2020 Summer Experience

Jack de la Parra

The Program

- Carnegie Mellon University
    - Statistics and Data Science
    - Sports Analytics
- 8-week program
    - June 1st - Late July
- Pittsburgh
    - Moved to virtual

The Program

- Sports Analytics Research Experience
- Advised by CMU professors and TAs
- Students from all over the world
  - Idaho, India, Korea, etc.
- Focused on developing statistics knowledge and applying to sports data
- Several small projects

Math Topics Covered

- Data Visualization
  - Continuous/categorical data
  - Using R
- Clustering
  - K-means and Gaussian mixture models
- Supervised Learning
  - Model assessment
  - Different regression types
- Unsupervised Learning
- Machine Learning
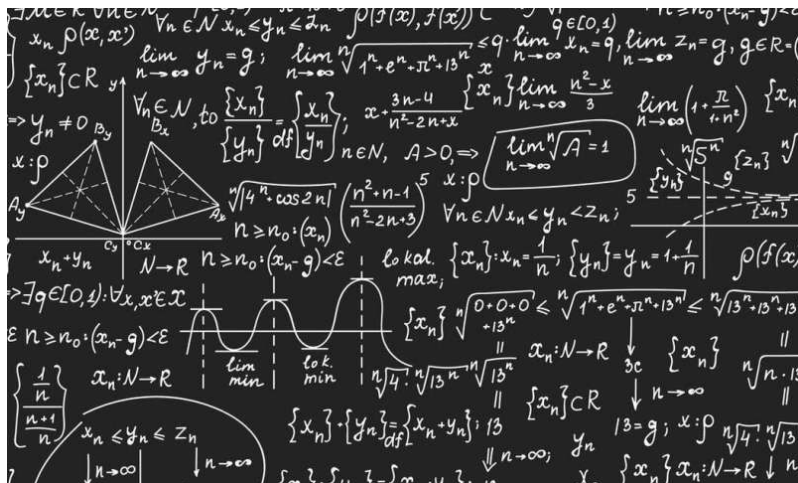 - Tree models

A Day in the Life

- Structured work schedule
- Lecture in the "morning" (12-1:30 PM)
  - Led by a former graduate student of CMU
  - Touched on topics to use later in day
- Lunch break
- "Lab" session (2:30-4 PM)
  - Worked through problem sets in R
  - Worked in small groups with help from TAs
- Project breakdown
  - EDA Project
  - Regression Project
  - Final Project

Next Steps

- Continued relationship with Carnegie Mellon
  - Updates on Job postings
  - "Lunch" meetups
  - Close with fellow students
- Presented at conferences
  - UConn Sports Analytics (HM)
    - Poster session
  - Carnegie Mellon Sports Analytics Conference
- Received connections and contact info
  - Speakers
  - Students

My Path to my Position

- Wanted to do something math related
- Recurring experience
  - Offered yearly
- Was made aware by a professor
  - Professor Abby Flynt
- Applied during first-year
  - Re-applied during sophomore year
  - Spring application
    - Letter of recommendation

Tips/Suggestions

- Start looking early
- Keep your options open
  - Don't pick one specific type of job
- Reach out to faculty for help
  - And on the job
- Focus on learning/honing your skills

Contact Info

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Thank you!
Questions?