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Nelson Liu

EDUCATION

University of Washington, Seattle, Washington USA

B.S., Statistics, B.S., Linguistics. Cumulative GPA: 3.79

Expected graduation date: June 2019

EXPERIENCE

University of Washington Computer Science and Engineering, Seattle, Washington USA
Undergraduate Researcher September 2015 - present

Working on various machine learning and natural language processing research problems.

- Built a neural model for Supreme Court case prediction the text data of amicus briefs.
- Currently creating models for induction of non-arbitrary form meaning associations in language from large scale corpora.
- Advisor: Professor Noah A. Smith

University of Washington eScience Institute, Seattle, Washington USA

Software Engineering Intern

September 2016 - Present

Contributing to pomegranate, a probabilistic graphical modelling library for Python.

Writing code, usage examples, documentation, thorough unit tests, and improving testing infrastructure.

scikit-learn

Google Summer of Code Student Developer

May - August 2016

Contributing to the popular Python machine learning library scikit-learn (13K+ Github stars) by implementing various enhancements to decision tree module (adding new impurity splitting criterion and tree pre- / post-pruning).

Massachusetts Institute of Technology CSAIL, Cambridge, Massachusetts USA

Research Intern

June 2013 - September 2014

Wrote Scheme scripts to dynamically extract JPL and U.S. Election Atlas data for use in the START natural language question answering system and worked on its backend, Omnibase.

• Advisor: Professor Boris Katz

SELECTED

PERSONAL / OPEN Contributor

scikit-learn

November 2015 - Present

Source Projects Popular machine learning toolkit for Python. I contribute Python and Cython patches to the project and review user-submitted pull requests.

pomegranate

Contributor

September 2016 - Present

Probabilistic graphical model toolkit in Python, focusing on efficient Cython implementations of hidden Markov models and probability distributions but also including discrete Bayesian networks, finite state machines, and general mixture models.

ASLSpeak

Creator, Best Use of Microsoft Tech / Best Use of Data @ DubHacks 2015 October 2015 Trained an artificial neural network classifier to translate sign language gestures from a Leap Motion to audio spoken on a computer.

Honors and Awards Scipy Scholarship, 2016

Best Use of Microsoft Technology / Best Use of Data, DubHacks 2015

Winner, Hack The Dot Seattle, 2015 Finalist, AngelHack Seattle, 2015

Winner, Lockheed Martin Code Quest Sunnyvale, 2015 Winner, Improving MIT Award, MIT BitComp, 2014

TECHNICAL SKILLS

- Languages / Tools: Python, Cython, Java, git, some use of Unix shell scripts
- Operating Systems: Unix/Linux, OS X.