

Hariaksha Gunda

linkedin.com/in/hariaksha | 334-655-3784 | hgunda@crimson.ua.edu | github.com/Hariaksha

EDUCATION

The University of Alabama

Tuscaloosa, AL

Bachelor of Science in Data Science (GPA: 4.0/4.0)

May 2027

Bachelor of Arts in Foreign Languages and Literature

Minors: Computer Science, Math, Economics, Intl. Studies, Public Policy, and Global and Cultural Perspectives

Distinctions: Microsoft Emerging Leader, DoD Boren Scholar, DoS Gilman Research Scholar

Relevant Coursework: Machine Learning, Mathematical Theory of Data Science, Math Stats w/ Applications

EXPERIENCE

Culverhouse College of Business

Tuscaloosa, AL

Natural Language Processing Researcher

January 2024 – Present

- Web scrape and analyze mission statements and other data of 1,000,000+ nonprofits to research motivations behind charitable giving and train ML regression model to predict nonprofit revenues (80%+ accuracy)
- Engineer spatio-temporal dataset for 400+ Indonesian kabupaten (2010-2025), integrating 4+ environmental pressure and attitudinal features from 3 distinct sources to model conflict drivers with 90%+ spatial coverage
- Build climate attribution ML classifier that distinguishes between news articles attributing climate disasters to “climate change” vs. “natural/random causes” with an accuracy of 70%+ on test datasets

Paderborn Research Center for Sustainable Economy

Paderborn, Germany

Visiting Researcher

May 2025 – August 2025

- Process and analyze 1,200+ firm-level survey responses about European Union General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) in R and Python, cleaning and encoding 200+ variables for statistical modeling
- Apply chi-square tests across 10+ firm demographics and responses, identifying statistically significant differences in GDPR interpretation at $p < 0.05$
- Develop and test machine learning classification models (logistic regression) to estimate probability of firm response behaviors (ex. sharing data, investing in AI, etc.) under varying GDPR interpretations

Yayasan Planet Indonesia

Pontianak, Indonesia

Data Scientist

December 2024 – April 2025

- Create and analyze datasets of 20+ marine environmental data metrics, including ocean data, satellite imagery, carbon sequestration rates, and biodiversity markers
- Determine risk category and environmental importance of 38 Indonesian provinces using multi-criteria decision analyses with Python, R, and Excel
- Write policy and strategy report for prioritization goals of Indonesian provinces for marine environmental importance

INVOLVEMENT AND LEADERSHIP

The University of Alabama

Tuscaloosa, AL

Honors College Ambassador

January 2024 – Present

- Represent The University of Alabama at 10+ university-sponsored events and lunches each semester to inform prospective students and parents about student life and opportunities at the university

Zeta Psi International Fraternity

Tuscaloosa, AL

Scholarship Officer

January 2023 – Present

- Host 5 workshops for 20+ students per semester on scholarship application best practices, resulting in a 75% increase in number of completed applications submitted in Spring 2024

South Asian Culture Club

Tuscaloosa, AL

Executive Secretary

September 2022 – May 2024

- Organize 6 cultural events annually for students/faculty, including gatherings with 450+ attendees. Notable events included International Prom and Mock Shaadi, which received UA’s Best Event Award

SKILLS

Skills: Python, C/C++, HTML/CSS/JS, Java, R, SQL, TensorFlow, PyTorch, Scikit-Learn, MATLAB, Git

Languages: Telugu (Native) | Indonesian (ACTFL 2: Intermediate Professional Proficiency) German (CEFR B1: Intermediate Professional Proficiency)