Varun Tulsian

(+91) 9611185547

<u>LinkedIn</u>

<u>varuntulsian2001@gmail.com</u>

<u>My Blog, wity'Al</u>

Foreword:

With over nine years of experience working in high-performing and competitive teams, I have gained a wealth of knowledge and skills that I believe make me an asset to any organization. In my five years as a lead ML staff, I have focused on solving complex problems related to search ranking, relevance, and content personalization. My interests and expertise lie in the areas of NLP, search ranking, personalization and vision models. I am confident that my skills and experience make me well-suited for a variety of roles, and I am excited to bring my passion and dedication to a new challenge.

Work Experience:

Career Break Oct 2022-Present

I am pursuing my interests in Deep Learning and Generative AI, focussing on topics in Probabilistic Graphical Models for Topic Modelling, Variational Auto-Encoders and Diffusion Models. You can find some of my recent work here.

Walmart Labs Apr 2020-Sept 2022

Senior Manager, Data Science I (2022)

Team: Walmart Search Marketplace

Led a team of five ML engineers offering content based recommendation solutions using Deep Learning techniques for sellers.

- Led Search Insights & Assortment Growth Workstreams, providing AI driven insights to Marketplace Sellers.
- Led Search Spam Workstream, providing AI driven insights to Growth teams on Spamminess of inventory.

Staff Data Scientist (2020-2021)

Created opportunities for the Seller to improve their product performance in Search and Browse experiences

- Designed & Developed keyword recommendation and relevance models for 100 million products combining BERT based NLP features and custom designed Keyword performance features in a multi-phase keyword ranking algorithm.
- Designed & Developed interpretable ML models to provide performance insights for under-performing products.

Worked on optimizing for conversion and relevance metrics for Search

- Launched app-based click-stream signals to optimize for query conversion metric in Search. ATC/user lift +0.61%.
- (SIGIR submission) Designed ML approach, multi-objective learning to rank through label aggregation approaches.
- Developed a Semantic Search ranking model using a novel question-answering Deep Learning architecture.
 - o Generated initial product attribute embeddings using graph embedding techniques.

Sensara Technologies (AI Startup)

June 2019-Apr 2020

Staff Data Scientist

Developed the User content Personalization Platform called the "You Page".

- ML system from the ground up for creating **interest-based profiles** from **real-time** log events (1 million events/hour at the peak) for 300K+ users (Airtel and MI TV users) watching content on TV.
- Interpreting profiles to deliver context-based personalization for customers and aggregate insights from user profiles.

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Walmart Labs Aug 2013-May 2019

Staff Data Scientist

Walmart Grocery & Walmart.com (2018-2019)

Led the team to deliver on search relevance projects.

- Text Based CNN models to understand User Intent from the perspective of the Walmart grocery catalog.
- Developed Thompson Sampling to rank trending products to optimize conversions for Walmart.com Search.

Sam's Club (2016-2017)

- Designed & Developed Hierarchical Bayesian models for reorder based personalization on Search ranking for members.
- Developed Hierarchical Bayesian models to benchmark search ranker performance for analysis of ranking algorithms.
- Models to optimize conversion using Click-Stream in browse pages, handling position bias and recency trends for Search.

Walmart.com (2014-2015)

Models to optimize conversion using Click-Stream based to improve Search ranking. Product Orders/user lift +1.9%.

Microsoft Research Jan 2013-March 2013

Intern

Algorithm Selection for Software Spec Checkers used by Windows. Presented at the Mining Software Repositories Conference.

PUBLICATIONS:

- MUX: Algorithm Selection for Software Model Checkers (Published in MSR, Hyderabad) 31 citations.
- 2. MintHint: Automated synthesis of Repair Hints (Published in ICSE A* conference) 115 citations.
- 3. (Not accepted: SIGIR short paper) Label aggregation approaches for Learning to Rank in E-commerce¹.

ACHIEVEMENTS:

AIR 8 among 136K, 100 percentile in GATE 2011 Computer Science Exam.

Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore

Aug 2011-Jul 2013

- Masters in Engineering (ME) in Computer Science with CGPA of 6.8/8. Top 10 percentile at IISc.
- Secured S grade (8/8) in Design and Analysis of Algorithms course, IISc Bangalore. Top 5 percentile.

Walmart Labs, Bangalore

- Twice Role Model rating on performance in 2017 & 2018. Top 5-7 percentile based on performance in Walmart.
- Conference Presentation -- Solution to Reorder-Based Personalization for Sam's Club at Walmart.

Afterword:

If you've taken the time to read my resume, I am grateful and deeply humbled. I do hope you've found something of common interest and that you reach out to chat about it!

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¹ Paper available on request