

Mehmet Kutluay

LEAD DATA SCIENTIST

Rotterdam - The Netherlands

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Skills

DATA SCIENCE

- Network Analytics, Anomaly Detection, Spark, Time Series Forecasting, Cross-Sectional Prediction, Data Visualization, ETL, Remote Sensing

LANGUAGES

- Statistics/Data Science: Python, R, SQL, Matlab
- Engineering: Bash, Docker, Terraform
- Other: Markdown, Microsoft Office

Experience

Knab

August 2023 - Present

LEAD DATA SCIENTIST

Amsterdam

- Initially joined as senior data scientist, working as lead data scientist since March 2024.
- Leading a team of 6-7 data scientists, while also working on model development and productionization.
- Deployed first machine learning models for the bank. Currently working with different senior stakeholders in the bank (including data engineering and model risk management) to make this process smoother
- Responsible for moulding and executing the ML / AI strategy of Knab, as well as mentoring other data scientists and leading by example.

Apollo Agriculture

May 2022 - April 2023

SENIOR DATA SCIENTIST

Amsterdam

- In a small team (4-5 FTE's) of data scientists, working on multiple projects with different stakeholders. These are fraud detection, credit risk scoring and satellite image database creation. Infrastructure environment: AWS
- Launched and monitored multiple models in production - both batch processes and real-time applications
- Helping set up the way-of-working framework (Docker for local development, setting coding standards, creating/maintaining Python microservices etc.)
- Optimizing existing models by including extensive unit/integration tests, speeding up ETL with Dask

Transactie Monitoring Nederland

May 2021 - April 2022

SENIOR DATA SCIENTIST

Purmerend

- In multifunctional department, consisting of data scientists and anti-money laundering experts
- Creating/maintaining two Python packages for network analytics projects: 1. efficient network traversals and 2. detecting communities within networks. Infrastructure environment: AWS
- Main linking pin with engineering teams to ensure a workable framework for model development. Actively helping with setting up a feature store and spreading good Spark practices
- Integrating anti-money laundering experts actively into analytics projects
- Participating in high-level discussions on day-to-day and strategic topics

ING Bank N.V. - Financial Crime Analytics

Nov 2019 - April 2021

DATA SCIENTIST

Amsterdam

- Part of a big team of 20-25 FTE's that develop models to detect money laundering and other illegal financial activities
- Creating two Python packages for: 1. streamlined unsupervised anomaly detection and 2. extracting network features from transaction data
Infrastructure environment: in-house clusters.
- Main machine learning domain: unsupervised anomaly detection (e.g. isolation forest, k-means, outlier variational autoencoder)
- Communicating with other end-users of the Python packages for further development
- Running workshops on day-to-day usage of Docker
- Coaching trainees in data science work

ING Bank N.V. - Finance Analytics

Feb 2018 - Oct 2019

DATA SCIENTIST

Amsterdam

- Part of a small team of 2-3 FTE's that service employees in Group Finance through analytics projects. All projects are centered around time series data cleaning, wrangling and forecasting. Infrastructure environment: in-house clusters
- Created three R packages for time series forecasting, detecting/correcting anomalies and data exploration
- These R packages are open sourced and maintained by me. Click for [tstools](#), [tsclean](#), [tsforecast](#)
- Main machine learning domain: time series forecasting (ARIMA, LSTM, Kalman filter)
- Deploying projects via local and docker solutions
- Running workshops and trainings in R, Python and statistics
- Coaching IT trainees in data science work
- Engaging stakeholders to help them become more data-savvy and understand what they can (and can't) do with data science

VU University Amsterdam

Sep 2014 - Aug 2018

PHD RESEARCHER IN ENVIRONMENTAL ECONOMICS

Amsterdam

- Thesis title: 'The Value of (Avoiding) Malaria' ([link](#), graduated 2nd of May 2019)
- Supervisors: Roy Brouwer & Richard Tol
- Links to completed papers:
 - Valuing malaria morbidity ([link](#))
 - Preference updating in public health risk valuation ([link](#))
 - Public preferences and valuation of new malaria risk ([link](#))
 - Attitudes towards public health spending ([link](#))
- This was financed by an EU FP7 project: HELIX ([link](#)). This involved multidisciplinary collaboration with researchers from mathematics, physics, engineering, geography and sociology. I organized and executed a field survey in Mumbai, India between March - June 2016 as part of this project. Some analyses of the data from this survey can be found on my [GitHub](#) page.

VU University Amsterdam / Tinbergen Institute

Sep 2013 - Feb 2018

TEACHING ASSISTANT

Amsterdam

- Courses: Statistics/Econometrics (masters level - including coding in SPSS and R), Mathematics (masters level - linear algebra and advanced calculus)

Education

Amsterdam/Rotterdam, The Netherlands

Sep 2012 - Aug 2014

MPHIL IN ECONOMICS

Tinbergen Institute

- Specialization: Applied micro-econometrics
- Thesis: 'What explains willingness to pay for avoiding morbidity risk due to malaria? Results from a global meta-analysis' (later on became first chapter of PhD thesis)

Ankara, Turkey

Sep 2008 - Jun 2012

BSc IN ECONOMICS

Bilkent University

- Specialization: Academic (i.e. a special focus on applied mathematics and statistics)