBI

**Areas of Interest:** Machine Learning, Data Visualization, Data Analysis

**Soft Skills:** Problem Solving, Communication, Adaptability, Time Management, Resilience, Precision-Oriented

## Academic and Professional Contributions

- **Participant in Novo Nordisk GBS Hackathon 2025** – “Automated Tool for eCRF Comparison and Consolidation”, contributing innovative data-driven solutions in the healthcare domain.
- **Corporate Advisory Board Member** (2021 – 2023), actively contributing to strategic decision-making, academic-industry collaboration.