**Alex Smirnov**

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| **WORK EXPERIENCE** |
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**Startups Remote**

*CEO/CTO Jan 2023 - Present*

* [SimTown](https://simtown.ai/): An interactive world with AI NPCs ([code](https://github.com/simtownai/simtown) | [app](https://app.simtown.ai/))
* [Bluesight](https://bluesight.ai/): API platform for geospatial workflows, backed by [EF](https://www.joinef.com/) ([code](https://github.com/bluesightai) | [explorer](https://explorer.bluesight.ai/))
* [Laika the Dog](https://laikadog.ai/): Robodog for household chores ([code](https://github.com/laikadogai/brains))
* [AskGuru](https://www.askguru.ai/): AI toolkit for customer support, backed by [Pioneer](https://pioneer.app/blog/july-2023/) ([code](https://github.com/askguruai) | [blog](https://asmirnov.xyz/askguru))

**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 Wrocław, 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** |
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**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*