Lawrence Du

Machine Learning · Biotechnology

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2911 McKinley Dr. Santa Clara, CA 95051

Skills

Techniques

Neural networks (CNNs, GANs, GraphNN, Attention), Louvain/Leiden, k-fold cross-validation, SVMs, PCA, decision trees

Tools

Tensorflow, Pytorch, Jax, Numpy, Numba, Pandas, Sklearn, Conda, Flask, AWS (EC2, S3, Athena, CloudFormation), Jenkins, Docker, Metaflow

Languages

Python, SQL, C#, Java, Dart, Bash, C/C++, Matlab, Some Mandarin and Spanish

Experience

Software Engineer - Machine Learning Engineering · 23andMe

Apr 2020 - Present (Sunnyvale, CA)

- Built a large-scale ETL pipeline for calculating quality statistics of genotyped and imputed single-nucleotide polymorphisms (~10 trillion datapoints) across an distributed cloud cluster (using AWS Batch, Metaflow, AWS Glue) for populating an AWS Athena based feature datastore used to improve polygenic risk score models.
- Developed performance improvements for polygenic risk score models through model stacking.

Data Scientist - Ancestry Product · 23andMe

Nov 2018 - Apr 2020 (Sunnyvale, CA)

- Developed current version of Recent Ancestor Locations (RAL) - a high precision, high recall country matching algorithm which serves >10 million customers worldwide.
- Built RAL to run as a microservice on AWS backed hardware using MLflow for model artifact tracking.
- Improved graph-based techniques for unsupervised identification of populations by identity-by-descent (IBD) relationships.

Bioinformatician IV · Scripps Research

May 2018 - Oct 2018 (San Diego, CA)

- Wrote a classifier for organ transplant rejection from RNA sequencing data for a research grant.
- Wrote robust automated sequencing pipelines for Oxford Nanopore data using Common Workflow Language (CWL) for realtime microbial diagnostics, *de novo* genome assembly, and variant calling.

Independent Consultant · Juno Diagnostics (startup - $25 million Series A closed in May 2021)

Sept 2017 - Feb 2018 (San Diego, CA)

- Developed patent – EP3773534A1 - Deep learning-based methods, devices, and systems for prenatal testing along with a Tensorflow based deep learning software package for detecting prenatal genetic abnormalities.
- Created a genetic abnormality simulator derived from statistical analysis of human high throughput sequencing data.

Data Science Fellow · Insight

Jan 2017 - Apr 2017 (Remote Session - San Diego, CA)

- Wrote DeepPixelMonster - a Deep Convolutional Generative Adverserial Network (DCGAN) for creating pixel art as a week-long project. Also deployed aforementioned service as a Flask app on AWS.

PhD Student Biology · UC San Diego · Scott A. Rifkin Lab

Aug 2010 - May 2017 (La Jolla, CA)

- Wrote DeepNuc - a CNN model for classifying over 500,000 transcriptional start site (TSS) flanking sequences from humans, mice, fruit flies, and nematodes and over 60,000 microRNA target sequences (from publically available CLEAR-CLIP data).
- Performed research on RNA expression noise during animal development by imaging single molecule RNA expression data >5,000 embryos and analyzing data using self-written MATLAB tools for image segmentation, fluorescence quantification, and image deconvolution.
- Transgenically modified over 70 nematode and Drosophila strains using techniques such as GIBSON assembly, CRISPR/Cas9, MosSCI, and *PhiC31* integrase.

Education

Ph.D Biology UC San Diego, 2010 - 2017

B.A. Biological Sciences *Genetics and Development, Magna Cum Laude* Cornell University, 2006 - 2010

Activities and interests

Hobbies	I enjoy running, painting, and 3D modeling. During the pandemic, I developed a VR space game in my spare time
Extracurricular Activities	23andMe Spitballers Ultimate Frisbee • Machine Learning Society of San Diego • UCSD GSA Lobby Corps •BioEASI Art and Science Board • Genetics Training Program Grant • Hughes Scholar (2009) •Cornell Undergraduate Research Board (Vice President) • Friends of Farmworkers (tutor)