

DASTAN AITZHANOV

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A results oriented technologist with over 12 years of hands on leadership experience in the healthcare, financial services, and real estate sectors and technical proficiency with Big Data, Machine Learning, and Artificial Intelligence. An accomplished influencer of change with a proven track record in discovering and deploying elegant solutions for a variety of business problems. Capable individual contributor and proficient in managing small and large teams.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Programming

- Python: Pandas, SciPy, Scikit Learn, Gensim, Keras
- MATLAB, Julia, R
- Data visualization: Matplotlib, Seaborn, Tableau
- Web-scraping, REST API

Database and Engineering

- SQL: Oracle, MS T-SQL, Postgres
- NoSQL: MongoDB
- Distributed systems: Hadoop MapReduce, Hive
- Cluster computing: Apache Spark, PySpark
- Amazon Web Services (AWS): RDS, EC2/Sagemaker

Machine Learning

- Supervised learning: Regressions, SVM, Boosting, Random forest, Neural networks
- Unsupervised learning: Natural Language Processing, Clustering, Recommender systems

Financial Research Software

- Bloomberg, FactSet, Quandl

Math and Statistics

- Bayesian optimization, A/B testing
- Cost-benefit matrix analysis, Cross validation
- Hypothesis testing, Bootstrap sampling

PROJECTS (dast1.github.io/projects)

- **Healthcare Fraud Detection** – Every year since 2015, the OIG excluded over 3500 healthcare practitioners for various healthcare violations, including Medicare fraud. This project leverages Gradient Boosted trees algorithm to detect fraud.
- **Churn Prediction** – Built a predictive model using Scikit Learn Gradient Boosting Classifier, performed cost-benefit analysis and made recommendations how to increase customer retention for a ride-sharing company.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Abbott Labs: Senior Business Analyst (Austin, TX)

1/2017 – 5/2018

- Reduced non-compliance rate by 37% in the first 6 months while overseeing the most challenging national client account portfolio, directly contributing to the recovery of \$3.6M+ in annual revenue and mitigating multi-million dollar federal compliance risk to the company.
- Reengineered data aggregation workflow yielding a 10-fold efficiency increase across the department for generating reports: set-up MS SQL Server, designed the database table structure, and built a dynamic query API for Excel based management dashboards.

DGI Capital: Founder (Austin, TX & Istanbul, Turkey)

5/2010 – 3/2017

- Founded a diversified asset management practice for a foreign family office. Developed an in-house absolute return trading strategies leveraging machine learning and artificial intelligence. Investor and board-advisor at MetaVi Labs.
- Founded an international trade advisory practice in Istanbul with a regional focus on the CIS. Established strong business partnerships, which lead to significant tax savings and access to favorable EX-IM financing terms for clients in Kazakhstan and Turkey. Formed a construction joint-venture between Dastan Group – Kazakhstan and Polikon Engineering – Turkey.
- Served as Aktobe State Governor's economic development advisor in 2012.

Dastan Group: Managing Director – Commercial Real Estate (Kazakhstan)

1/2006 – 12/2013

Other positions: VP Business Development, Management Consultant and Board Member

- Reversed EBIT loss of \$1.7MM to profit of \$5.4MM over a 3-year period. Orchestrated a comprehensive turnaround strategy and led a struggling middle-market real estate conglomerate through the 2008 financial crisis.
- Established international strategic commercial banking relationships resulting in 23% reduction in interest costs.
- Brokered the biggest real-estate deal in Aktobe, Kazakhstan to date, a \$70M+ land acquisition and office development for the China National Petroleum Corporation.

EDUCATION & CERTIFICATES

- M.Sc. Technology Commercialization, University of Texas at Austin: McCombs School of Business – 2020 (in Progress)
- Galvanize Data Science Immersive Program (Austin, TX) – 2018
- B.Sc., Architectural Engineering, University of Texas at Austin – 2004