Alexander Andrew Shatalin, ML Engineer

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EXPERIENCE

Zvuk **Feb 2025 - Present**

ML Engineer

- Designed & deployed hybrid recommender systems (ALS, SASRec, CatBoost) for music/non-musical content, achieving 8% lift in ATS for non-musical content consumption
- Spearheaded podcast recommendation innovation by creating new GPT-4 description embeddings and refining existing scenarios, boosting discovery for episodic content, achieving improvement in user-persieved quality of recommendations in SbS comparison by 47%
- Co-engineered "Power of Sound" music feature rebuild from scratch (architecture, algorithms, backend), transforming an unmaintainable system into a scalable flagship service for personalized recommendations with statistically significant ATS improvement of 4%
- Engineered unified user profiles with kids-mode segregation, enabling personalized, age-appropriate recommendations under single accounts while preserving parental preferences, improving CSI by 22%
- Owned end-to-end ML pipelines from data processing, model training (offline/SbS evaluation), to python backend integration and production deployment, reducing iteration cycles by 30%+

Yandex **Jan 2024 - Feb 2025**

ML Engineer

- Leveraged BERT, GPT and GBDT models to achieve improvement of key metric by 0.97% on the integral observation
- Carried out a full cycle of model development, including data gathering, training, offline evaluation, A/B testing, SbS experiments, writing backend on C++ and outputting models to production
- Created comprehensive and easy to digest dashboards which played key role in decision making about experiments with combined develop cost of over $200 000
- Implemented a tool for offline evaluation of machine learning models before they are put into A/B tests, preventing spending resources on unsatisfactory ones

RDX Labs, RTU MIREA **Sep 2022 - Dec 2023**

ML Engineer & Data Analyst

- Researched LLMs to build MVP of the KBQA bot to help customer support, reducing waiting time by 40%
- Curated and managed datasets for a CV model with over 9000 airport pictures, leveraging Leaflet and Open Street Maps to train a CV model for airports recognition
- Created test tasks for new ML developers with comprehensive guidelines, increasing department size up to 100% annually
- Promoted within 6 months due to the great performance and organizational impact

EDUCATION

RTU MIREA **Sep 2021 - Aug 2025**

Bachelor of Information Systems and Technologies

- Relevant courses: Linear Algebra, Analysis, Python Programming, Artificial Intelligence, Big Data, Applied Artificial Intelligence
- Leadership: being a member of the student union, supervised a group of first-year students, helping them adapt to university life
- Hackathons: multiple times finalist and award-winner (Sovkombank Team Challenge, Aeroclub Challenge, Digital Breakthrough & Burger King hack)

SKILLS

- Programming: Python, SQL, C/C++, Git, Docker, Kubernetes, Amazon S3, Airflow, MLflow, Spark, HDFS, Redis, FastApi
- Machine Learning: recsys, Bert4Rec, GPT4Rec, k-means clustering, KNN, logistic and linear regressions, decision trees, random forest, gradient boosting, perceptrons, LSTM, transformers, ARIMA, models evaluation, TensorFlow, Pandas, Polars, PyTorch, Numpy, Keras, CatBoost, XGBoost, LightGBM, Sklearn, Qdrant
- Math: Analysis, Algebra, Linear Algebra, Statistics (A/B testing, Bayesian analysis), Probability Theory