

Kavan Mehta

Mrs. Secord

ISM 1

22 October 2021

Interview Assessment #6

Name of Professional: Prabha Ganapathy

Profession/Title: Global Alliance Leader in Machine Learning and Artificial Intelligence

Business/Company name: Amazon Web Services (AWS)

Date of Interview: 10/8/2021

Assessment:

My 2nd interview was with Ms. Ganapathy, the global alliance leader in machine learning at Amazon. Through this interview, I hoped to learn about the practical applications of machine learning, how machine learning development works at companies like Amazon, and how I can apply machine learning in my future ISM product. During the interview, I was able to learn about the entire structure of machine learning at Amazon as well as some examples of the practical applications that machine learning has.

I firstly learned about the entire structure and the purpose of machine learning at Amazon and Amazon Web Services (AWS) as well as the different roles in the machine learning division. At Amazon, machine learning is used to create product recommendations and customer fulfillment. Another application of machine learning at Amazon is the use of computer vision technology to identify different products in the warehouse which is developed by machine learning engineers. On the other hand, at Amazon Web Services, machine learning is used to help other companies, businesses, and even individuals who can use Amazon's wide range of

products to help themselves or boost company growth. I learned that there are 3 levels that guide Amazon Web Services for developing products. The first layer is the layer of AI products that contain simple APIs that anyone could just enter data in to obtain results. The second layer, includes frameworks that are used by data scientists for research & development. The third layer contains infrastructure, which individuals have the most flexibility to utilize and change to meet their machine learning model needs. There are several roles that guide this entire AWS sector which includes product managers, engineering teams, sales teams, and production teams. I think this information was one of the most beneficial pieces to learn about for me as I really got a thorough understanding of what actual services that use machine learning are like and who typically works to create these services. I was also very happy to learn about the Amazon mindset to start with the customer, end goal, and work backwards from there as it was a way that I truly liked and will implement in the future. Overall, this entire discussion about the different types of services and which types of professionals facilitate these products at Amazon helped me gain a perspective for my future career.

Next, we discussed the uses of machine learning. As I already know that there are an infinite number of possibilities for machine learning, I wanted to just obtain some examples that are used in the professional world to decide on what types of projects I want to make for my original work and final product. I was really fascinated with one of the examples about using drones and image recognition technology to predict the exact information needed to have the best plant growth in the field. They used machine learning in image recognition to find the exact amount of water needed for a plant, where to exactly plant a seed so that it can obtain the most soil nutrients, as well as detect which plant was weak or strong in terms of growth. Furthermore, I connected to the fact where she said that machine learning is all about automation. This idea

and some of the examples help serve as an inspiration for me to think of innovative ideas for my future machine learning projects.

I also got some guidance from Ms. Ganapathy on what steps I should take to learn machine learning. As she was on the operational side of machine learning, she highly encouraged me to study case studies of real-life implementations of machine learning. She also encouraged me to take some courses or read books if I want to learn about algorithms and the backend of machine learning. Since I already had these ideas before the interview to study machine learning, I was assured by her statements as she has more than 20 years of experience and is a professional in the field.

Overall, I felt that the session was really helpful in guiding me to actually create a product that is innovative and practical that can be used in the real world. My goals are still the same to continue the learning process for machine learning and am very excited to come with a solution that can create an impact in the world!