

Alex Smirnov

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WORK EXPERIENCE

Startups

Remote

CEO/CTO

Jan 2023 - Present

- [SimTown](#): An interactive world with AI NPCs ([code](#) | [app](#))
- [Bluesight](#): API platform for geospatial workflows, backed by [EF](#) ([code](#) | [explorer](#))
- [Laika the Dog](#): Robodog for household chores ([code](#))
- [AskGuru](#): AI toolkit for customer support, backed by [Pioneer](#) ([code](#) | [blog](#))

Yandex

Remote

Machine Learning Engineer

Oct 2022 - Mar 2023

- Aligned the language model for the “Alice” virtual assistant, including implementing reward models for RLFH and optimizing RAG

Booking.com

Amsterdam, Netherlands

Machine Learning Engineer

Jul 2022 - Sep 2022

- Tuned algorithms for index page destination recommendations carousel

Neiro

Tbilisi, Georgia

Deep Learning Researcher

Feb 2022 - Jun 2022

- Fine-tuned large GPT-like models (GPT-Neo, OPT) on dialogue data to create open-domain dialogue engine
- Deployed models to the production environment
- Collected and processed dialogue datasets
- Invented and implemented dialogue engagement mechanics

Ten Square Games

Wroclaw, Poland

Data Scientist

May 2021 - Nov 2021

- Conducted research on players’ purchase activity using A/B testing to implement in-game item recommendations reaching 50M+ consumers, resulting in a 6% increase in revenue from in-game items
- Built forecast models by engineering new features to predict player churn with a 0.8 F1 score

yarus.ru

Saint Petersburg, Russia

Machine Learning Engineer

Aug 2020 - Apr 2021

- Pioneered news & video recommender systems by analyzing customer engagement, designing system architecture end-to-end, and deploying all modules to increase average session duration on news feed by 20%
- Optimized product by solving cold start, data sparsity, and delayed recommender reaction on users’ actions problems to improve CTR by 15%

JetBrains

Saint Petersburg, Russia

Machine Learning Engineer (Intern)

Sep 2019 - Dec 2019

- Applied segmentation algorithms to 10k core sample images to predict core properties

Belkasoft

Saint Petersburg, Russia

Machine Learning Engineer (Intern)

Jul 2019 - Aug 2019

- Trained NSFW detection models and augmented data to boost the model performance by 10%

EDUCATION

Moscow Institute of Physics and Technology

Moscow, Russia

Master of Science, Artificial Intelligence

2023

- Degree Thesis: *Developing a natural language response system for customer support knowledge bases*

Saint Petersburg State University

Saint Petersburg, Russia

Bachelor of Science, Computer Science

2021

- Degree Thesis: *A hybrid approach for news recommender system*
- Course Thesis: *Core sample image segmentation*