

David Horn

Engineer and Statistician. I like building things and leading teams.

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I look after all media apps at Disney Consumer Products and Interactive Media, leading technology for The Walt Disney Company's SVOD and AVOD strategy. Now I'm looking for new problems to solve in the bay area.

Topics I'm exploring

Novel uses of machine learning in CMS for guest segmentation and targeting
Integrating slack into the development process
How to simulate the creation of solar systems and exoplanets
Building a games to learn morse code

What I've used lately to solve problems

Technology

Python
Objective-C
Java for Android
R
HTML5/Javascript

Frameworks & Platforms

Django
jQuery/Backbone.js
MySQL & PostgreSQL
Google App Engine
Google Datastore
Raspberry Pi
Tensorflow
Unity

Processes & Tools

Agile
Git
Jenkins
Aptelligent
Jira & Confluence

What I'm Learning

Swift
Neural Networks
Kotlin

Some of the projects I've worked on

DisneyLife

<https://disneylife.com>

"The magic of Disney all in one place"

Python Objective-C Java for Android HTML5/Javascript Django MySQL Google App Engine Google Datastore
Jenkins Aptelligent

DisneyLife is Disney's SVOD service, offering access to Disney movies, shows, music, and books. It supports the web, iOS, tvOS, Android, Android TV, Kindle Fire, Fire TV, and Chromecast. It is available in the UK and will expand to more countries in the future.

I am the technology leader for the product since its inception in 2013. The team started with 8 engineers and is now at 38. I also serve as the product leader for a/b testing and personalization.

Voltron

Internal App

Analytics and data-mining platform

Python Tableau Django MongoDB MySQL/PostgreSQL Agile SCRUM

Voltron is a collection of tools designed to support a large-scale analytics pipeline consisting of data collection, metadata management, storage, ETL, and analysis. Since the customers of an analytics suite tend to have disparate needs and technical backgrounds, there are various mechanisms in place to support them: AJAX/JSONP, SQL, and Python. Since its release, it has taken a life of its own, supporting web-based dashboard projects, Tableau reports, and Excel-driven reporting.

Engage Rank

<http://engagerank.com> (EOL)

Social media profile analyzer

Python R Django OAuth MySQL

Engage Rank is a metric that developed as the result of researching the possibility of approximating Page Rank for a set of nodes using only localized information about the graph. This is a useful metric for social networks, where edge data changes rapidly and knowing the whole graph in real time is very difficult. I presented this as a senior project during my time at Cal Poly.

Companies I've worked for

Disney DCPI

Director, Engineering
Aug 2010 - Present

Until recently, served as head of engineering for Disney Interactive Labs, a lean team within The Walt Disney Company that incubates new products and technologies. In that time, I led the team that incubated Mickey Video, which served as the precursor to DisneyLife. In early 2017, I took on leadership for the entire portfolio of media apps at DCPI, including Star Wars, Disney LOL, Disney GIF, and Disney Story Central.

I began with 3 engineers in Los Angeles. I now manage a team of 40 in four cities, participate in the patent committee, and sit on the technology steering committee at DCPI. I also occasionally give talks and represent Disney at conferences.

Yahoo! Membership Platform Team

Technical Intern
Jun 2008 - Sep 2008

In the middle of my statistics degree, I spent the summer of 2008 interning for Yahoo's membership team. At the time, Yahoo! was embracing open standards such as OpenID and OAuth, which I helped execute.

Total Tech

Software Architect
Jun 2006 - Jun 2007

I contracted with Total Tech to develop an application to handle deployment of software for businesses with small distributed environments such as Habitat for Humanity. I designed and implemented a client-server architecture that gave a business administrator the ability to install and uninstall Total Tech-licensed software from a web interface.

Websense Enterprise Applications Group

Programmer/Analyst
Jun 2002 - Jul 2005

Focusing on internal tools, I built several applications to increase efficiency throughout the company. Mainly servicing the technical services department, I conceived, designed, and implemented a replacement to their ticketing system: CWBI. This system emphasized usability and low maintenance. This solution was in place for five years until SaaS CRM offerings matured.

Education

California Polytechnic University B.S. in Statistics

Class of 2010

Favorite Topics

SAS
Graph Theory
Visualization

Research Project

I explored various projects and methods of applying statistical methods on social media datasets.