Geoffrey Gordon Ashbrook
Data Scientist [Portfolio](#) [Github](#) [Linkedin](#)

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To the Hiring Team at Shopify,

I would love to contribute culturally and technically as a Data Scientist Intern to your mission of making commerce better for everyone, lending an [interdisciplinary perspective](#) , and my work on AI ethics, to your teams and projects.

I began AI research in 2002, then, after going into Science Education for several years, I have been studying Data Science in Python and R since 2017. I recently completed a 9-month [Data Science program](#) with a [broad foundation](#) in statistics, linear algebra, data analysis, and machine learning and deployment from standard regression and classification models to Neural Networks. The combination of these skills with my background in science education, AI, and the sciences should make me a great asset to your work.

From my decade of experience in Education, I saw first hand how important project management, reviews, metrics, problem-identification, analysis, planning, goal cultivation, communication, coordination, and best practice are.

Work experience does not leave the same impression on everyone; to me work has left the impression of the importance of positive values, project best practice, and an 'Agile Mindset.' I was perhaps set up for this from my experience as a boy scout through to becoming an Eagle Scout which strongly stressed values and conduct. Making a daily habit of scrutinizing the boy-scout behavioral code, which on one level simply outlines decent behavior, I have come to see a significant overlap between "boy scout values" and 'The Agile Mindset,' specifically in the context of project-communication. There is a level of caring, conscientiousness, service, duty, and cooperation, which goes beyond the perfunctory but very necessary 'behaviors' of a SCRUM project. Being able to work with a team on projects is crucial and it is one of my key strengths.

My teaching experience also taught me how much I love working with people of all ages and backgrounds, and how important effective communication is, and that everyone can understand topics when the explanation is clear and the mood is welcoming. Here are two articles ([1](#), [2](#)) showing my interest in explaining technical topics to non-technical audiences. Working with diverse cross-functional-teams is my favorite part of projects.

As Shopify branches out into more areas including blockchain transactions, wholesale markets, in house fulfillment logistics, full remote work coordination, banking and finance management, multiple language integration (having linguistics, NLP & international work experience myself), and the ubiquitous cyber security landscape, having an intern or employee who is actively interested in all these areas will be an asset.

Thank you very much for your time and consideration. I look forward to having an opportunity to speak with members of your organization about your products and culture and about how I can best contribute.

Yours sincerely,
Geoffrey Gordon Ashbrook