Nico Ward

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I'm an AI engineer and entrepreneur based in London, UK.
My focus is on building better human-AI interfaces.

Experience

Publicis Sapient ↗ / Senior AI Engineer
Keywords: LLMs, RAG, Search, LangChain
Applied AI projects — building and scaling AI products for global clients across advertising and banking. Strong focus on language models.
London, UK // Sept. '22 — Now // Public company, ~20k employees

Surf ↗ / Co-founder, CTO
Keywords: Product Design, User Research, Prototyping
Led product design, built MVP + pitch deck, defined technical roadmap — including hiring plan, job descriptions, and interview materials.
London, UK // Nov. '21 — June '22 // Pre-funding, 3 co-founders

Educai ↗ / Behavioural Data Scientist
Keywords: Data Strategy, User Testing, Statistical Analysis
First data hire. Defined the data strategy, collected data manually, ran user interviews, and coded, released, and maintained our flagship model.
London, UK // June '21 — Sept. '22 // Seed stage, 8 employees

Decoded ↗ / Data Scientist
Keywords: Neural Networks, Time Series, Data Visualisation
Designed + led machine learning workshops for some of the most innovative companies in the world including UBS, Nike, and Vodafone.
London, UK // Sept. '20 — June '21 // Private company, ~70 employees

Knap ↗ / Machine Learning Intern
Keywords: Python, Computer Vision, Research
First engineering hire. Prototyped a fraud detection system using computer vision; taught myself Python and machine learning basics.
Monaco // Summer '18 // Pre-seed, 6 employees

Education

University College London / MSc, Machine Learning
Keywords: Deep Learning, Computer Vision, Recommender Engines
Reinforcement Learning with DeepMind, NLP with Meta AI.
Thesis: A mathematical framework for recommender engine depolarisation.
2019 - 2020 // Graduated with Distinction

University of Nice, France / BSc, Mathematics
Keywords: Game Theory, Probabilities, Statistics
Minor in Economics and Decision Science.
2016 - 2019 // Ranked 1st out of 200 students

Writing

On Creative Judgement ↗
Some predictions for 2024 ↗
10 Principles of Good AI ↗

Other interests

Design, physics, chess, sailing, capoeira