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SUMMARY

Research interest: Representations, Computational Social Science, Media Misinformation

NLP: NLU, QA, LM, Topic Modeling **DL:** RNNs, Attention, Transformer **Frameworks:** Pytorch, Tensorflow **Programming** Python, SQL

ML: Linear Models, SVM, Random Forests, PCA, ICA, Hierarchical Clustering, LDA.

EDUCATION

Stanford University - Graduate coursework in Natural Language Processing with Deep Learning, 2017

University of Maryland College Park - Masters in Information Management, May 2012

Damascus University - B.E. Computer Science, Focus: Artificial Intelligence, July 2007

HONORS Fulbright Scholarship, U.S. Department of State 2010. **LANGUAGES** Arabic: Native English: Fluent

HIGHLIGHTED EXPERIENCE

May 2018 – Sep 2019

SENIOR APPLIED SCIENTIST, MICROSOFT, CA

Exploring sub-word representations for scaling up Language Model training to tens of billions of words.

May 2016 – Feb 2018

PRINCIPAL DATA SCIENTIST, SALESFORCE, CA

Built deep learning based (FFN, RNNs) text classification, text representation models to automate several customer support processes and build internal tools for similar case retrieval.

September 2015 – April 2016

SENIOR DATA SCIENTIST, SALESFORCE, CA

Built models for churn prediction and customer segmentation using various classification, regression and clustering methods. Developed reusable machine learning pipeline and feature engineering libraries.

Jul 2014 – Nov 2014

DATA SCIENCE LEAD, CRITTERCISM, CA

Applied clustering techniques and text matching for cardinality reduction. Built internet facing analytics portal for tracking mobile performance metrics worldwide. Implemented AWS on demand analytics infrastructure using S3 and EMR.

Nov 2013 – Jun 2014

DATA ANALYTICS LEAD, IREX, DC

Developed and implemented data driven practices and programs for violations documentation. Managed and oversaw the building of the technology and the data team from scratch.

Mar 2013 – Oct 2013

BIG DATA SPECIALIST, ORACLE, VA

Developed machine learning proof of concepts in the public sector using technologies including Hadoop, Hive, Pig, R Enterprise, Mahout and other proprietary and open source tools.

Jun 2012 – Aug 2012

DATA SCIENTIST & BIG DATA ENGINEER, ORACLE, VA

Was the Lead Data Scientist in the Oracle/NCI partnership project which resulted in winning the "2012 Best Government Big Data Solution" Award.

Developed MapReduce programs in Java and Python for analyzing simulated Gene data of 900 million patients. Assisted in building a 9-node Hadoop (CDH) cluster.

Oct 2011 – May 2012

GRADUATE RESEARCH ASSISTANT, UMIACS, MD

Evaluated large scalable distributed Topic Modeling algorithm (LDA) and applied them for unsupervised lexicon expansion.

Developed an Arabic version of the Word Count tool for sentiment analysis and honor dictionary validation.

Aug 2009 – Aug 2010

PROGRAM OFFICER – M&E, UNITED NATIONS, SYRIA

Developed and implemented a comprehensive M&E plan for a \$6 Million grant by The Global Fund Program (GFATM). Oversaw the design and implementation of the health management information system.

Aug 2008 - Mar 2009

TECHNOLOGY CONSULTANT, UNITED NATIONS, SYRIA

Conducted comprehensive assessment of the existing IT infrastructure and capacity for the United Nations (UNDP) project on Aid Effectiveness and produced a full analysis report to the Minister of state planning commission.

TRAINING

M&E for UN programs, United Nations, Geneva 2009.

Shell LiveWire Entrepreneurship Program, Damascus 2009.

SCJP (Sun Certified Java Programmer), Sun 2008.

PUBLICATIONS

Social Media for Political Change: The Activists, Governments and Firms Triangle of Powers During the Arab Movement. Handbook of Research on Political Activism in the Information Age (pages 26-36). IGI Global 2015

Knowledge and Theme Discovery across Very Large Biological Data Sets Using Distributed Queries: A Prototype Combining Unstructured and Structured Data. PLOS 2013

Mr. LDA: A Flexible Large Scale Topic Modeling Package using Variational Inference in MapReduce. ACM International Conference on World Wide Web, 2012.