# PALAK AGARWAL

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A data science professional interested in utilizing data to solve social, economic and environmental dilemmas. Enactable policies should be developed and employed across the country, reflective of the myriad spatial, social, cultural, political, and morphological agents that constitute place. I can be of great asset in a variety of fields including GIS development, machine learning, web development, environmental science, and city planning.

### **EDUCATION**

# **UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA, School of Design**

May 2021

Master of Urban Spatial Analytics (MUSA)

Master of Landscape Architecture (MLA)

Relevant Coursework: Geospatial Software Design, MUSA Practicum, Open Source GIS, Geospatial Data Science, Remote sensing

May 2017

### RASHTREEYA VIDYALAYA COLLEGE OF ARCHITECTURE, Bangalore, India

**Bachelors of Architecture** 

### **RELEVANT EXPERIENCE**

# **MASTER STUDENT, University of Pennsylvania**

Predicting tree canopy loss in Philadelphia - MUSA Practicum

January 2021 - Present

- Collaborated with the U.S Forest Service to predict factors for tree canopy loss in urban areas. The data is published on an interactive website using Javascript in the hope that local non-profit organizations can use it.
- Utilized R Studio to develop a ML model that predicts if the exisiting tree is at the risk of loss or not to 85% accuracy.

Comparing Sea Level Rise in US - Geospatial Programming

- August 2020 December 2020
- Employed NOAA API, pandas and altair to study patterns of sea level rise by analyzing more than 1 million records.
- Utilized Panel to develop a web application that had interactive and dynamic input from the user.

Predicting wildfires in California - Public Policy

August 2020 - December 2020

• Developed a ML model that predicts the risk of wildfire in California upto 80% accuracy cross validated by fires from 2019-present. Presented project and findings to non-technical experts for a marketing strategy.

Predicting home prices in Miami and Philadelphia

August 2020 - December 2020

Developed a ML model in R and Python that predicts the home prices in Miami and Philadelphia with a MAE of \$30,000. Accuracy of the model was confirmed using goodness of fit metrics and cross validation techniques.

Urbanization growth patterns around contested borders

August 2020 - December 2020

 Utilized Earth Engine and ArcPy to use LANDSAT, MODIS, NDVI, SENTINEL and other satellite imagery to study urban growth patterns from 1700-2020 around contested borders. Worked with large global raster datasets for processing.

### **RESEARCH ASSISTANT, University of Pennsylvania**

EMLab ((Environmental Modeling Lab)

January 2021 - Present

· Utilize ArcGIS and python to look at Sentinel images to create multi-spectral signatures for different landcover types.

Ian McHarg Center

January 2020 - Present

 Proposed research project examining the international implications of the Green New Deal conducted through data vizualization using Python and ArcGIS of complex datasets to disseminate knowledge in highly legible formats.

Invention of Rivers, Anuradha Mathur

Used different methods of research and visulatization to create exhibition pieces for the book.

January 2020 - May 2020

#### **TEACHING ASSISTANT, University of Pennsylvania**

Media III -Flows linear/non-linear

August 2020 - December 2020

• Instructed students in ArcGIS and Rhino + Grasshopper.

### **DESIGN EXPERIENCE**

Summer Intern, Reed Gilliland Landscape Architecture, Petaluma, CA

May 2019 - August 2019

- · Assisted in the design of a residential project through conceptual, design, and construction development phases.
- Proposed conceptual design and made views for two competition proposals

Project Architect, Bhumiputra Architecture, Bangalore, India

July 2016 - June 2018

- Managed and supervised the Parinaam Foundation account and designed 20 prototypes of varied functions for underprivileged communities. Analyzzed demographics and socio-economic factors to locate sites and functions.
- Integral member in a internation competition for the design of the National War Museum; shortlisted to top 8.

# **SKILLS & TECHNICAL EXPERTISE**

Geospatial Analytics: ESRI GIS Software Suite (raster and vector), ArcPy, Google Earth Engine, Environmental Modeling, QGIS

Programming Languages: R Studio, Python, JavaScript, HTML, C++, SQL, Git, OpenStreetMap

Statistical Analysis: Machine learning algorithms (supervised and unsupervised), Predictive Modeling, Spatial Statistics

Data Visualization: HTML/CSS, Mapbox, Carto, ArcGIS API, Adobe Suite, Tableau, Python (Seaborn, Matplotlib, Altair, HVPlot)

Web Development: Cargo, JavaScript, Python for Web Development (panel, folium, flask)

Satellite Imagery/ Remote Sensing: ArcGIS Spatial Analytics Toolbox, Image Processing (R, Python and ArcGIS)

**Ecological**: Sustainability, Carbon accounting, Land Use and Environmental Planning, Urban Finance, Hydrology, Designing skills, Environmental restoration. Climate change

restoration, Climate-change