Sean Easter

Beat benchmark and ship it

Contact

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Programming

Python (tensorflow, pytorch, keras, sci-kit learn, numpy, scipy, pandas), C#, Java, Ruby

Engineering

Software design, software testing, code coverage, AWS

Machine learning

Bayesian statistics, reinforcement learning, neural networks, decision trees, clustering methods, topic models, variational inference

Graduate courses

Software Development, Machine Learning, Reinforcement Learning, Computer Vision, AI for Robotics, Software Analysis and Testing, Algorithms, Information Security, High-Performance Computing, Advanced Operating Systems

Experience

7/19–Now **Capital One** Remote
Director 2/22-Now | Senior Manager 7/19-1/22

– **Role:** As data science lead for customer experiences and MarTech, lead and mentor managers-of-managers responsible for recruiting, leading and mentoring teams of geographically distributed data scientists developing advanced deep learning, ML and NLP models on large, diverse sets of data. Collaborate with peer and senior cross functional leaders in engineering, product and design.
– **Achievements:** As accountable lead, developed and launched machine learning product management certification initiative (including vendor selection and instruction), upskilling 240 product managers in product skills for ML applications. Visioned, architected and led development of high-profile, pre-product-launch deep reinforcement learning models and partnered to move into production. Led development of machine models for CX and marketing. Developed intake, prioritization and communication processes for teams. Mentored MLOps practice and reporting data science leaders.

9/17–7/19 **Booz Allen Hamilton** Washington, DC
Senior Lead Scientist 1/19-7/19 | Lead Scientist 9/17-12/18

– **Role:** Lead interdisciplinary teams of data scientists and engineers developing and deploying machine learning, natural language processing, chat bot and AI systems. Tech lead for a commercial enterprise data transformation.
– **Achievements:** Prototyped deep reinforcement learning agent for mental health disorder identification. Led solution that reduced cost by $9.8M/year.

12/16–8/17 **Adlumin, Inc.** Arlington, VA
Director, Data Science

– **Role:** Lead machine learning as first hire at a seed-stage, endpoint protection, SaaS startup. Collaborate on strategy, sales and partnerships.
– **Achievements:** Rebuilt rule-based alert factors into tested, applied statistics models deployed in AWS cloud. Hired and led first engineering interns and staff.

11/12–12/16 **US Agency for International Development** Washington, DC
Software Engineer 1/15–12/16 | Data Analyst 11/12-12/14

– **Role:** Design, develop and manage web app, leading developers and DBA. Design and build solutions to shared challenges across programs.
– **Achievements:** Refocused team, streamlined development and improved stakeholder relationships. Moved office along data maturity curve, replacing manual products with web-based data products. Key client called one product "the first time [she'd] learned anything from our survey data."

10/9-7/11 **Various non-profit organizations** Washington, DC
Communications professional

– **Role:** In varied roles, monitor media to produce written research and web content to tight, daily deadlines. Recruit, support and coordinate 100+ volunteer screeners across the US. Conduct press outreach.

- **Achievements:** Moved organization toward original reporting, producing high-impact pieces on high-priority objectives. Developed and implemented social media and digital outreach plan, increasing number of recruited volunteers by over 50 percent.

11/02-11/10 **Army National Guard** Vernon, CT
Sergeant
- **Role:** Secure aid disbursements, civil affairs and medical assistance projects in Eastern Afghanistan. Coordinate logistics, transportation for unit of 30+.
- **Achievements:** 12-month deployment supporting Operation Enduring Freedom. (See awards section.)

Education

2020 **Georgia Institute of Technology** Master of Science, Computer Science
Computing Systems concentration; 4.0 GPA

2012 **Columbia University** Master of Science, Journalism
Wrote magazine-length investigation of sexual assault in the US military.

2009 **The University of Connecticut** Bachelor of the Arts, English
Honors Scholar, Magna cum Laude, heavy coursework in mathematics

Publications

2022 **Using dogmatic Agile for data science courts disaster** Geek Culture
A level-headed and realistic guide to Agile success for data science

2022 **Analytics and data science are better together** Towards Data Science
Strategies to level up the combined value of the two functions

2022 **Using Make for Data Science Projects Changed My Life** Towards Data Science
Keep code modular and increase your iteration speed

2021 **To Make the Most of Your Data Scientists, Embed Them** Towards Data Science
Maximize inclusion, mutual learning, and impact

Awards (select)

2013 **Washington Team Award** Office of Transition Initiatives, USAID
Group award, "In recognition of the extraordinary job [...] done to integrate data, mapping, and geospatial thinking into OTI programming around the world[.]"

2013 **Senior Leadership Team Innovation Award** Office of Transition Initiatives, USAID
Group award, "The Team has strengthened OTI by introducing novel approaches for...data analysis and application, mapping, graphic design[.]"

2007 **Army Achievement Medal** United States Army
"For exceptionally meritorious service [...] SPC Easter's leadership, dedication to duty, and relentless pursuit of excellence was instrumental in the success of Task Force Spartan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom VII."

2007 **Warrior Leader Course Commandant's List** United States Army
Top 10 graduating percent of a two-week intensive leadership program.

2007 **Combat Infantry Badge** United States Army
Awarded to infantry soldiers "present and under fire...in a unit engaged in active ground combat, to close with and destroy the enemy with direct fires."

Fellowships & Organizations

2020 **New Leaders Council** Institute Fellow
Six-month program that "equips our leaders with the skills to run for office, manage campaigns, create start-ups and networks of thought leaders." Personal capstone to create founding plan for STEM diversity & education NGO.

2016-17 **National Endowment for Democracy** Penn Kemble Democracy Forum Fellow
Bipartisan forum of young foreign policy leaders, convening monthly, off-the-record conversations led by experts, officials, and democracy practitioners.

2012 **Fellowships at Auschwitz for the Study of Professional Ethics** Journalism Fellow
Intensive program "to address contemporary ethical issues through a unique historical context." Travel to Krakow, Oświęcim, Berlin and Nuremberg.