+44 7927 315192 London, United Kingdom alecokastanos@gmail.com

Alexandros Kastanos

Senior Machine Learning Engineer

Website: alecokas.github.io github.com/alecokas linkedin.com/in/alecokas

TECHNICAL EXPERIENCE

Senior Machine Learning Engineer | Deliveroo

July 2024 — Present

Promoted into the role

London, United Kingdom

- Machine learning lead on pricing projects that deliver synergies across different business functions.
- Currently, I am working on dynamic pricing algorithms that generate operational and cash-flow efficiencies for the business.
- Leadership responsibilities include scoping, stakeholder management, technical design, and project delivery.

Machine Learning Engineer II | Deliveroo

June 2021 — July 2024

London, United Kingdom

Customer Pricing Team

- I am responsible for machine learning models that power Deliveroo's price optimisation and pricing strategy.
- Delivered a pricing model that is responsive to changing customer demand and unit economics.
- Ownership of the end-to-end design, implementation, and deployment of data-driven projects to solve classic data science problems such as live model monitoring, data drift detection, conversion modelling, and customer retention
- Champion price integrity through robust software engineering practices and service reliability.
- Tech stack includes Python, Docker, Snowflake, Kafka, Metaflow, Argo, and CircleCI.

Machine Learning Engineer | Ocado

October 2019 — June 2021

Hatfield, United Kingdom

- Natural Language Processing Team
- I was tasked with researching and developing novel machine learning models to solve natural language challenges in the business. I worked closely with a small cross-disciplinary team to deploy my models into production.
- Built and deployed a customer service conversational AI solution.
- Fine-tuned a language model for downstream tasks using recipe data.
- Regularly presented my work at cross-department knowledge sharing sessions. Topics covered include Graph Neural Networks, Natural Language Processing, and Recommender Systems.
- · Tech stack includes Python, PyTorch, Docker, and GCP.

Software Engineer | Peralex Electronics

Nov 2016 — Jan 2017

Machine Learning Team

Cape Town. South Africa

- Worked in an agile team environment to introduce deep learning approaches to replace existing passive radar detection systems
- Designed and implemented a number of signal detection systems using Keras
- · Used Python for dataset synthesis and management

EDUCATION

University of Cambridge, Master of Philosophy in Machine Learning and Machine Intelligence

Oct 2018 - Sept 2019

Thesis title: Uncertainty and confidence scores for sequence data (71%)

Magdalene College, MPhil class representative

University of the Witwatersrand, Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering (Distinction)

Jan 2014 - Dec 2017

Project title: Adaptive digital hearing aid that adapts to a changing acoustic environment (90%)

Johannesburg, South Africa

Birkbeck, University of London, Master of Arts in Philosophy

Oct 2023 — Sept 2025

Specialisation: Ethics and Social Theory of Artificial Intelligence

SKILLS

Python, SQL Languages (daily)

Languages (infrequently) Julia, C++, Typescript

scikit-learn, Argo CD, Metaflow, Docker, PyTorch, Git, CircleCI, Kafka, Terraform **Tools & Ops**

Ouantitative Research Deep Learning, Probabilistic Machine Learning, Speech and Language Processing Applications

Communication English (1st), Afrikaans (2nd), Greek (2nd)

United Kingdom and South Africa Citizenship

SELECT PUBLICATIONS AND ARTICLES

- A. Kastanos, A. Ragni, M.J.F. Gales, Confidence Estimation for Black Box Automatic Speech Recognition Systems Using Lattice Recurrent Neural Networks. ICASSP, 2020
- A. Kastanos and T. Martin, Graph Convolutional Network for Swahili News Classification, in EACL AfricaNLP workshop, 2021.
- A. Ragni, M. J. F. Gales, O. Rose, K. M. Knill, A. Kastanos, Q. Li, P. M. Ness, Increasing Context for Estimating Confidence Scores in Automatic Speech Recognition, IEEE/ACM Transactions on Audio, Speech, and Language Processing, vol. 30, pp. 1319-1329, 2022
- A. Kastanos, Responsible AI: Responsible to Whom? What to do about now? Article published: March 2023

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ACTIVITIES

Birkbeck Philosophy Society President	2023 - 2025
EACL: Poster Presenter at AfricaNLP Workshop	2021
NAACL: Poster Presenter at SIGTYP Workshop	2021
ICASSP: Lecture in the 'Speech Recognition: Confidence, Errors, and OOVs' session	2020
Machine Learning Graduate Student Representative	2018 - 2019
Deep Learning Indaba: Practical tutor and workshop material reviewer	2019
Deep Learning Indaba: Poster session presenter	2019
Geneva Challenge: Computer vision mapping proposal to predict areas with poor access to public health in Uganda	2019

AWARDS

MIT Press poster award, Deep Learning Indaba	2019
University of Cambridge Department of Engineering Scholarship	2018
Dean's List (top 10% of my class) throughout undergraduate	2014 — 2017
Top mark in Software Development III (84%)	2017
2^{nd} place poster at the electrical engineering department open day	2017
Top student in third year electrical engineering	2016
Top mark in Probabilistic System and Signal Analysis (99%)	2016

CERTIFICATIONS

Certificate of Higher Education in Philosophy - with Distinction (Birkbeck, University of London)	2022—2023
Essential Lessions for First-Time Managers (LinkedIn Learning)	2022
Machine Learning Data Life-cycle in Production (DeepLearning.Al)	2021
Neural Networks and Depp Learning (DeepLearning.AI)	2017
Structuring Machine Learning Projects (DeepLearning.AI)	2017
Improving Deep Learning Projects (DeepLearning.AI)	2017
Machine Learning (Stanford Online)	2017