

MattViana

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Education

The Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA (August 2022 - May 2025)

Bachelor of Science in Applied Data Science

Minor in Computer Science

GPA: 3.1

Work Experience

Research Assistant – Working Futures Network, Dana Calacci (Oct 2024 – Current)

- Co-authored and secured funding approval for a proposal titled Mapping Language Model Failures through Community Experience: A Study of Multilingual Researchers, aimed at addressing challenges faced by English as Foreign Language Researchers (EFLRs) in interacting with LLMs. Collaborated on survey design, interview protocols, and methodological frameworks to support equitable AI development.
- Investigated user interaction with social biases in large language models (LLMs) by analyzing and reviewing current literature.
- Conducted surveys to study user behavior and perceptions around bias in LLMs.
- Planned strategies for promoting user-based feedback mechanisms aimed at fostering more inclusive model behavior.

AI Research Assistant – AI Emotional Intelligence, College of IST (Feb 2024 – Current)

- Conducted a literature review on multimodal emotional classification and interaction in large language models (LLMs).

- Researched NLP and Computer Vision techniques, focusing on the development of models to analyze a wide emotional spectrum.
- Fine-tuned large language models (LLMs) using TensorFlow and PyCharm, incorporating an improved dataset and model published on Hugging Face.
- Ran experiments integrating audio, visual, and textual inputs into language models, utilizing clustering techniques and data augmentation.

Project Work

Research Assistant – RoBERTa GoEmotions (May 2024 – Current)

- Fine-tuned a RoBERTa model using PyTorch, leveraging multiple GPUs for parallel training.
- Evaluated model performance using precision, recall, and F1-score metrics.

Team Lead – Penn State AI Advisor: Hack PSU (March 2024)

- Developed a database encompassing Penn State's course offerings, resources, and health advisories.
- Built an AI-powered chatbot using Retrieval-Augmented Generation and the ChatGPT API.

Skills and Certifications

Programming Languages: Python, SQL, R, Java

Tools: Tableau, Hadoop

Certifications:

- Custom and Distributed Training with TensorFlow (June 2024)
- AWS Cloud Associate (In Progress)

Organizations

Advisor – PSU IST Open-Source Software Group (Oct 2023 – Current)

Team Member – Nittany Data Labs (Aug 2023 – Current)