

# Richie Mendelsohn

[richiem.github.io](https://richiem.github.io)

[rickenmendel@gmail.com](mailto:rickenmendel@gmail.com)

## **LANGUAGES AND TECHNOLOGIES**

- Excellent: **Python, Pytorch, Tensorflow, Keras** Prior: **Scala, Ruby, Java, C++, p5.js**

## **WORK**

### **Principal Machine Learning Engineer**

January 2023 - Current

#### **Spooler.fm**

Remote

- Train and deploy models for NLP products: text summarization, chapters, highlights, keywords
- Full ML dev cycle: Literature review, dataset collection and pre-processing, fine-tuning (DistilBERT, LLaMA), model serving and deployment, testing, model evaluation
- Content based recommendations (sBERT), location NER tagging, speech-to-text deployment

### **Senior Machine Learning Engineer - Podcast Science**

November 2017 - Aug 2021

#### **Apple**

San Francisco, CA

- Build podcast discovery models to improve Search + Recommendations features using user-listening data and podcast content data (audio, transcripts)
- Punctuation Prediction Model for podcast transcripts with seq2seq LSTM model
- Topic and transcript embeddings; audio classification and embeddings

### **Senior ML Researcher + Engineer**

April 2016 - November 2017

#### **Audiosear.ch / PopUpArchive**

Oakland, CA

- Clustering and organizing podcasts based on unsupervised LDA topic modeling of podcast transcripts -- [extracting 80+ topics from 40k podcasts](#)
- Unsupervised keyword and named entity extraction from podcast transcripts
- Built recommendations engine to better surface the long-tail of great podcast content
  - Content-based recommendations from topics data / Collaborative filtering from play data
- Small five person startup acquired by Apple

### **Venture Design Fellow**

June - August 2016

#### **IDEO**

San Francisco, CA

- Rapidly prototyped the viability of several startup ventures centered around IoT and blockchain
- [GlockChain](#) -- IoT connected handgun that logs trigger pulls to blockchain for police transparency
- Shared Pantry -- peer-to-peer inventory management for restaurants to reduce food waste

### **Software Engineer, Engineering Productivity**

July 2013 - February 2015

#### **Google**

Mountain View, CA

- Artificial Intelligence products and applications team (Google Machine Intelligence)
  - Developed eval framework of auto-extracted ad headlines from advertiser's landing pages
  - End-to-end testing for automatic extraction of product testimonials from Google Play reviews
- YouTube San Bruno, CA
  - Developed a plug-and-playable testing environment for YouTube Developers, providing a simple, flexible integration testing framework for ~300 engineers
  - Led the design and implementation of Test Therapy, an intelligent Python test-runner that automatically finds and instantly runs applicable unit-tests based on what files developers edit

### **Software Engineer in Test**

December 2011 – May 2013

#### **Spectra Logic**

Boulder, CO

- Architected and wrote an extensible automation framework across SCSI/Selenium/XML protocols

## **CREATIVE**

### **Teaching Assistant — Creative Code Immersive**

January - March 2016

#### **Grey Area Foundation For The Arts**

San Francisco, CA

- Teaching web skills (p5.js, node.js, HTML/CSS) and physical computing (Arduino, Raspberry Pi)

## **EDUCATION**

### **Bachelor's Degree in Electrical Engineering**

May 2009

#### **Rutgers University**

New Brunswick, NJ

- Concentrations: Software Engineering, Digital Signal Processing