Sara Elhaj

Senior Al Engineer — Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

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Professional Summary

Experienced Senior AI Engineer with a strong track record of building production-grade machine learning systems, from data engineering and model training to deployment and monitoring. Skilled in both research prototyping and scalable MLOps practices. Proven ability to lead cross-functional teams and deliver business impact.

Technical Skills

NumPy, API Development (FastAPI), SQL, GCP (BigQuery), OpenCV, Keras, PyTorch Lightning, Computer Vision (YOLO, Detectron2)

Professional Experience

ML Researcher — InnoAl Labs (1 yrs)

- Built recommendation system using collaborative filtering + content-based features; increased CTR in A/B test by 12%.
- Fine-tuned multilingual speech recognition model (wav2vec2) for domain-specific calls with 5% error reduction.
- Led an end-to-end image segmentation project for medical imagery; built data pipeline, trained U-Net variants, and reduced labeling time by 40%.
- Designed and implemented an anomaly detection system for fraud detection using autoencoders and XGBoost for post-filtering.

Al Engineer — DataForge (2 yrs)

- Designed and implemented an anomaly detection system for fraud detection using autoencoders and XGBoost for post-filtering.
- Implemented continuous training pipeline using DVC and GitHub Actions to automate model retraining and versioning.

Selected Projects

- Implemented knowledge distillation to create lightweight transformer models for edge deployment with 3x speedup.
- Deployed scalable inference service on AWS with autoscaling, containerization (Docker), and serverless endpoints; reduced latency to <120ms.

Education

PhD Candidate in Machine Learning — Research Institute (ongoing)

Certifications

- TensorFlow Developer Certificate
- AWS Certified Machine Learning Specialty

Languages

English (Fluent), French (Conversational)

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