# **GOWTHAM ASOKAN**

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# **EDUCATION & AFFILIATIONS**

# **BOSTON UNIVERSITY, COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES** M.S. Computer Science

COURSES: SOFTWARE DESIGN, DATA STRUCTURES AND ALGORITHMS, COMPUTER ARCHITECTURE, OPERATING SYSTEMS, DATA SCIENCE WITH PYTHON, DATA ANALYSIS AND VISUALIZATION WITH R, DATABASE MANAGEMENT.

# B.A. Economics and Political Science

COURSES: EMPIRICAL ECONOMICS, EUROPEAN POLITICS, QUANTITATIVE VOTING BEHAVIOR, HEALTHCARE ECONOMICS, INDUSTRY & MARKET ORGANIZATION

# ISTANBUL INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY SCHOOL

# VOLUNTEERING

Living assistance volunteer - Bomonti Old Age Home in Istanbul CFO - Boston Area Model United Nations Conference

# WORK EXPERIENCE

**BOSTON PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT AGENCY**, Boston, MA | January 2021 – Present **Data Science Research Intern** 

- Scraping and wrangling data from public API sources from Bing, Yelp, and Yellowpages to build a public business dataset for the City of Boston's BPDA.
- Working with a cross-functional team of urban planners, economists, and policy analysts to deliver analysis about neighborhood characteristics in Boston – demographics, foot traffic, and profile of businesses.
- Cleaning and pre-processing the data by standardizing addresses, reverse geocoding, removing fuzzy duplicates using haversine distances and string similarities with Python's Dask for improved parallelized performance on large datasets (40k+ entries).

# BU SPARK!, Boston, MA | November 2019 - Present

# **Data Science Project Manager**

- Leading 6 teams focused on interdisciplinary data science projects serving local governments, non-profits, and publications such as the City of Boston, NAACP, WGBH, ACLU, and the Associated Press.
- Lead the delivery of a data report on Boston Police overtime abuse in collaboration with the ACLU that was used to inform City council hearings.
- Conducting analysis on racial media bias using neural nets to build semantic understanding, campaign finance contributions, topic modelling, and web scraping tools.
- Coordinating client meetings to translate their technical needs and contextual goals to the Data Science teams.

#### CERES INSTITUTE, WHEELOCK COLLEGE - Boston, MA | June 2020 – August 2020

# **Research Manager**

- Worked with an interdisciplinary team examining youth recidivism in the MA Department of Youth Services' YES program using caseworker notes and youth demographic information.
- Managed a team of 2 researchers to produce data visualizations, LDA topic clustering to determine causes for youth engagement in the YES support program.

# THE AMICUS CURIAE NETWORKS PROJECT, Boston, MA | January 2019 - August 2019

# **Research Assistant**

- Assisted Boston University Professor Dino Christenson in National Science Foundation funded project to catalogue non-state signers on Amicus Curiae briefs to measure their social influence with network theory.
- Implemented Python NLTK library to search Amicus curiae using word vectorization.
- AXON, Seattle, WA | June 2018 August 2018

# **Public Relations Intern**

- Designed European marketing plan for Germany, France, UK, and Italy in collaboration with cross-functional teams across Gov. affairs, Product marketing, and Europe.
- Synthesized European market concerns and needs such as AI, Cloud security, GDPR, and upgraded law enforcement technologies into report as foundational support for the upcoming 5-year business operations.
- Produced messaging map for the Taser 7 by leveraging engineering specifications for public messaging.
- Organized and managed interview between the President of Axon and the Phoenix Business Journal to boost company brand profile in preparation for Software recruitment event.

# THE INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS REVIEW Boston, MA | Fall 2016 – Spring 2019

# **Co-Editor-in-Chief**

Scholastic award-winning journal that has been featured in the Library of Congress.

- Project managed and organized team of digital and layout editors to design and create a 60 page bi-annual publication with 2000+ student readership.
- Hired and mentored 30+ student journalists in writing, editing, and media technician roles and monitored prepress process using the Adobe Creative Cloud.
- Produced and anchored 20 segments on current global affairs such as the Indian farmer crisis and healthcare systems in Central Africa.

# SKILLS

Python – Natural Language Processing, Pandas, NumPy, Matplotlib, NLTK, C++, R, SQL, Stata, Web Development, Video Editing and Production, Public Speaking, Fluent Tamil, Fluent Turkish, Elementary French, IT customer service

April 2014 October 2017

JAN 2021

MAY 2019

MAY 2015