Saúl Vargas

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

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🥧 Experience

ASOS.com (online fashion retailer) — March 2017 – December 2019
Senior Machine Learning Scientist — *London, UK*

> Increased customer engagement and revenue by developing personalised product ranking and recommendation algorithms.

> Lead initiatives to improve productivity by adopting modern tools and libraries (Python, TensorFlow, MLOps) and setting up an end-to-end, cross-functional teams made up of scientists and engineers.

> Others: contributed to the team roadmap, mentored and managed junior colleagues, promoted our work in external events.

Mendeley/Elsevier (world's largest scientific publisher) — November 2015 – February 2017
Senior Data Scientist — *London, UK*

> Ongoing optimisation of Mendeley's systems for research article management and exploration.

> Developed the first iteration of the current ScienceDirect's "related articles" functionality.

University of Glasgow — January 2015 – November 2015
Research Assistant — *Glasgow, UK*

> Postdoctoral position at the Information Retrieval research group, funded by the European Union.

> Research on social media analysis, sentiment detection and community tracking.

🎓 Education

UAM - Autonomous University of Madrid — 2012 – 2015
PhD Computer Science — *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.

> 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 — 2010 – 2012
MSc Computer Science — *Madrid, Spain*

UAM - Autonomous University of Madrid — 2005 – 2010
BSc Computer Science & BSc Mathematics — *Madrid, Spain*

⚗ Selected Publications (see full list here)

Product characterisation towards personalisation — 2018
Cardoso, Daolio & Vargas, KDD'18

Term-by-Term Query Auto-Completion for Mobile Search — 2016
Vargas, Blanco & Mika, WSDM'16

Explicit relevance models in intent-oriented information retrieval diversification — 2012
Vargas, Castells & Vallet, SIGIR'12

Rank and relevance in novelty and diversity metrics for recommender systems — 2011
Vargas & Castells, RecSys'11

⚙ Skills

Expertise Information Retrieval, Recommender Systems, Machine Learning, Software Engineering

Programming languages Python, Java, Scala, C

Tools & Technologies Spark, Tensorflow, Keras, fastAPI, Azure

Languages English, Spanish, German, Russian

Traits dedicated, passionate, curious, thoughtful