Lawrence Lai

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Skills

Programming Languages	Python, Ruby, Java
Data Engineering Specific Tools	PostgreSQL, Kafka, Airflow, AWS RDS, AWS Aurora Serverless, AWS Parameter Store
Tools and Packages	Git, AWS, Ruby on Rails, React, Django, Numpy, Pandas, Keras

Experience

PatientsLikeMe
Data Engineer, Cambridge, MA — September 2019 – Present

- Maintained and designed over 100 extract/transform/load (ETL) tasks written in Ruby, Java, and Python
- Provided stakeholders with streamlined, appropriately denormalized, and accurate data free of patient identifying or otherwise sensitive information
- Automated and streamlined ETL processes using Apache Airflow, eliminating probability of workflow errors and ensuring logical progression of different ETL tasks
- Improved database infrastructure using AWS tools EC2, S3, Lambda, RDS, Aurora, and Parameter Store, storing over 700 GB of historical data
- Developed web apps for data collection, leveraging Ruby on Rails, Devise with SSO, and React

Insight Data Science
Data Engineering Fellow, Boston, MA — June 2019 – August 2019

- Developed data pipeline to analyze real time chat room traffic and sentiment for over 100 channels, highlighting media content with high audience participation, visualized using chrome extensions and Flask
- Deployed chat bot written in JavaScript to ingest messages and save sentiments for data pipeline usage
- Optimized pipeline to process over 2000 messages per minute with cloud computing using AWS EC2: data ingestion and allocation by Kafka, database management by PostgreSQL
- Built classification model for chat room reaction utilizing Python packages Pandas, Numpy, and Keras, capable of identifying disappointment, laughter, and questions from chat room messages

Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Graduate Research Assistant, Cambridge, MA — September 2013 – June 2019

- Characterized chemical details of reactive systems through computational generation of chemical models containing over 200 species and 4000 reactions
- Developed open-source freeware Reaction Mechanism Generator by contributing > 3000 chemical parameters as training data towards convolutional neural network prediction algorithm for chemical characteristics
- Developed methods of rapid and efficient estimation of unknown chemical parameters using group additivity methods and decision trees to achieve thermochemistry accuracy of < 3 kcal/mol, leveraging computational tools Numpy and Pandas

Education

PhD in Chemical Engineering, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA — June 2019
BSE in Chemical Engineering, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI — December 2012