

# Steven Boada, Ph.D

---

Basic Information	(615) 200-0119 stevenboada@gmail.com	github.com/boada linkedin.com/in/theboada
Professional Experience	<div>Activision Publishing, Inc. <span>Boulder, Colorado</span> <i>Senior Machine Learning Engineer</i> <span>January, 2021 – Present</span></div> <p>As part of the Advanced Analytics and Machine Learning (ML) team, I support all ML initiatives for the Call of Duty and Warzone franchises. This includes being involved in early concept designs through the productionalization of mature models and stakeholder management. Below are selected highlights from this very diverse role:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Provided infrastructure and support for <i>all</i> ML applications powering the Call of Duty franchise on PC and console.</li><li>• Designed, built, maintained, and improved ML infrastructure specifically for the advanced analytics and ML team, but also for the organization at large.</li><li>• Built near-realtime (10s of seconds) applications to combat cheating and malicious behavior.</li><li>• Lead the transition of ML infrastructure from AWS to GCP/GCS.</li><li>• Worked with other data science team members to productionalize models. This includes writing automated build pipelines and shared libraries, ML model versioning with MLflow, and automated testing tools to ensure model stability.</li><li>• Trained ML models to provide insights into customer conversion, churn, and behavioral segmentation. This leveraged survival analysis, clustering, as well as tree-based and linear methods.</li><li>• Interviewed potential new hires, and trained/mentored new team members and junior staff.</li></ul> <div>Insight Data Science <span>New York, New York</span> <i>Fellow</i> <span>January, 2020 – 2021</span></div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Helped optimize the way NYC health inspectors perform restaurant inspections in order to reduce the time critical health violations remain unaddressed.</li><li>• Trained a random forest in Python to prioritize NYC restaurant inspections based on environmental variables and their past inspection histories and provided the results to NYC through an API deployed on AWS.</li><li>• Resulted in NYC inspectors identifying ~2.5% more violations in the first half of an inspection window, leading to critical violations being discovered up to 7 days earlier than by the current approach implemented by NYC.</li></ul> <div>Dept. of Physics and Astronomy, Rutgers University <span>New Brunswick, New Jersey</span> <i>Postdoctoral Research Associate</i> <span>September, 2016 – 2021</span></div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Designed and built parallelized pipelines to process and analyze TBs of astronomical imaging; producing calibrated, standardized data catalogs and rigorous results leading to 2 peer reviewed publications and several hundred hours of telescope time.</li><li>• Project managed and coordinated a team of 4, including both senior scientists and graduate students, to perform quality control tasks; deliver science products; and produce peer-reviewed publications.</li><li>• Contributed to open source, astronomy-focused, Python projects through bug fixes and feature additions: see photometrypipeline, astLib, and easyGalaxy on GitHub as examples.</li></ul>	
Skills	<p><b>Machine Learning:</b> Linear Models, Decision Trees, SVM, Clustering, Deep Learning, Survival Analysis</p> <p><b>CI/CD:</b> Jenkins, Airflow, Docker</p> <p><b>Software and Computing:</b> Open Source Contributor, Python, DataBricks, MLFlow, SQL, AWS/GCP, and other cloud computing applications</p> <p><b>Leadership:</b> Experience organizing and leading workshops and collaboration meetings, Teaching and mentoring junior team members, Eagle Scout.</p>	
Education	<b>Texas A&amp;M University</b> , College Station, Texas <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ph.D, Physics (astronomy focus), 2016</li></ul>	<b>The University of Tennessee</b> , Knoxville, Tennessee <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• M.S., Physics (astronomy focus), 2009</li><li>• B.S., Physics, 2007</li></ul>