AUSTIN POOR

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EXPERIENCE

Data Scientist

Metis Data Science Bootcamp

Jan 2020 – March 2020 New York, NY

Highly selective, accredited 12-week immersive data science bootcamp focused on Python, statistical modeling, machine learning, visualization, and communication of results. See projects below.

Assistant to the Executive Creative Director

CHRLX

Oct 2014 – Aug 2017 New York, NY

Responsible for managing Executive Creative Director's priorities, schedule, and following employee task progress. On behalf of the ECD, coordinated with producers and technical staff on client project delivery assignments and issue resolution. Further, served as fill-in technical resource on multiple projects. Worked with clients such as Nike, Cinnamon Toast Crunch, Verizon FiOS, and Subway.

PROJECTS

Save the Dinosaurs: Creating a Bot to Play the Chrome Dino Game

Using deep reinforcement learning to train an agent to play the Chrome "No-Internet" Dinosaur game.

- Used Selenium to control Chrome and test the bots' performance
- Created multiple "heuristic" bots to play based on hard-coded rules
- Used grid-search to optimize the heuristic bot's strategy
- Created a Deep Q-Learning bot using Tensorflow
- Got high score: 17,959 (about 5x the avg human high score)

Here's a link to the repo: github.com/a-poor/chrome-dino-solver

AustinRecommendsMovies.com

Built a Fask web app to recommend movies to users using collaborative filtering and content-based filtering.

- Merged three large datasets (movie plot summaries, user reviews, movie metadata)
- Stored data using PostgreSQL and GCP
- Used NMF to create topic vectors based on film summaries
- Calculate user-user and film-film similarity using SQL
- Collaborative filtering: Recommend movies liked by similar users
- Content-based filtering: Recommend movies by plot-vector similarity
- User stats: Used Bokeh to plot user-rating distributions

Here's a link to the repo: github.com/a-poor/movie-recs

Spotify Skip Prediction

Analyzed Spotify data on user listening sessions to predict the likelihood of a user skipping a song.

- Stored the large dataset in PostgreSQL on AWS
- Used feature engineering to account for sequential data
- Performed classification with multiple model types
- LightGBM Classifier got a final accuracy of 0.73

Read more about it here: https://towardsdatascience.com/predicting-spotify-track-skips-49cf4a48b2a5 And here's a link to the repo: github.com/a-poor/spotify-skip-prediction

EDUCATION

BA – Computer Science

Sarah Lawrence College

Sept 2017 - Dec 2019 Bronxville, NY

Studied computer science with a focus on data science. Each course involved a semester-long, in-depth project related to the course. Select courses:

- Bio-Inspired Artificial Intelligence
- Databases
- Computer Organization.

Select project topics:

- Flask App for College Student Course Sign-Up
- Predicting the Political Leaning of News Articles with Deep Learning
- Used data science tools to investigated litigation practices in NYC housing court – focusing on improper service of process

University of Connecticut

Sept 2012 - June 2014 Storrs, CT

Took courses towards a BA in Communications

SUMMARY

I combine 3 years of business executive support in a fast-paced digital animation firm, including influential coordination and management in highly collaborative team environments, with recent data science technical skills and hands-on experience. My data science skills include data extraction and preparation, data queries and analysis, and audience-appropriate data visualization, utilizing my years of commercial design experience. I am looking for a position to prove the value of my technical, critical thinking, communication, and team coordination skills and experience.

SKILLS

Languages

- Python
- SQL
- JavaScript
- Bash

Tools/Packages

- Pandas
- Matplotlib
- Numpy/SciPy
- Seaborn
- Sci-kit Learn
- Plotly
- NLTK
- D3.js
- SpaCy
- Flask
- Tensorflow
- XGBoost
- PyTorch
- LightGBM
- BeautifulSoup
- Dask
- Selenium
- Tableau
- PySpark
- Docker

Databases

- PostgreSQL
- MongoDB

Cloud Providers

- AWS
- Heroku
- GCP

Other

- Adobe Photoshop
- Adobe Illustrator