# Saúl Vargas

*Nationality:* Spanish   *Place of residence:* Tallinn (Estonia)

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## 🌓 Experience

### Infogrid (IoT smart buildings startup)
*Senior Data Scientist*

January 2021 – Present
*Tallinn, Estonia*

> Healthy buildings (sensor-based recommendations for improving comfort in office spaces): run a successful pilot with customers, currently developing a full-fledged system which will create new value for customers.
> Others: setting up data collection pipelines (weather data), setting up infrastructure (Terraform), deployment of machine learning models (MLFlow, TensorFlow).

### Bolt (ride hailing)
*Senior Data Scientist*

August 2020 – January 2021
*Tallinn, Estonia*

> Order conversion and customer churn: lead a project to estimate the impact of driver quality on those, the findings were used to prioritise initiatives at the company level.
> OCR (OpenCV, Tesseract): developed algorithms to extract data from scanned documents, which saved thousands of hours of manual labour and allowed the company to comply with the regulations in one of their biggest markets.

### ASOS.com (online fashion retailer)
*Senior Machine Learning Scientist*

March 2017 – December 2019
*London, UK*

> Recommendation algorithms (personalised product ranking and *you may also like* product recommendations): improved significantly the quality of our recommendations by implementing state of the art algorithms (TensorFlow) which increased sales and engagement (A/B testing).
> MLOps: lead several initiatives to adopt modern Machine Learning tools (Python, TensorFlow, Azure Machine Learning).
> Others: team roadmap definition, mentoring and management, promotion of our work in external events.

### Mendeley/Elsevier (world's largest scientific publisher)
*Senior Data Scientist*

November 2015 – February 2017
*London, UK*

> Mendeley Suggest (recommendation of research papers): improved the relevance of recommendations by taking into account user's recent interests and previous interactions with recommendations.
> ScienceDirect's "related articles": developed a Spark-based implementation of an item-to-item collaborative filtering algorithm.

### University of Glasgow
*Research Assistant*

January 2015 – November 2015
*Glasgow, UK*

## 🎓 Education

### UAM - Autonomous University of Madrid
*PhD Computer Science*

2012 – 2015
*Madrid, Spain*

> Dissertation: Novelty and Diversity Evaluation and Enhancement in Recommender Systems.
> Highly cited, peer-reviewed publications in top conferences such as SIGIR, RecSys & WSDM (see full list here).
> Developed RankSys, a Java 8 Recommender Systems framework used in research labs around the globe.
> Research internships in University of Glasgow, Telefonica & Yahoo! Labs.

### UAM - Autonomous University of Madrid
*MSc Computer Science*

2010 – 2012
*Madrid, Spain*

### UAM - Autonomous University of Madrid
*BSc Computer Science & BSc Mathematics*

2005 – 2010
*Madrid, Spain*

## ⚙ Skills

**Expertise**  Information Retrieval, Recommender Systems, Machine Learning, Software Engineering
**Programming languages**  Python, Java, Scala, C
**Tools & Technologies**  Spark, TensorFlow, Keras, MLFlow, fastAPI, Azure, AWS, Terraform
**Languages**  English, Spanish, German