Soumyajit De

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Senior Applied Machine-Learning Scientist with 10 years of experience in the industry. Specialised in discriminative and generative modeling problems, delivering metric-focused iterative improvements through fast innovation.

Education IIT BOMBAY

MTech in Computer Science (ML) 2014 | Mumbai, IN

WB UTECH

BTech in Computer Science 2011 | Kalyani, IN

Technical Experience

Click-prediction, Selection, Language Models, Personalisation, Diversity

LANGUAGES

C++, Python, Java, SQL

LIBRARIES & TOOLS

PyTorch, ONNX, Huggingface, Keras, Pandas, SkLearn, Matplotlib, SciPy, NumPy, Jupyter, Docker, Kubernetes, Azure Data Factory, Azure Data Lake Storage, Azure Data Lake Analytics, Distributed FS (Cosmos), Map-Reduce, Kafka, BLAS, GDB, Valgrind, Perf, Git, RESTful APIs, OAuth, Conda, Pip, LATEX.

Honours

10th-Board Exam: State Rank: 1st Recipient, Chief Ministers Gold Medal.

Quarterly Excellence Awards: Q4 2019-2020, Q1 2021-2022

Publications

[1] Danica J. Sutherland, Hsiao-Yu Tung, Heiko Strathmann, Soumyajit De, Aaditya Ramdas, Alexander J. Smola, and Arthur Gretton. Generative models and model criticism via optimized maximum mean discrepancy. In 5th International Conference on Learning Representations, ICLR 2017, Toulon, France, April 24-26, 2017, Conference Track Proceedings, 2017. Link.

Industry Experience

MICROSOFT | Senior Data & Applied Scientist, Search Advertising R&R

Dec 2018 - Present | Bangalore, IN

ONLINE RANKING

- Introduced online ranking of ad-assets using low-latency click-prediction models utilising language-agnostic statistical signals to 100+ markets across the globe.
- Improved model by using semantic query-context signals with a multilingual encoder for tackling the cold-start problem. Addressed signal sparsity in low-volume markets & latency demands for inference through sampling, knowledge distillation and cached-embeddings. Obtained +0.3-2.0% \(\Delta CTR \) across markets.

OFFLINE SELECTION

 Ideated & implemented an approach for offline selection utilising rankscore over historical queries. Worked with partner team on globalisation. Explored sampling strategies to address the scale of ranking 10B items everyday (+0.1-0.3%△CTR).

PERSONALISATION & DIVERSITY

- Defined scope in selection & ranking, chalked out roadmap and tackled engineering challenges, drove the initiative from proposal to delivery working with multiple cross-functional teams (+0.2%∆CTR on personalisable slice).
- Sourced user signals from different services across products into homogeneous text features using in-context learning. Examined user-interest clusters and explored approaches to capture diverse historical interests. Customised & fine-tuned an encoder to output lower dimensional embeddings, meeting capacity budgets while maintaining quality (0.065%→0.058% △AUC).

CANDIDATE GENERATION

- Increased candidate density (1.5-2.0 \times) globally with zero-shot **offline asset generation** using an instruction-tuned seq2seq model (+0.22% Δ Revenue).
- Working with LLM expanded query, summarised landing page and user profile for contextualised online asset generation in zero-shot setting. Exploring S/MLMs for knowledge distillation, preference optimisation with feedback.

ENGINEERING & LEADERSHIP

 Owning the modeling infra globalisation initiative, working in an advisory role for ideation & identifying scope across teams, providing hands-on mentorship to new joiners, designing utilities automating common tasks for the team.

ORACLE | Senior Software Engineer, Cloud Infrastructure Jul 2014 – Apr 2016, Sep 2016 – Dec 2018 | Bangalore, IN

- Designed & implemented a majority of the Marketplace REST API.
- Employed batch-processing & application-layer caching to reduce the response times of multi-page GET-calls from \sim 2 mins to \sim 10 secs.

Research Experience

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON | Research Assistant, Gatsby Unit

May 2016 - Jul 2016 | London, UK

- Devised a cache-friendly algorithm for non-parametric two-sample tests involving MMD estimator that showed ~300x speed-up over naïve implementation.
- Proposed & implemented a multi-threaded variant that outperformed competing algorithms, built with state-of-the-art solvers, by **an order of magnitude** [1].

Open Source Experience

SHOGUN ML LIBRARY | Core Contributor | 94,221 LOC changes

2013, 2014, 2016 | Google Summer of Code

- 2016 Co-mentored in designing Shogun's Linear Algebra library.
- 2014 Designed & developed a framework for kernel-based hypothesis tests.

 Added a family of feature selection algorithms on this framework.
- 2013 Implemented an estimator for log-det of large, sparse matrices arising in the log-likelihood computation of high-dimensional Gaussians in real-world datasets.