Dr. Venkat Prava

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Education:

Johns Hopkins University — Baltimore, MD (September 2010 - February 2016)
Department of Geography and Environmental Engineering
Ph.D., Environmental Management and Economics
Advisor: Dr. Benjamin F. Hobbs

Johns Hopkins University — Baltimore, MD (September 2012 - May 2013)
M.S.E, Department of Applied Mathematics and Statistics

Johns Hopkins University — Baltimore, MD (September 2008 - December 2009)
Department of Geography and Environmental Engineering
M.S.E, Environmental Management and Economics

Indian Institute of Technology Roorkee — Roorkee, India (August 2003 - May 2007)
B. Tech, Pulp and Paper Engineering

Programming / Software: Python, SQL, R

Areas of Research: Retail Price Optimization, Risk and Decision Analysis, Power Systems Modeling

Professional Experience:

Precima, a LoyaltyOne Company — Chicago, IL (March 2016 - Present)
Senior Data Scientist, R&D

- Support Production code for Pricing Modeling Engine, generate demand response functions and provide pricing recommendations for over $6B annual sales
- Analyze and communicate optimal prices to client and client team
- Independently enhanced Retail Price Optimization model to generate dual price associated with the profit lift constraint

IBM Research Africa Lab — Nairobi, Kenya (May 2015 - February 2016)
Research Scientist, Energy Group

- Modeled power outage data from local power utility to predict occurrence of unplanned outages in Nairobi
- Developed innovative ways to collect accurate power outage data in Nairobi

IBM T. J. Watson Research Center — Yorktown Heights, NY (June - August 2014)
Summer Intern, Decision Analytics Group

- Developed and implemented an elicitation protocol for time to event distributions assessment

Constellation Energy — Baltimore, MD (February - August 2010)
Forecasting Analyst

- Supported load forecasting models for retail commercial customers based on historic usage

Johns Hopkins Sustainability Initiative
Johns Hopkins University — Baltimore, MD (June - December 2009)
Sustainability Intern

- Developed Emissions Tracking System to estimate Greenhouse gas emissions across JHU campuses
- Developed linear optimization models to optimize on-campus transportation and maintenance services
- Identify potential energy conservation and emissions reduction projects across all JHU campuses

Hindustan Dorr Oliver Limited Mumbai, India (August 2007 - June 2008)
Assistant Engineer

- Prepared technical and commercial proposals for Hindustan Dorr Oliver proprietary water/wastewater equipment
- Negotiated sales orders with clients and met with potential customers to expand market-base into northeastern India

Indian Tobacco Corporation Sarapaka, Andhra Pradesh, India, (May - July 2006)
Engineering Intern

- Collected and statistically analyzed machine operating parameters and paper properties data. Suggested remedies for best machine operations and recommended maintenance changes
- Identified causes of quality defects such as cockling and ribbing lines on gypsum baseboard during manufacturing

Publications:

Prava, V., Clemen, T., Hobbs, B., & Kenney, M. (2016) Partition dependence and carryover biases in subjective probability assessments for continuous variables: Model-based estimation and correction. Decision Analysis.

Working Papers:

Prava, V., Clemen, T., Hobbs, B., & Kenney, M. Correcting for overconfidence bias in assessed confidence intervals.

Prava, V., & Hobbs, B. Efficient integration of microgrids in unbundled electricity markets from a regulator's perspective.

Awards:

Best student Paper award (2016), Runner up position awarded by Decision Analysis society for the paper published in Decision Analysis journal.

Decision Analysis special recognition award (2016), Finalist. More information at http://pubsonline.informs.org/page/deca/decision-analysis-special-recognition-award

Courses Taught:

Intro to Decision Analysis in Energy and Environment (Course number EN.570.397.31, Intersession 2015)