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# Experience

# DoorDash, Senior Machine Learning Engineer

Sep 2024 – present

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• Attribute Extraction: Training LLM to extract product attributes from unstructured data

## GoPuff, Senior Data Scientist, E-commerce Search and Discovery

Jan 2022 - Jul 2024

- **Product Ranking**: Developed machine learning models (XGBoost) for personalized product ranking in browsing and search. Initial launch and iterations led to \$600k savings and 1.03% conversion gain
- Search Retrieval: Implemented transformers large language models (LLMs) to retrieve products based on query/ product embedding, intent classification and entity tagging. Improved search conversion by 33 bps
- Carousel Layout Ranking: Built machine learning models (XGBoost, deep learning) for personalized carousel layout ranking in browsing. Lifted 27 bps in conversion and 20 bps in margin in A/B tests
- Query Understanding: Created BERT transformer model for query to taxonomy mapping and query entity tagging on human and LLM annotated data. Powering 5 core services and lifting 0.90% in revenue
- Out-of-Stock Substitution: Incorporated LLM finetuning to build product similarity embeddings and power shopping-time and order-time product out-of-stock substitution. Reduced order cancellation by 1.19%
- Multiobjective Optimization: Introduced linear layers after machine learning rankers to explicitly trade off conversion, margin, and exploration. Tuned linear layer using simulations. Lifted margin by 31 bps
- Data ETL Pipelines: Engineered data ETL pipelines to process terabytes of big data everyday (SQL, Pyspark, Pandas) and power a dozen production services. Feature iterations lifted 0.75% in conversion
- Wide and Deep Neural Network: Pioneered state-of-the-art deep learning models with feature engineering to replace tree-based models. Improves conversion by 0.90% and margin by 0.47% in simulations
- Personalized Recommender Systems: Leveraged collaborative filtering and two-tower models to generate user and product embeddings and product recommendations. Improved 24 bps in conversion
- Chat-To-Order: Led team of three to implement SMS-ordering backend system in hackathon with natural language processing, ChatGPT, and internal APIs. Won highest prize among all 15 teams

### LivePerson, Data Scientist II, Conversational AI

Nov  $2020 - Jan\ 2022$ 

- Multilingual Natural Language Understanding (NLU): Built transformer intent classification and entity tagging models in 8 languages. Increased intent detection performance by a vast 8.1%
- Goal-Oriented Chatbot: Improved Chatbot for contact centers with NLU output and templated question-answering paradigm. Improved chatbot intent resolution accuracy by 5.2% for 4 verticals
- Few-Shot Learning: Created class-leading entity tagging solution to predict with as few as 5 training examples per type (contrastive learning). Decreased customer training effort by 50.1%

### Amazon, Software Development Engineer, Machine Learning

Apr 2020 - Nov 2020

• Machine Learning Platform: Developed privacy-centric internal machine learning platform for model training and model deployment (Java, AWS serverless)

#### LivePerson, Data Scientist, Conversational AI

Nov 2018 - Apr 2020

- Text Classification: Built deep learning package for intent detection and text classification for customer service platform (PyTorch, BERT finetuning). Fast <5 ms inference speed for a range of model architectures
- Anomaly Detection: Improved anomaly detection algorithm to identify out-of-topic content. Ourperformed previous solution by 2% accuracy

#### Skills

Programming: Python, Java; Platforms: Databricks, Snowflake, AWS, Microsoft Azure, Google Cloud Machine Learning: PyTorch, TensorFlow, XGBoost, Huggingface, Scikit-Learn; Big Data: SQL, Pyspark

### Awards

Gold Medal, Chinese Physics Olympiad (2011): 51 winners in China among thousands of competitors

## **Publications and Patents**

Domain adaptation of AI NLP encoders with knowledge distillation. Kristen Howell, Jian Wang, Matthew Dunn, Joseph Bradley. *United States Patent US-11568141-B2, 2023.* 

Domain-Specific Knowledge Distillation Yields Smaller and Better Models for Conversational Commerce. Kristen Howell, Jian Wang, Akshay Hazare, Joseph Bradley, Chris Brew, Xi Chen, Matthew Dunn, Beth Ann Hockey, Andrew Maurer, Dominic Widdows. e-Commerce and NLP (ECNLP), 2022.

Think Visually: Question Answering through Virtual Imagery. Ankit Goyal, Jian Wang, Jia Deng. Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL), 2018.

Premise Selection for Theorem Proving by Deep Graph Embedding. Mingzhe Wang, Yihe Tang, Jian Wang Jia Deng. Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS), 2017.

# Education

University of Michigan	Ann Arbor, MI
Master of Science in Computer Science	Sep 2015 – Aug 2018
Peking University	Beijing, China
Bachelor of Science in Physics	Sep $2011 - Jun\ 2015$