George Stein, Ph.D.

Machine Learning Scientist

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SUMMARY

5+ years experience adapting and advancing machine learning techniques to solve applied problems at scale, 9 years in high performance computing and data analysis, with a proven track record of extracting meaningful insights from large datasets.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory

Berkeley, CA

Postdoctoral Scientist, Machine Learning

Sept. 2019–Present

- Compiled a dataset of 75 million galaxy images and trained a series of convolutional neural networks on multi-node GPU-accelerated systems, leading to two peer reviewed publications. | PyTorch
- Implemented self-supervised learning to utilize unlabelled data and improve image classification performance by 170%.
- Created and deployed a web app for data discovery, and released community-adopted ML models. | Streamlit
- Principal investigator of data science proposal awarded over \$150,000 USD of GPU resources.

University of California, Berkeley

Berkeley, CA

Postdoctoral Scientist, Machine Learning

Sept. 2019-Present

- Designed a new anomaly detection method and applied it to win a blind anomaly detection challenge by characterizing an anomaly occurring in only 0.08% of 1 million events, outperforming 11 other teams.
- Built a neural network emulator to replace a costly calculation, achieving 10,000x speed-up. | JAX
- Developed a deep generative model to extract insights from noisy and incomplete high-dimensional time series data, solved the inverse problem to reduce the error of a key metric by 45% from the standard non-ML method. | TensorFlow

Canadian Institute for Theoretical Astrophysics

Toronto, ON

Graduate Researcher, High Performance Computing

Sept. 2014-Aug. 2019

- Constructed a pipeline for generating simulated observations of our universe on high performance computing systems, achieving 100x speed-up from previous methods, adopted by numerous forward modeling pipelines. | Fortran
- Implemented CNN segmentation models to predict regions of interest in physical simulations. | TensorFlow

SELECTED INDEPENDENT PROJECTS

Segmentation of Satellite Imagery

Nov. 2021-March 2022

- Trained an ensemble of segmentation models to identify cloud cover in satellite imagery as part of a popular data science competition, with my team of two finishing in the top 3% of 850 participants. | Pytorch-Lightning
- Leveraged public APIs to increase public dataset size 10-fold, and designed a custom set of physically motivated augmentations that improved model generalization and nearly eliminated overfitting.

ML-in-cosmology Dec. 2018-Present

• Curator of a comprehensive archive of ML applications to the study of cosmology, with over 250 stars on GitHub.

EDUCATION

University of Toronto

Toronto, ON

Ph.D., Astrophysics

Sept. 2014-Aug. 2019

University of British Columbia

Vancouver, BC

B.Sc. (Honours), Physics and Astronomy, with distinction

Sept. 2010-May 2014

SKILLS

Programming Languages: Python (advanced), Fortran (experienced).

Frameworks/Packages: Proficient in PyTorch, TensorFlow, PyTorch-Lightning, Scikit-Learn, NumPy, SciPy, Pandas, Jupyter Notebook, Matplotlib, Git, Bash, and Streamlit. Familiar with JAX, SQL, CSS, HTML, TensorFlow Probability, Pyro, and NumPyro. Machine Learning Experience: Computer Vision, CNNs, Self-supervised learning, Generative models, Density estimation, MCMC sampling, Dimensionality reduction & Clustering (Autoencoders, TSNE, UMAP, k-NN), Classification, Segmentation, etc.

COMMUNICATION AND TECHNICAL WRITING

Lead author of 7 publications in machine learning and cosmology. Presented research at 50+ venues.