

Contact

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(LinkedIn)

Top Skills

AWS SageMaker

Analytics

Python (Programming Language)

Certifications

Deep Learning Specialization

Patents

Detection of phishing websites using machine learning

Saira Rizvi

Lead Data Scientist at RBC | AI & Cybersecurity Specialist |
Passionate About Innovation, and Exploring New Technologies
Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Summary

As a Lead Data Scientist at RBC, I specialize in AI and machine learning, with a particular focus on cybersecurity. My work centers around building innovative AI-driven solutions that enhance the ability of organizations to detect and defend against evolving digital threats. I am passionate about using data science to solve real-world problems and make a meaningful impact on the security landscape.

What I enjoy most about my job is the continuous learning and growth it offers. I take great pride in watching myself progress, and it's incredibly fulfilling to see how the skills I develop contribute to solving complex problems. My mission goes beyond just personal growth; I am equally passionate about helping others experience that same sense of progress. I love fostering motivation and drive in those I work with, creating an environment where we can all succeed together.

In my current role, I lead high-impact projects that directly contribute to improving cybersecurity measures and optimizing risk detection systems. I thrive on collaborating with cross-functional teams to develop scalable solutions combining cutting-edge technology and business strategy.

Looking to the future, I am deeply interested in entrepreneurship and plan to leverage my experience in AI and cybersecurity to build my tech start-up. My long-term goal is to create impactful solutions that address key challenges in digital security and bring innovation to the field.

I am always open to connecting with others passionate about AI, cybersecurity, and business innovation. Let's collaborate and build the future of tech together!

Experience

RBC

4 years 7 months

Lead Data Scientist

May 2024 - Present (1 year 7 months)

Toronto, Ontario, Canada

- Expanded an existing phishing detection model to address a broader range of cyber threats.
- Mentored and trained junior data scientists, fostering a culture of continuous learning and innovation within the team.
- Spearheaded the introduction of learning initiatives within the team, such as internal knowledge-sharing sessions, fostering an environment of continuous learning and collaboration.

Cyber Security Data Scientist

September 2021 - May 2024 (2 years 9 months)

- Developed AI-powered models to improve phishing detection and cybersecurity measures, resulting in 2 patents for innovative techniques.
- Spearheaded cross-functional teams to enhance cybersecurity algorithms, increasing detection by 20%.
- Awarded the Team Performance Award for outstanding collaboration effort in developing high-impact solutions that protect against emerging cyber threats.

Data Scientist - Amplify

May 2021 - August 2021 (4 months)

Howdy Dating App

Co-founder & Developer

August 2022 - October 2024 (2 years 3 months)

Founder & Developer | Howdy

- Designed and developed a dating app prototype, focusing on user experience and personalization using Swift for iOS.
- Created and launched a beta version, inviting users for feedback and improving the app through iterative testing.
- Built a website to showcase the app concept, providing information, features, and updates to potential users.
- Conducted market research to understand user preferences and refined the app's features to ensure a better match between user needs and the app's offerings.

- Paused development after reaching the beta testing stage due to personal and professional commitments but gained valuable experience in app development, product management, and user feedback analysis.
- Learned key aspects of entrepreneurship, including product-market fit, marketing strategies, and the challenges of product scaling.

University of Waterloo
Research Assistant
January 2020 - September 2021 (1 year 9 months)

Transport Canada - Transports Canada
Data Science
January 2021 - April 2021 (4 months)

HSBC
Data Science & Engineering
June 2020 - August 2020 (3 months)
Toronto

University of Toronto
Analyst
May 2018 - February 2019 (10 months)

Education

University of Waterloo
Master's degree, Data Science at Cheriton School of Computer
Science · (September 2019 - August 2021)

University of Toronto
Bachelor's Degree, Mathematics and Statistics · (2015 - 2019)