

# UJWAL KANDI

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## EDUCATION

**University of Texas at Austin** - Master of Science, Information Technology & Management May 2024

- Coursework Includes: Business Data Science, Data Management, Big Data & Distributed Programming, Unstructured Data Analytics, Data Product Lifecycle Management, Strategic Change & IT Management

**KL University** - Bachelor of Technology, Computer Engineering | Spec. in Data Analytics May 2020

## TECHNICAL SKILLS

**Languages:** Python, SQL, HTML/CSS, R, Git, XML

**Libraries:** Flask, NumPy, Pandas, matplotlib, Seaborn, Plotly, Beautiful Soup, Scikit-Learn, GeoPandas, Folium, TensorFlow/Keras

**Big Data Tools:** AWS, PySpark, MongoDB, MapReduce, Hadoop, Kafka, Redshift, Docker, Tableau, Excel, Apache Airflow, Power BI

## EXPERIENCE

**Stronghold Investment Management** – *IT Capstone project*, Austin, TX Dec 2024 - Present

- Developed a document intelligence system for Stronghold, employing Azure AI Studio for OCR and LLM models, to streamline document analysis, and enhance ownership verification processes, while being 20% cheaper compared to the existing prototype

**Epsilon** – *Data Programmer I*, Bengaluru, India Aug 2021 - Jul 2023

- Managed data ingestion processes within the Epsilon ecosystem, collaborating with clients to address their requirements effectively using tools such as AWS, Matillion ETL, ServiceNow, Kibana, SnapLogic, etc.
- Supervised production servers/pipelines of 16+ clients (Unilever, Marriott, BofA, Disney) while assisting with Data Engineering
- Handled client's first-party raw data and automated 50+ ETL batch jobs to create a production-like test environment, significantly improving testing outcomes by utilizing the most recent data

### *Production Support Engineer*

- Performed data quality tasks and emergency fixes when detected, leading to a customer satisfaction rate of 93%, primarily due to short-notice rapid troubleshooting and hotfixes
- Achieved 89% performance improvement by optimizing the long-running batch jobs in coordination with the Technical Lead

## RELEVANT PROJECTS

**Desi Dine Scores | Yelp Reviews Recommendation System** Dec 2023

- Engineered a recommender system using custom scraper, and sentiment analysis (NLTK) for data-driven menu optimization
- Led culinary consulting team to optimize menu/service in 3 restaurants through actionable insights, enhancing business operations

**Customer Characterization & Profiling using Agglomerative Hierarchical Clustering** Sep 2023

- Conducted comprehensive analysis of client habits, demographics, and marketing responses with different clustering techniques
- Opted for Agglomerative Hierarchical Clustering over KMeans, gaining deeper insights into distinctive customer segments

**Dashboard on Drug Cartels' Activity across Mexico** May 2023

- Extracted data from news archives on drug trafficking activities of 10 cartels spanning over 20 years and visualized using Tableau
- Analyzed shifts in the territory of each group across the 32 federal entities and their impact on each state over the years

## LEADERSHIP & ACHIEVEMENTS

**MSITM Campus Ambassador** – *Texas McCombs School of Business*, UT Austin Aug 2023 - Present

- Demonstrated strong communication, and leadership by serving as a Student Ambassador, providing guidance to prospective students, and fostering connections within the Texas McCombs community

**Dover Fueling Solutions Hackathon'24** – *Annual Hackathon*, Dover Fueling Solutions Feb 2024

- Won first place at the Dover Fueling Solutions' annual hackathon held at their headquarters, leading the smallest team to victory by leveraging LLM models and Edge Computing to develop a conversational AI model

**HACKSciCom2022** – *Annual Hackathon*, MIT Hacking Medicine May 2022

- Finalist in the prestigious annual hackathon co-hosted by MIT and Roche; built data pipelines with a globally distributed team

**University Innovation Fellows** – *International Fellowship Program*, Stanford d.school Jan 2018 - Dec 2020

- One of two students selected for the program in college by Stanford's d.school and conducted workshops/sprints on Design Thinking, Rapid Prototyping, Moonshot Thinking & other problem-solving frameworks reaching over 1000+ university students
- Developed Peer Mentoring and Technical Clubs which were eventually integrated with a weightage of 20% in the academics
- Received a scholarship to attend the Silicon Valley Meetup, an annual event known for its experimental workshops and immersive learning activities held at Stanford, Google & Microsoft HQ