

Ben Lawson

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Experience

Data Scientist	True Fit Corporation , Boston, MA <i>March 2020 - April 2020</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Analyzing failure modes and bottlenecks to prepare machine learning pipeline for deployment at scale.
Senior Quantitative Analyst	WarnerMedia Applied Analytics , Boston, MA <i>March 2018 - March 2020</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Contributed to and lead projects on image and video understanding and consumer audience insights.Served as a primary developer for tools <i>used in every Warner Bros. theatrical release since 2018</i>. These tools include social audience segmentation and persuadable audiences identification at national scale.Developed deep learning models to extract interpretable features from video and image content.Lead development on novel face recognition used for both animated and live-action trailer analytics.Mentored co-op students by managing their projects and serving as a resource for technical questions.Won internal hackathon with a deep learning project that created a trailer from a feature length film.Developed tools using <i>bash</i> and <i>Python</i> packages like <i>sklearn</i>, <i>pandas</i>, <i>keras</i>, <i>matplotlib</i>, and <i>OpenCV</i>.
Data Science Fellow	Legendary Entertainment, Applied Analytics , Boston, MA <i>May - August 2017</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Worked on image and video understanding within the entertainment domain, including developing deep learning models for word recognition within images and extracting features from raw videos.
Research Assistant	Computer Science Dept. BU , Boston, MA, advised by Evimaria Terzi <i>May 2015 - December 2016</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Scraped and mined locality information from Twitter and Instagram to discover local hotspots in cities.Other projects include monitoring Markov Chains and matching recipes to specified diets.
Computer Vision Intern	Systems and Technology Research , Woburn, MA, <i>June - August 2016</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Integrated an approximate nearest neighbor search algorithm into face recognition pipeline using <i>dlib</i> and <i>OpenCV</i> in <i>C++</i> to gain a speed up of a factor of 10. Automated evaluation with <i>bash</i> scripts.
Computer Vision Intern	Systems and Technology Research , Woburn, MA, <i>June - August 2015</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Developed streaming functionality into face recognition technology and demonstrated capabilities in real-time on a security camera. Implemented using <i>Apache Spark</i> and <i>OpenCV</i> in <i>Python</i>.
Undergraduate Researcher	Neuromorphics Laboratory , Boston, MA, advised by Max Versace <i>March - August 2014</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Surveyed <i>OpenCV</i> object detection algorithms for a Museum of Science permanent exhibit, implementing them in <i>Visual C++</i>. Other tasks included data collection and augmentation.

Education

Boston University GPA: 3.8/4	MS Computer Science , specializing in Data-Centric Computing <i>May 2016 - January 2018</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>Related Courses</i>: Data Analytics, Data Mining, Computer Vision, Machine Learning, Data Science
Boston University GPA: 3.52/4	BA in Computer Science, <i>cum laude</i> <i>September 2013 - January 2018</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>Achievements</i>: 1st/42 and 5th/42 in Data Mining Kaggle In-Class Competitions

Publications

Allerton 2018	<i>Predicting Positive and Negative Links with Noisy Queries: Theory & Practice</i> . Charalampos E. Tsourakakis, Michael Mitzenmacher, Kasper Green Larson, Jarosław Błasiok, Ben Lawson , Preetum Nakkira, and Vasileios Nakos.
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Projects

contributions to <i>sklearn</i>	scikit-learn/scikit-learn <i>August 2017 - ongoing</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Improved sampling methodology in iterative imputation model and wrote non-regression test. (#12177)Discovered, logged, and patched bug related to serialization of imputation model. (#11462, #11473)
project intercept	OneWeek Hackathon 2017 , Microsoft HQ, Redmond, WA <i>July 2017</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Guest participant at Microsoft's annual hackathon to work on a project aimed to disrupt sex trafficking.

Technologies

Primary Familiar	Python: pandas, numpy, sklearn, keras, matplotlib, Jupyter, OpenCV, flask; git, bash, L ^A T _E X, Unix, AWS C++: OpenCV, dlib; Windows, MongoDB, MySQL last updated: April 8, 2020
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