

# Syed Misbah

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[medium/data-decoded](https://medium.com/data-decoded)

## Data Science Manager – Media & Digital Marketing, CPG, Retail, Manufacturing

### DATA SCIENCE MANAGER – DISH NETWORK

Nov '21 – Present

- One of two AI/ML leaders at DISH India, led two high impact & three medium impact initiatives
- Total impact of \$7.5M+ in top line revenue and savings, and saved 780 hrs. / qtr. in effort
- Identified & converted high ROI opportunities, to boost leadership's confidence in ML solutions
- Built a talent pool of 15+ people that helped us in taking on bigger and high impact problems
- Primary role was to architect and develop data science solutions –
  - o At intersection of Data science, MLOps and Software Engineering
- Secondary role was to develop and drive a data driven culture at DISH at a cross functional level

### Dynamic Creative Optimization (DCO)

- Architected the DCO solution for Sling (OTT Platform) and Dish – showing ad creative to users based on 1<sup>st</sup> party DSP data and 3<sup>rd</sup> party Nielsen data – decisioning in real time (~200 ms response time)
- Extracted elements from creatives using CNNs, trained regression models to identify best performing element for each user pattern, and then used this mapping to create an ad using JS/HTML in real time
- ~29% CTR uplift, 16.7% subscription uplift, and savings of 290 hrs./qtr. effort

### Recommendation Engine 2.0

- Building a hybrid recommendation engine to recommend the right movies and shows to viewers both in tiles and in search for 1M users
- Architected a high-throughput low-latency data pipeline which handled all this data at scale
- Currently rebuilding search recommendations from ground up by using retrieval and ranking algorithms

### AI Smart Bidding Platform

- Led MTA (Multi Touch Attribution) initiative for 11 channels - to enable holistic view of channel ROAS
- Developed the Smart Bidding algorithm which optimizes for spend on high ROAS patterns (-47% SAC)
- Built subscription & viewership forecasting model (<10% MAPE), which led to +0.12 AUC in churn

### LEAD, DATA SCIENCE – EVALUESERVE

Mar '21 – Oct' 21

- Led a team of seven data scientists for engagements across manufacturing and energy domain
- Building a deep learning CNN based object detection model which identifies defects in galvanized plates for a steel manufacturing client – improving defect detection by 54%
- Overhauled MLOps pipelines – migrated from legacy deployments to microservices architecture

### DECISION SCIENTIST – MU SIGMA INC.

Aug '17 – Sep '20

### Sales Force Planning & Optimization | Russian Petcare Manufacturer

- Led a team of six data scientist to build a sales force optimization tool to maximize sales uplift & ROI
- Clustered outlets, measured impact of visits using regression & generated optimized visit plans
- ~3% sales uplift(+\$6.2MM) and expenditure reduced by 24%(\$0.5MM) –savings of 960 hrs./qtr. effort

### Strategic Revenue Management | US CPG Giant

- Created a sales driver model for attribution of sales to key drivers with MAPE <20% using ElasticNet
- Developed a Trade Promotion Optimization (TPO) framework which enabled client to design optimized promo plans leveraging Seasonality, Pricing, Execution, Distribution, Co-promotion & Cannibalization
- Powered by a linear optimizer atop the sales driver model - unlocked potential value of ~\$7MM/year

### Competitor Clash Forecasting | US CPG Giant

- Developed a Competitor Clash Forecasting framework to help account managers time promotions
- The framework uses a combination of time series forecasting & attribution models
- 30% reduction in negotiation time and sales uplift of 2%(\$3.6MM) across four retailers in six months

## SKILLS

### Code

Python  
PySpark  
R  
SQL  
OR-Tools

### Tools & Viz

ETL Tools  
AWS & Azure  
Lambda  
Neo4j  
SageMaker

### Analytics and Math

- Statistics - Hypothesis testing, EDA & experiment design
- Regression (Linear / tree based)
- Classification (Logistic, Decision Trees, Ensemble – random forest/ XGBoost)
- Time Series Forecasting
- Deep Learning - Convolution Neural Networks
- Recommendation Engines
- Data Pipeline Architectures

## LEADERSHIP

### Mentorship and Support

- Career mentor - 23 senior DS
- Cross functional ML solution engineer for SWE team

### Trainer

- Trainer for internal teams on modeling and software analytics - trained 12 leadership members in data & AI / ML

### Business

- Stakeholder Management
- Problem Solving
- Story Boarding
- Agile Management

## HONORS

### Awards

- 3 awards for technical capability, impact award for leadership & accountability

- Academic Excellence Award - 2017

## EDUCATION

### Bachelor of Engineering, IT

Visvesvaraya Technological University  
BIT, Bangalore | 2017  
First Class with Distinction

### Secondary Education – CISCE

XII - 85% | X : 88%