Benjamin Ticknor

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EXPERIENCE

UKG Inc.

Boston, MA

Senior Data Scientist, AI Research

June 2022- Sept. 2023

Graduate Intern

June 2021- Aug. 2021

- Designed, tested, and deployed a self-attention based representation learning model to rank applicants for job postings on the UKG recruiting platform
- Contributed significantly to the production code base for the model (Python/PyTorch), which demonstrated a 20% improvement in predictive power over the previous approach

University of Chicago Department of Statistics

Chicago, IL (remote)

Paid Researcher (for Dr. Yali Amit)

May 2022-December 2022

- Trained and experimented with convolution based variational autoencoder for use in image reconstruction as part of a novel occluded object detection algorithm (paper in preprint here)
- Implemented (Python/PyTorch) routines for training models on a multi-GPU machine

True Fit Corporation

Boston, MA

Senior Science Analyst

Science Analyst

April 2018- May 2020

Sept. 2017 - April 2018

- Researched and implemented (Python) a Poisson-regression based alternative to conventional A/B testing for use in evaluating the efficacy of the core product
- A/B test alternative demonstrated superior statistical properties to conventional testing with small treatment groups

EverQuote Inc. Cambridge, MA

Senior Quantitative Analyst

June 2016 - Aug. 2017

Quantitative Analyst

July 2015 - June 2016

• Designed and wrote (Python) a tool to optimally bid on search engine ads using a generalized method of moments approach to estimate blind auction bid dynamics, scaled the auto-bidder to spend ~ \$40,000/day in ad budget

PATENTS

• "System and Method for Rating Golf Courses" – (pending) US Patent Application No. 18/128,667 – Date of Application: March 30, 2023

EDUCATION

The University of California

Santa Cruz, CA

PhD in Statistics

Sept. 2023 - Present

• Focus on Bayesian methods and probabilistic modelling

The University of Chicago

Chicago, IL

Master of Science in Statistics

Sept. 2020 - May 2022

• Relevant coursework: functional analysis, mathematical statistics, distribution theory, machine learning

Dartmouth College

Hanover, NH

Bachelor of Arts in Economics, Mathematics (minor)

Aug. 2011 - June 2015

• Varsity football 2011-2014, rush chair of Gamma Delta Chi fraternity, math and economics student tutor

SKILLS

Languages: Python, C++, R, Bash, SQL

Libraries / Frameworks: Spark, Hadoop, PyTorch, CUDA Developer Tools: Git, Docker, cloud computing (AWS, GCP)

Personal

• Avid spearfisher, surfer, and golfer