NICOLAS HUG
Associate Research Scientist
Columbia University

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I am a research scientist at Columbia University, where I build open-source software for machine learning.

EXPERIENCE

Research Scientist
2018 – Present

I am currently an associate research scientist at the Data Science Institute of Columbia University, where I work in Andreas Müller's team. I develop and maintain the popular machine learning library scikit-learn, with the mission to propose high-quality software and democratize data-science applications. Prior to that, I was a postdoctoral researcher in the same team.

Data scientist
2018 – 5 months

I was lead data scientist at Pluvio, where I built scalable machine-learning-based recommender systems in Python.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

I am expert in Python development, and with the Python scientific stack. In particular Numpy, Scipy, Cython and Numba.

Open-source projects

I contribute to various OS projects for my job, but also during my free time.

Scikit-learn: As a scikit-learn core-developer, I actively develop and maintain the project. I take part in major design decisions, review code proposals, and contribute with new features.

Surprise: During me PhD, I developed Surprise, a Python library to build and analyze recommender systems. Over the years Surprise has become one of the most popular recommendation libraries (**3k+ stars on GitHub**).

EDUCATION

Machine Learning PhD
2014–2017

I studied analogical classifiers—somehow related to k-NN learners—from a theoretical point of view in terms of convergence, error rate and inference principle. I also applied analogical learning to recommender systems, which led me to develop Surprise: a popular Python package for recommendation. *University of Toulouse III, France.*

Master's Degree
2014

Artificial Intelligence at University of Toulouse III

Master's Degree
2013

Computer Science Engineering at Institut National des Sciences Appliquées of Toulouse, specialized in critical embedded systems and software development

Exchange Program
2012

I studied one semester at the Faculty of Engineering of the University of Buenos Aires (Argentina)