

Rai (Michael Pokorný)

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EDUCATION

Secondary School of Applied Cybernetics Ltd., Hradec Králové

Charles University in Prague: bachelor's in general CS (summa cum laude), thesis on efficient dictionary data structures¹.

Started but unfinished master's in artificial intelligence (completed all requirement except thesis).

WORK EXPERIENCE

Software Engineer

Google Switzerland

2017 - 2021

I left Google in May 2021 to focus on my well-being and to further specialize in AI. I was at L4 and my last Perf rating was Exceeds Expectations.

My first team worked on developer experience with Google's Knowledge Graph. My main contribution was co-developing and maintaining a tool that checked quality and consistency of ingested structured data. Later, I joined Android Assistant to work on the next generation Assistant experience for newer Pixel phones. I worked on latency and on the on-device query execution infrastructure.

Director & Co-founder

Czech Association for Effective Altruism 2016 – 2017

I co-founded the Czech Association for Effective Altruism (<https://efektivni-altruismus.cz>) and served as its first director. My main accomplishment was leading a team of 5 in organizing the EAGxPrague 2016 conference, which attracted about 100 attendees. Aside from organizing community events, the non-profit promotes high-impact careers and donations for effective charities. Since my tenure as director, the organization remains successful - for example, it organized the operations of several European workshops of the Centre for Applied Rationality.

Software Engineer Intern

Dropbox (YC S07)

2015

I interned on the iOS team, where I researched options for optimizing the Dropbox app's cache.

Software Engineer Intern

Google France

2014 – 2015

I interned on the Legos team, which connects YouTube content to the Knowledge Graph. As my main project, I developed a tool that helped fix bugs by letting developers introspect how a given piece of YouTube content was processed. A later version of the tool remained in use as of 2020. I retrained the team's old classifiers (precision 78% → 92%, recall +8%) and implemented major parts of a new evaluation pipeline.

Software Engineering Intern

Prizeo (YC W13)

2014

I worked on Represent (<http://represent.com>), which is a platform for buying and selling customized merchandise launched by Prizeo in early 2014.

¹<https://github.com/agentydragon/thesis>

SKILLS

I have worked with a variety of languages and technologies, and find it easy to learn new ones. I am strongest with C++ and Python, but I also worked on projects using C, JavaScript, Ruby, C#, Java, Go, Rust and PHP. I have worked on the full stack spectrum from PIC assembly to web frontends.

I like to work in a principled way, with solid tests and as far as possible, automated processes for bug tracking, releases etc.; I also try to make meetings I attend productive (by taking notes and making sure people are on the same page).

Regarding AI, my university mostly focused on symbolic approaches (like SAT solving, CSP and planning). I self-studied (and continue studying) deep learning and RL from books, papers and online courses, and practice with Colab. I am fluent with TensorFlow.

COURSES

- Coursera: Reinforcement Learning, Deep Learning Specialization, DeepLearning.AI TensorFlow Developer Specialization ², Machine Learning, Cryptography I
- Workera: Deep Learning Engineer certificate³
- Udemy: TensorFlow 2.0 Practical⁴
- Fast.ai's Practical deep learning for coders
- Triplebyte ML assesment: ≥ 90 th percentile⁵

HONORS AND AWARDS

First place, 2 auxilliary prices at HackCambridge 2016 (<https://deadlockempire.github.io> – 100k+ views, 18k+ unique players, 2600 players finished whole game)

Charles University dean's honor roll, 2012/13, 2013/14

Winner, Czech programming contest for high school students, 2011

INTERESTS

I am interested in effective altruism and particularly would like to contribute to the field of AI safety. I enjoy self-improvement, personal knowledge management (e.g., I contribute to Athens Research⁶) and optimizing my life, particularly by automating away toil⁷.

In high-school, I participated in olympiads and seminars in mathematics and programming, and in university, I was an organizer of one (KSP). I also sat on the board of Charles University's LGBT alliance (Charlie z.s.)

²<https://www.coursera.org/account/accomplishments/specialization/certificate/S7YSCYW9TX5H, ENTUDHRKFRZY, GEWJC5RY4GVJ>

³<https://app.workera.ai/public/candidate/certificate?code=Z0HPDV8Y>

⁴<https://www.udemy.com/certificate/UC-e844a3ad-a74e-4fd5-8e49-50829385bc7b/>

⁵<https://triplebyte.com/tb/michal-pokorny-smycqcq/certificate/track/ml>

⁶<https://github.com/athensresearch/athens>

⁷See: <https://gitlab.com/dustin-space/meal-scheduler>