

# Tom Pollak

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## EXPERIENCE

### Graphcore

April 2025 – Present

*Machine Learning Engineer – Applied AI*

*Bristol, UK*

- Writing Triton kernels targeting our hardware. Authored fused performant kernels for MoE, Flash Attention, RoPe. Performance profiles help inform Triton compiler and PyTorch teams.
- Presented workshop paper on Bayesian inference: [Variational Entropy Search is Just 1D Regression](#) at NeurIPS.
- Helping develop pre-training infrastructure, working on load-balancing large MoE models.
- Contributed to PyTorch: PyTorch PP deadlock bug when using Gloo ([#152938](#)), fix SDPA MATH backend reference implementation: ([#163508](#)).

### Cisco Meraki

June 2023 – April 2025

*Machine Learning Engineer – Camera Intelligence Team*

*London / Remote, UK*

- Focused on building cross-camera tracking over the 2 years, which was just [released in Beta](#).
- Technical lead of a team of 6 engineers personally managing firmware, model training, inference optimization and architecture; product presented at Cisco Live 2025.
- Designed and implemented firmware for high-performance C++ inference engine and scalable distributed k-NN search system across mesh network of cameras (10K+ LOC).
- This enabled real-time search & retrieval that scales to thousands of devices per network with no hit to the backend.
- Created multimodal dataset (>200K objects with a mix of synthetic and human labelled annotations) and fine-tuned CLIP-based models for zero-shot object retrieval.

### University of York

June 2023

*BEng. Computer Science – First Class with Honours*

## PROJECTS

### On-Policy quantization

December 2025

### GPUMODE NVFP4 GEMM Competiton

November 2025

- Fastest Triton implementation in the first two competitions, third ongoing. [Annotated NVFP4 GEMM](#).

### Parscale Cross-Attention

August 2025

- Extension to [PARSCALE](#) enabling data-dependent communication between parallel replicas via cross-attention.

### Nano Diffusion LLM

July 2025

- "Nano" training and inference script for diffusion language models that generate text via iterative denoising. Implements [masked diffusion](#) (LLaDA-style) and [Duo](#) (flow-based, self-correcting).

### Blender Copilot

January 2025

- Blender plugin for generating 3D meshes from text prompts. Modal for inference, FastAPI / FastHTML backend.

### xverify – GBNF structured generation

March 2025

- Auto-generated GBNF grammars from Pydantic models. Integrates with RLVR for tool use / structured outputs.

### Interpretability Research

Aug 2024 – Jan 2025

- Trained SAEs on ARC-AGI like puzzles. Contributed to SAELens activation caching ([#321](#), [#367](#)).

### Claudette Pydantic

July 2024

- Extended Claudette with structured outputs via tool use.

## SKILLS

### Languages

Python, C++.

### ML

PyTorch, Triton, TorchTitan, Faiss, Slurm, Kubernetes.