Gabriel Bénédict

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Date of birth
31.10.1993

Citizenship
Swiss, French,
Brazilian

Languages
Native in French

Fluent in English,
German, Portuguese &
Swiss German

Good knowledge of
Dutch, Hebrew

**Workshop
co-organization**
Generative Information
Retrieval @SIGIR 23

Generative Information
Retrieval @SIGIR 24

Reviewing
NeurIPS 23, AABI 23,
AISTATS 21 & 22,
MLRC 22

Awards
Best Paper Runner up
@Recsys22,
MVP 22 @IRLab

Talks
GenIR @ZetaAlpha
[recording]

GenIR & RecFusion
@Naver/AMLab/
ADS/FoMo

Sports
Ski-touring,
bouldering, tennis,
rugby

Extracurricular
Robust Statistics
lecturer at Yeshiva
University NY

Statistical Consultant
for *Lionbase*

Co-president of *Club
de Lecture* HSG

Co-founder at *Mia*

Research Interests

A mix of theoretical and applied AI research. The main themes are optimization for neural networks (surrogate metrics as losses), (normative) diversity metrics for news recommendation, intent-satisfaction modelling, video-to-music AI and now diffusion. [Google Scholar 🎓]

Experience

Dec. 23. – Present	**Amazon**	MADRID, ES

Machine Learning Scientist, GenAI
Research and applied work on Generative AI for Amazon devices. Conversational recommendation, custom losses for LLMs, LLMs for touch screens.

Oct. 20 - Nov.23	**RTL NL**	AMSTERDAM, NL

Artificial Intelligence Researcher
(i) Started and co-lead MusicFlow: a webapp for AI music recommendations for videos (music similarity, music labelling, video-to-music tasks). Hired 6 FTEs. **(ii)** Implementation @Videoland (SVOD) and @RTL–Nieuws: still-picking, survey design and diversity in news recommendation metrics **(iii)** We started Data-Academy – data-driven decisions across RTL.

Oct. 19 - Oct.20	**Bertelsmann**	HAMBURG, GE / AMSTERDAM, NL / LYON, FR

Data Scientist at Gruner & Jahr and Bedrock
(i) Personalisation roadmap. **(ii)** News articles quality survey and scoring in production. **(iii)** Causal Inference with Bayesian structural time series models to assess impact of recommendation system.

Aug. – Sep. 19	**Cambridge University**	CAMBRIDGE, UK

Deep Learning Researcher
Self-supervised learning with autoencoders for genomics on UK BioBank

Jul. – Sep. 18	**Cytel**	BARCELONA, ES

Statistician
Research and R-package development for adaptive non-parametric survival clinical trials

14 – 18	**Internships and Short Term Research**	

Master Thesis Statistical Assistant at KUL — LEUVEN, BE
Structural Equation Modelling to model fear of terrorism

Category Management Intern at Danone — ZURICH, CH

Research Assistant at Institute of Political Science — ST GALLEN, CH

Controlling and Finance Intern at Aeris Capital — ZURICH, CH

Internal Audit at Adecco Group — ZURICH, CH

Risk Management at Spinnaker Capital — SAO PAULO, BR

Education

Oct. 20 - Nov.23	**University of Amsterdam**	AMSTERDAM, NL

PhD candidate in AI for personalization

2018 – 2019	**KU Leuven &**	LEUVEN, BE
	Columbia University	NEW YORK, US

Master in Statistics (1st & 2nd year respectively)
Magna Cum Laude
Thesis Digitizing and Reconstructing Kaplan Meier Survival Data – The survThief package

2012 – 2016	**Universität St Gallen [HSG]**	ST GALLEN, CH

Bachelor in Economics
Thesis Debt Relief Efficiency 📄

Publications

2024	AI for neuroscience paper [Anonymised]. @NeurIPS (under review)
2023	RecFusion: A Binomial Diffusion Process for 1D Data for Recommendation. ***Gabriel Bénédict**, Olivier Jeunen, Samuele Papa, Samarth Bhargav, Daan Odijk, Maarten de Rijke*. @GenRec-CIKM 📄
2022	sigmoidF1: A Smooth F1 Score Surrogate Loss for Multilabel Classification. ***Gabriel Bénédict**, Hendrick Vincent Koops, Daan Odijk, Maarten de Rijke*. @TMLR 📄
2022	Intent-Satisfaction Modeling: From Music to Video Streaming. ***Gabriel Bénédict**, Daan Odijk, Maarten de Rijke*. @TORS 📄
co-first-author 2022	RADio–Rank-Aware Divergence Metrics to Measure Normative Diversity in News Recommendations *Sanne Vrijenhoek*, **Gabriel Bénédict***, Mateo Gutierrez Granada, Daan Odijk, Maarten de Rijke*. @Recsys 📄
2021	The University of Amsterdam at the TREC 2021 Fair Ranking Track. *Ali Vardasbi, **Gabriel Bénédict**, Shashank Gupta, Maria Heuss, Pooya Khandel, Ming Li, Fatemeh Sarvi*. @TREC 📄