

Nikit Begwani
nikitbegwani@gmail.com
+91 8011028326

Website - <https://nikitbegwani.github.io>
LinkedIn - <https://linkedin.com/in/nikitbegwani>

EDUCATION

Indian Institute of Technology, Guwahati, India 2013-2017
Bachelor of Technology in Computer Science and Engineering.
CGPA: **9.42/10**. Consistently in Top 3 out of 88 students in last 3 semesters (Overall Rank:6th)

EXPERIENCE

Microsoft India(R&D) Pvt. Ltd. Senior Data and Applied Scientist (L-63) (July'17 - Present)
Microsoft Advertising Summer Intern (May'16 - July'16)

CLOVER: Close Variant Generation using RL [Paper]

- A novel approach for generating rewrites using a generative model and controlling the drift using reinforcement learning by enforcing human judgements via an evaluation model.
- Shipped improvements in multiple multilingual markets with 2% revenue gain and 14% defect reduction

Project Membrane [Lead]

- Developing SOTA for incorporating filtration during graph search for embeddings.
- Aimed to improve recall by 40% over current system without latency increase.

Dense Retrieval and Post Filtration [Lead]

- Shipped various multilingual Siamese architectures like TwinBERT, cost-sensitive models across more than 30 markets with absolute revenue impact being more than 4%
- Deployed post filtration logic to nearly 30 markets with cut in cost to serve as high as 35%

Initiatives for team

- I lead an educative tech talk series aimed to improve documentation, systems and tools understanding across team with defined OKRs
- Part of D&I initiative to ensure smooth onboarding of new talent via mentorship program

PUBLICATIONS

- AK Mohankumar, **N.Begwani**, A.Singh *Diversity driven Query Rewriting in Search Advertising*. In Proceedings of KDD 2021 , ADS Track [Paper]
- **N.Begwani**, S.Harsola, R.Agrawal, *Learning From Weights: A Cost-Sensitive Approach For Ad Retrieval*. In Proceedings of CODS COMAD 2020 [Paper]

ACHIEVEMENTS

- **Masters offer from Carnegie Mellon University - Pittsburgh** in Computational Data Science - 2019
- Microsoft Bing Ads FY2018 Q4 Award for **Excellence in Innovation** (2018)
- **Two time winning team** at Microsoft code.fun.do (Campus Edition) (2014 & 2016) and amongst **Top 10 teams in National Final**, 2017
- Attended **Winter School at Gifu University, Japan** [Only 7 students from IITG] (2015)
- **IIT - Joint Entrance Examination** - Among Top 0.07% students (AIR 1087) (2013)

RELEVANT COURSE WORK

Information Retrieval	Intelligent Systems(NLP)	Linear Algebra	Optimization
Probability and Random Processes	Operating Systems	Computer Vision	Databases
Pattern Recognition*	Algorithmic Game Theory	Deep Learning*	Compilers

*Voluntary Additional Courses

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Languages	Python, C/C++, C#
Packages/Libraries	Tensorflow, Keras, pyTorch, NumPy, scikit-learn, NLTK, pandas, L ^A T _E X
Miscellaneous	SQL, Visual Studio, Git, Django