Mary Ara

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Data Scientist

Python | ML | API | LLM | Generative AI | AWS | SQL | Power BI | Data Analysis

Data scientist with a ton of business domain experience and 6 years solving complex business challenges using AI and analytics. Expertise in modeling, data pipelines, web applications and automation to optimize processes and improve decision-making. Recent achievements include developing a system for automating data migration to remote servers using Python, and developing a real-time analytics platform, delivering data-driven insights and scalable solutions.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Goodwill Industries - Edmonton, AB

Jun 2021 – Present

Data Scientist

- Developed an Automated Data Transfer System: Built a Python backend application that automated daily data transfers of sales, donations, and labor data from a PostgreSQL cloud server to an FTP server using SFTP protocol, SQL, and Python scripts, streamlining data operations.
- Enhancing Data Pipeline Efficiency: Collaborating with cross-functional teams to design and implement data pipelines, reducing data processing time by 30%, and improving overall system performance.
- Optimizing Data Warehousing & Reporting: Migrated source data for all Power BI reports and dashboards from SQL Server, Access, and Excel to a new PostgreSQL data warehouse, improving data accuracy and consistency in business intelligence reporting.
- Improving Sales Forecast Accuracy: Built a time series forecasting model that improved forecasted sales accuracy by 20%, providing more reliable business insights for decision-making.

IPING Solutions - *Dallas, TX*

July 2017 - Jan 2020

Junior Data Scientist (remote - part-time)

- Performed Data Analysis & Visualization: Conducted data preprocessing and exploratory data analysis (EDA) using statistical methods and visualizations to uncover key patterns, supporting data-driven decision-making.
- Automated Data Collection & Cleaning: Developed automated processes for scraping and cleaning data from multiple sources, streamlining data preparation workflows.
- Machine Learning Model Development: Assisted senior data scientists in building machine learning models and segmentation strategies for personalized initiatives, driving improvements in margin and revenue.

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Crossroads C&I, Edmonton, AB

04/2017 - 06/2021

Data Analyst

• Optimized Cost Efficiency with Data Insights: Developed Power BI dashboards that identified key areas for improvement, resulting in a 20% reduction in production costs.

- Increased Decision-Making Efficiency: Built ETL infrastructure and delivered data to PostgreSQL, boosting stakeholder decision-making output by 42%.
- Implemented CI/CD in ETL Pipelines: Incorporated CI/CD practices to build and deploy robust ETL pipelines, ensuring seamless data integration and enhanced workflow automation.

EDUCATION

- Master of Science Data Science, 10/2022, Eastern University, Pennsylvania, USA. GPA:3.6
- ACCA Professional Level equivalent to U.K. master's degree Accounting, 03/2015, ACCA, UK
- Bachelor of Science Applied Accounting, 03/2010, Oxford Brookes University, U.K.

PROFESSIONAL SKILLS

- Mastery of Python, R, HTML, CSS, SQL, Fast API, Flask, Streamlit, Docker, Git, Github, Jupyter Notebooks, Power BI, Tableau, Microsoft SQL Server, PostgrSQL, MySQL, MongoDB, AWS (EC2, S3), Hadoop.
- Comfortable working on Generative AI, Large Language Models (LLM), Machine Learning, ETL,
 Natural Language Processing (NLP), Computer Vision, Classification, Time Series Forecasting,
 Recommendation Engines, Customer Segmentation, Web Development and Deployment, Web
 Scaping, Databases, Data mining, visualization, data migration, data analytics, financial modelling.
- Excellent communication skills with a focus on team building and customer relations.

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

CPA Alberta - Edmonton, AB

11/2023

Panelist at the CPA Evolve Conference

• Educated accountants on how data analytics can improve operational efficiency using two use cases

PUBLICATIONS

- Writing technical data science articles on Medium.com. https://www.medium.com/@aramary
- Personal projects including code on Github and sited on portfolio website www.aramary.com

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- IBM Data Science Professional Certificate, IBM, (12/2019 Present)
- CPA, Chartered Professional Accountants Canada (05/2015 Present)

LANGUAGES

- English: first language
- French: intermediate (speaking, reading, writing)