Kevin Esslinger

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Relevant Experience:

Northeastern University   Boston, MA
Research Assistant   September 2020 - Present
- Created a novel neural network architecture using transformers as history encoders in reinforcement learning to solve partially observable markov decision processes.
- Utilized high-performance cluster and slurm to conduct experiments in parallel to optimize research workflow and run 80x more tests in less computation time.
- Presented and discussed research ideas in weekly reinforcement learning reading group meetings to generate collaborations and future research projects

Amazon.com, Inc.   Seattle, WA
Software Development Engineer Intern   May 2019 - August 2019
- Designed, owned, and implemented a native AWS service to validate revenue reports for Kindle publishers
- Developed Java interface to allow other teams to incorporate my AWS service into their software
- Collaborated with senior management to leverage my project for multi-team operation

Education:

Northeastern University, Boston, MA, USA December 2022 Master of Science in Computer Science - Advisors: Christopher Amato and Robert Platt **GPA: 3.89/4.0**
Temple University, Philadelphia, PA, USA May 2020 Bachelor of Science in Computer Science and Mathematics with Data Science minor **GPA: 3.94/4.0, Summa Cum Laude**

Open-Source Projects:

Bot-Be-Named (Python, PostgreSQL)
- Led a small team of python developers creating a custom Discord both with multiple functionalities
- Enabled custom commands for creating and editing Google Sheets directly from Discord
- Incorporated feedback from more than 200 active users to heighten the user experience

Pottamon.com (JavaScript, React)
- Launched single page application incorporating custom animations and original interactive games
- Collaborated with artists and game designers to integrate art and minigames into the website
- Hosted the website as part of a month-long competition for a small online community

Publications and Presentations:

- Deep Transformer Q-Networks for Partially Observable Reinforcement Learning. **Kevin Esslinger**, Robert Platt, and Christopher Amato. Under review at Neurips 2022 in New Orleans, LA, USA
- Aging and an Immune Challenge Interact to Potentiate Activation of Hippocampal Microglia in a Roden Model with Features of Delirium. Nikkita Salla, **Kevin Essslinger** , Leah Deflitch, Naoto Tanaka, and Susan Patterson. Presented at Neuroscience 2018 in San Diego, CA, USA
- Common Lisp Jupyter Widgets in CANDO: Enhancing the CL-Jupyter Experience. **Kevin Esslinger**, Alexander Wood, and Christian Schafmeister. Presented at the European Lisp Symposium 2018 in Malaga, Spain

Skills:

Programming Languages: Python, Java, JavaScript, C/C++
Proficient Technologies: Pytorch, Tensorflow, Keras, Numpy, Pandas, PostgreSQL
Tools: Weights & Biases, Tensorboard, Hugging Face, TravisCI, AWS, Heroku