

Alex-Antoine Fortin

Education

Master of Science, Statistics 2015
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

Bachelor of Science, Mathematics 2011
UNIVERSITY OF MONTRÉAL

Interests

Statistical computing Neural Network Architecture Scalable Machine Learning Better the world

Work history

Data Scientist I, American Family Insurance 2015 - 2019

AWS, Nvidia-docker, Flask, Git, Hive, Keras, Python, Scikit-learn, Scipy, Spark, TensorFlow

- Venture Fellow class of 2018 for amfam ventures: discuss ideas with CEOs and team, learn on investing strategies, raising capital, networking
- Quote Conversion Enabler: In a scrum framework, developed a xgboost model to target quotes with high conversion potential. Increased applicability to our leads by focusing on top explanative predictors for each of our different quotes. The same model was served in 3 different flavors to maximize its usage.
- Drone imagery blurring: Developed a micro-service to detect and blur people on-demand in drone imagery. Tight SLA and portability requirements were key.
- Customers segmentation: Model predicting who would: keep their insurance for 1+ year, not submit too many claims and add new policies to their existing ones. Resulting in a more focused marketing and saving AFI \$100M over the next few years.
- Model explanation with visual cues: Popularized, at AFI, the use of a tool to explain why an input is scoring higher than another for our models. The tool provides a user-friendly interface helping our business partners to understand our modeling decisions.
- Call volume forecasting: Full stack time series forecasting project delivered from start to finish in 1.5 month to our business partner; resulting in dropping an external vendor.
- Usage-Based Insurance (UBI): Implemented our scoring algorithm in Spark on a growing dataset with more than 42 billions rows. This was a 33x speedup with respect to the previous method. Developed a project allowing to score our customers 3x sooner than with previous methods.
- Department's website owner: Web platform for sharing data-driven decision making services

Research Assistant, Professor Nancy Reid, University of Toronto Summer 2015
- Creating a R-package for higher-order inference

Teaching Assistant (statistics), University of Toronto 2014 - 2015
- Putting complex ideas into simple words
- Solving problems with students in a clever way

Side projects

Rosebud, <https://rosebud.io/> 2018 - present
Apache, Git, Nvidia-docker, Flask, Keras, Syncting, Tensorflow
Rosebud is a service that applies the style of any image to the content of another image. Moreover, it can apply the style transfer to specific objects from the content image. It had over 500 unique users in its first month of availability

Landmark classification, Kaggle 2018
Git, Keras, Tensorflow, Ubuntu
Used Mask R-CNN to identify and remove humans from 14M images of landmarks
Classified 14M images into 5,000 different landmarks using a ResNet50 architecture
Inference with a pre-processing step using Mask R-CNN to identify non-landmark images
Ranked 76th in the competition (top 12%)

Machine learning, Pilot 2016 - 2017
AWS, Docker, Python, TensorFlow, Scikit-learn, Scrapy, Flask
Pilot is an automated trading platform, profitably trading the EUR/USD using neural networks on oanda.com.
- Signal processing, machine learning (RNN, deep reinforcement learning)
- RESTful API for serving my model's predictions on demand

Invited talks and Social Involvements

Model explanation with visual cues - Big Data Madison meetup 2018
Model explanation with visual cues - Big Data Wisconsin 2018
Paper reviewers committee - SIAM Artificial Intelligence in Insurance 2017
eMatcher: Database fuzzy matching - AFI Analytical Forum (company-wide) 2016
Paper reviewers committee - Variance Journal 2014 - 2016
Recruitment at several career fairs 2011 - present
Tutoring (Math) 2009 - 2018