

OLEKSII TSEPA

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Machine Learning Engineer with 3 years of experience in various domains, including Retail, Drug Discovery, Robotics. Specialize in NLP, RecSys, Time-Series, and GraphML.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Competera

Toronto, Canada

Machine Learning Engineer

Oct 2020 - Current

- Developed a **Product Matching** system (NLP+RecSys) with a precision of 95% and recall of 70%, which reduced the cost of manual matching by more than 40%
- Improved existing **Time-Series Model** accuracy by 7% for sales forecasting of more than 50k retail products and **deployed** in 130 retail outlets across over 25 cities in Ukraine
- Developed the company's technical differentiator by creating **Product Embeddings** with **Graph Neural Networks** for better price elasticity estimation
- Designed **A/B tests** that detect a 3% revenue increase from price optimization in a company with +100M ARR
- **Collaborated** with stakeholders to define a product roadmap, ensuring alignment with business objectives
- Carried out **Recruitment Process**: screened 70+ resumes, evaluated 15+ test tasks, conducted 10+ tech interview

Vector Institute

Toronto, Canada

Machine Learning Engineer

May 2022 - Dec 2023

- Improved state-of-the-art bionic leg control accuracy (RMSE) by 20% while achieving 20x faster inference by designing novel **multimodal** architecture. Further, the model was **deployed** on Jetson Nano
- Introduced a novel Conditional Graph Fusion Layer (CongFu) designed for drug synergy predictions. CongFu outperformed state-of-the-art methods on 11 out of 12 benchmark datasets
- Improved the relative distance similarity between original and latent (2D) spaces by 10% through developing a Topology-preserving Graph Autoencoder
- Developed a model for de-novo molecule **generation** conditioned on mass spectra using **transformers** with **Reward Modelling** based on RL and differentiable approaches. Used **DeepSpeed** for distributed training.

RESEARCH RECORD

1. **Tsepa O**, Young A, Wang Bo. Conditional Molecule Generation based on the Mass Spectrum.
2. Wang C, **Tsepa O**, Wang Bo. Topology-preserving Graph Autoencoders.
3. **Tsepa O***, Naida B*, Goldenberg A, Wang Bo. CongFu: Conditional Graph Fusion for Drug Synergy Prediction. *Accepted to NeurIPS AI4D3 2023* [[paper](#), [code](#)]
4. **Tsepa O**, Yang Xu. Semantic Change Detection with Graph Neural Networks. [[paper](#), [code](#)]
5. **Tsepa O***, Burakov R*, Laschowski B, Mihailidis A. Continuous prediction of leg kinematics during walking using inertial sensors, smart glasses, and embedded computing. *Accepted to ICRA 2023*. [[paper](#), [code](#)]
6. Kuzmenko D, **Tsepa O**, Kurbis A G, Laschowski B, Mihailidis A. Vision-Based Automated Stair Recognition for Wearable Robotics using Semi-Supervised Learning. *Accepted to IROS 2023*. [[paper](#)]
7. **Tsepa O**. Product Embeddings in Retail Industry with Graph Neural Networks. *Bachelor's thesis*. [[poster](#)]

EDUCATION

University of Toronto

Sep 2022 - Dec 2023

MSc in Computer Science

GPA: 4.0

Relevant Courses: Computational Models of Semantic Change, Neural Networks and Deep Learning, Topics in Computational Social Science, Imitation Learning for Robotics.

Relevant Courses: Statistics, Neural Networks, Probability Theory, Linear Algebra, Calculus, Natural Language Processing, Data Structures & Algorithms.

SKILLS

Languages	Python, SQL, Spark, C++
Machine Learning	NLP, RecSys, Time-Series, RL, Graph ML, Computer Vision, A/B testing
Frameworks	PyTorch, TensorFlow, transformers, DeepSpeed, Sklearn, LightGBM, Pandas, Matplotlib
Cloud	GCP, SLURM
Tools	Git, Docker, Databricks, WandB, Linux, Bash, LaTeX

COMPETITIONS & LEADERSHIP

Teaching Assistant at the University of Toronto Sep 2022 - May 2023
Supported the lectures on “Intro to Computer Programming” for 100+ students by answering ongoing questions. Conducted 1-1 **office hours** by clarifying misunderstandings in lecture materials and home assignments.

Admission Board Member at the UofT Summer Program for Ukrainians Dec 2023 - May 2023
Screened and interviewed candidates for the University of Toronto Summer Program for Students from Ukraine. During the process, 60+ resumes and motivation letters were reviewed and were conducted 5 interviews to assess candidates' experience, technical strength, and research potential. I also provided candidates with information about the program and answered any ongoing questions. After admission, I **supported** successful candidates in **relocating** and adapting to the new environment. [[program](#)]

Toronto Health Datathon 2023 Feb 2023
The solution aimed to **simplify diagnostic workflow** by **pruning the number of assessments** performed in the general internal medicine ward. We use past known lab test results to predict whether the patient deteriorated or was discharged. As a result, we could decrease the amount of additional tests by an average of **3%** while retaining the same outcome. [[datathon](#), [presentation](#)]

INT20H 2022 Hackathon Feb 2022
We had to build a model to predict the segment of drivers who will stop using the service, known as churn drivers. Finally, my team won **1st place** in the competition.

Invited Lecturer at Igor Sikorsky Kyiv Polytechnic Institute Dec 2021
Gave a couple of **lectures** about **Graph Neural Networks** for a class of 60+ students as a part of the subject "Neural Networks". The material covered motivation for using GNNs, the math behind them, state-of-the-art architectures, and personal experience of using GNNs in production.

INT20H 2021 Hackathon Feb 2021
The task was to predict the book's rating on the GoodReads service. Our **multimodal** pipeline consisted of scrapping external **text** data about authors, incorporating trainable **images**, and feature generation. The LightGBM model was evaluated based on 5-fold stratified cross-validation. The model was **deployed** to the web service with Streamlit and Heroku. Finally, my team won **1st place** in the competition.

Sibur AI Challenge Jan 2021
Determined if a pair of names belong to the same company. This is necessary to speed up the processing of information about potential customers. Used transformers, over/under-sampling, and text cleaning techniques [[solution](#)]

National Bank of Ukraine IT Challenge Mar 2020
Led a team of 3 Data Scientists to create a USD/UAH exchange rate **forecasting platform**. We applied a time-series autoregressive approach consisting of feature generation (rolling statistics with different window sizes), backward feature selection, handling with nonstationarity by differentiating the target, and pseudo-labeling for a long-term forecast. Finally, my team won **2nd place** in the competition. [[solution](#)]