

Ben Zito

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Career Profile

Data Scientist and ML/AI Engineer with 4.5 years of experience who applies machine learning, AI, data analysis and data visualization techniques to help grow revenue and improve operations.

Skilled in: Data Science, Data Analysis, Data Visualization, Data Cleaning, Data Mining, AI, Machine Learning, Neural Networks, Operations Research, Project Management, Cloud Computing, Customer Insights, Natural Language Processing, Image Classification, Large Language Models/LLMs, Structured Data, Unstructured Data, Multimodal Machine Learning, Speech Emotion Recognition (SER), Time Series Forecasting, Machine Learning Model Evaluation, Machine Learning Model Tuning/Model Fine-tuning, Customer Service, Meeting Deadlines, Communication, Problem Solving

Languages, Technologies, and Libraries: Python, R, SQL (PostgreSQL, Oracle SQL, MySQL), Jupyter Notebooks, Anaconda, Adminer, R Studio Pro, Spark on Databricks, Microsoft Excel, Microsoft Power Automate, Tableau, Microsoft Power BI, Microsoft PowerShell, Microsoft Access, Microsoft Word, Microsoft Powerpoint, Github, Gitlab, Linux, Docker, Slurm, High Performance Clusters, Java, Visual Basic Assembly, Salesforce CRM, Pandas, NumPy, SQLAlchemy, Psycopg2, Matplotlib, Altair, Seaborn, TidyVerse

AI Model and ML Libraries: Huggingface, Sci-kit Learn, PyTorch, Tensorflow, Keras, OpenAI Whisper, OpenAI ChatGPT, OpenAI ChatGPT Python API, Falcon 40b, Falcon 7b, Mistral 7b, Mixtral 8x7b, Mistral 22b, Prometheus 7b, Gemini, DistilBERT, wav2vec2, Pickle, Gradio

Certifications: AI Aware (Booz Allen Hamilton), AI Foundational (Booz Allen Hamilton), US DOW Top Secret clearance

Professional Experience

Booz Allen Hamilton McLean, VA

June/2022 to Present

Booz Allen Hamilton is a leading provider of professional and skilled services to, primarily, the defense sector but also civilian agencies and corporations.

Data Scientist, II

Supported several contracts and efforts as a data scientist and data subject matter expert, both internally and client-facing. Received 2 awards for delivering on projects above and beyond expectations, "Living Our Values: Passionate Service" awards.

- Completed an intensive data science training program resulting in upskilling in key data science technologies and methodologies, demonstrated by delivering a presentation based on an independent project involving machine learning and analysis.
- Developed a full-color image classification machine learning pipeline as part of a team of data scientists which resulted in selection to present the project to senior company leadership at an internal machine learning conference.
- Developed a natural language translator, based on artificial intelligence transformer models as part of a 1 on 1 formal mentorship program, which culminated in a model demo at an internal AI conference.
- Supported a business case analysis as lead data scientist and data subject matter expert. The analysis was as part of a client initiative to determine the best course of action for acquisition of a new skin decontaminant for use in chemical threat environments. My contributions included a cost model (totaling over 40,000 equations) to estimate costs for each course of action, and demand modeling to estimate future purchasing behavior based on historical demand.
- Developed an LLM-based MagicDraw modeling software plugin and Gradio web app, as lead data scientist & AI/ML engineer on the team, that assists in Model-based Systems Engineering diagram creation.
- Developed a multimodal emotion detection machine learning pipeline using Speech Emotion Recognition (SER) and sentiment analysis machine learning models as part of a team of data

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scientists to demonstrate technical capabilities. Company leadership is determining the best pricing model to meet defense industry compliance requirements and return on investment before resuming development.

- Supported a Project Management Office (PMO) for a contract consisting of approximately 1,000 Full-Time Equivalents. Developed automation in Python, Microsoft Excel, and Power Automate to simplify and accelerate tasks, increasing team efficiency. Spearheading a data cleaning and centralization effort of all data the PMO holds, such as personnel rosters, time charging records, and more.
- Provided operations research support to a Limited User Assessment (LUA) for an infantry logistics support technology, a towed trailer for charging batteries. Developed a list of metrics and Key Performance Indicators (KPIs), a data collection plan and data collection support products. The data collection support products included surveys, logs, and intended products of an analysis on the completed LUA.
- Began developing a machine learning pipeline to forecast suicides at Marine Corps installations as part of a force preservation office contract under Marine Corps Headquarters. Project sunset due to stakeholder reprioritization.
- Developing an LLM-powered data structuring pipeline for use by a program evaluation office contract under Marine Corps Risk Management Division.
- Developing addictive behaviors clustering pipeline for use by a program evaluation office contract under Marine Corps Risk Management Division.

The Burr Project Voorhees, NJ

June/2021 to August/2021

The Burr Project is a non-partisan research and consulting firm focusing on applications of data science to US politics and elections.

Data Scientist, Intern

Summer internship focused on exploring data science as a professional field by conducting research and development for new products.

- Developed prototype statistical model to analyze voter turnout patterns and identify potential data anomalies in electoral datasets.
- Conducted research on potential data sources for new product development.

Network For Good Washington, DC

June/2020 to December/2020

Network For Good (now Bonterra) is a Software as a Service (SaaS) business serving the non-profit industry, with Customer Relationship Management (CRM), Fundraising, and Payment Processing solutions.

Data Scientist, Intern

Supported customer insights and data science team at nonprofit SaaS company, generating marketing, sales, and product insights to drive revenue and efficiency.

- Analyzed competitors' online event and auctioning products; findings directly influenced pricing and customer support models for new product launch.
- Mined customer Facebook communities for requirements gathering and user feedback for new online event product.
- Refactored SQL queries for user behavior logging to improve performance and readability.
- Completed analytics projects in Python supporting full-time data science team.
- Administered Salesforce CRM accounts, audited permission sets for security compliance, completed Salesforce Trailhead training.

Education

The Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C., 2022

Bachelor of Arts, Politics; Computer Science Minor

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- Dean's List for 6/8 semesters, Phi Eta Sigma National Honor Society (2019)

Extracurricular & Volunteer Activities

- Boy Scouts of America, Eagle Scout (2017)