

Cristian Distefano

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Education

University of Connecticut

Bachelor of Science in Computer Science

Bachelor of Science in Statistical Data Science

Storrs, CT

May 2027

May 2027

- Current GPA: 3.96/4.0; 3x College of Engineering Dean's List; Honors Program
- Relevant Coursework: Data Structures and Obj-Oriented Design, Systems Programming, Algorithms & Complexity, Statistical Methods, Applied Linear Algebra

Technical Skills

- **Programming Languages:** Python (NumPy, Pandas, Scikit-Learn, Matplotlib, Seaborn), SQL, R, C, C++
- **Data Science Tools:** Jupyter Notebook, VS Code, Git, Tableau
- **Machine Learning:** Regression, Classification, Clustering, Model Evaluation
- **Data Analysis:** Data Cleaning, Feature Engineering, Data Visualization

Certifications

IBM Data Science Professional Certificate — Coursera

January 2025

- Completed 12 courses covering data science fundamentals, including data analysis, visualization, and machine learning.
- Gained proficiency in Python, SQL, and data manipulation libraries such as Pandas and NumPy.
- Applied machine learning algorithms with Scikit-learn and developed models for predictive analysis.
- Created data visualizations using Matplotlib and Seaborn, and built a portfolio of real-world data science projects.

Projects

SpaceX Falcon 9 First Stage Landing Prediction

January 2025

- Conducted data analysis and predictive modeling to determine the success rate of SpaceX Falcon 9 first stage landings.
- Collected data using SpaceX REST API and web scraping techniques, and performed data wrangling to prepare the dataset for analysis.
- Built interactive visualizations using Folium and Plotly Dash to explore launch site success rates and payload mass impact.
- Developed and evaluated machine learning models (Logistic Regression, SVM, Decision Tree, KNN) to predict landing outcomes, with the Decision Tree model achieving the highest accuracy (87.5%).
- GitHub Repository: github.com/cld22007/SpaceX-Falcon-9-First-Stage-Landing-Prediction

Work Experience

American Pool

Lifeguard

Summer 2024

Rocky Hill, CT

- Ensured safety for 200+ daily visitors by enforcing regulations and proactively managing risks, reducing incident reports by 20%.
- Responded to emergencies with quick, effective problem-solving and maintained a 100% safety record.
- Collaborated with a team to manage operations and events, honing teamwork, communication, and leadership skills.

Powder Ridge Mountain Park & Resort

Ski Instructor

Winter 2021-2022

Middlefield, CT

- Provided skiing instruction to 50+ individuals per week of varying skill levels
- Ensured the safety and enjoyment of guests while on the slopes.