ZAID SHOORBAJEE

*(zade **shoor**-buh-jee) • He/Him/His*

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Data Scientist

Eager for opportunities to apply my expertise in data science, data analytics and machine learning. With my background in journalism, I also bring media literacy and communication skills that help teams present technical outcomes to non-technical audiences.

SKILLS

Coding: Python, SQL **// Analysis & Modeling:** Pandas, NumPy, scikit-learn, TensorFlow, Keras, Statsmodels, SciPy, XGBoost, LightGBM **// Data Visualization:** Matplotlib, Seaborn, Tableau **// Natural Language Processing:** NLTK, SpaCy, RegEx, Transformers **// Other:** Markdown, HTML, APIs, Adobe Suite, Microsoft Excel, News writing, AP Style

Languages: Arabic (native proficiency), Spanish (limited working proficiency)

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Analytics Consultant II, **Voyatek**, Remote   February 2023 – Present
- Designed and implemented machine learning models to predict customer phone calls using python, LightGBM, XGBoost, and other ML packages. Performed extensive client data extraction, processing, transformation, training, and evaluation.
- Overhauled legacy pipeline and script used monthly to extract, transform, and load 200K+ records to client dashboard.
- Enhanced team codebase by contributing functions and documentation regularly used to process and transform client data.
- Analyzed customer outcomes and uplift resulting from client communication, delivering actionable findings to stakeholders.

Marketing Reporter, **Morning Brew**, Remote   August 2021 – November 2021
- Expanded news coverage about adtech, brands, media buying, entertainment, DEI and other topics for Morning Brew's marketing vertical, Marketing Brew. Kept readers engaged in stories about niche topics by writing in an accessible way.
- Collaborated with reporters and editors to produce a newsletter for an audience of about ~200K subscribers. Reported and wrote 3+ articles per week, ranging from aggregated news pieces to features of 1,000+ words.

COVID-19 Contact Tracer, **Institute for Public Health Innovation**, Fairfax, VA   August 2020 – June 2021
- Strove to reduce number of COVID-19 cases in Fairfax County by leading investigations of exposure in schools and daycares.
- Improved investigation performance by working with team to develop streamlined, spreadsheet-based workflow for case tracking.
- Educated patients and their contacts on frequently changing public health guidance to reduce the spread of SARS-CoV-2. Referred households to testing and resources needed to successfully quarantine or isolate.

Contributing Writer, **DC Inno**, Washington, D.C.   December 2019 – July 2020
- Highlighted innovation in the D.C. area by pitching and writing stories about local startup, tech, and entrepreneurship scene.
- Documented major company events such as funding announcements, expansions and hires in monthly roundups.

Editorial Fellow, **Scoop News Group**, Washington, D.C.   January 2018 – February 2019
- Expanded news coverage of election security startups, breaches & other topics by pitching and writing stories for CyberScoop.
- Wrote articles daily about complex topics in a manner accessible to a non-technical audience. Established new source relationships and interviewed industry experts in order to keep coverage relevant and competitive.
- Collaborated with newsroom colleagues on larger projects like investigative stories and annual industry recognition list.

🔗 **Additional Work Experience**

TECHNICAL PROJECTS

NLP Reddit Movie Rater - GitHub
Predicted audience rating of movies using Reddit comments and neural networks.
- Built movie discussion dataset by collecting 70K+ comments from Reddit using various Python libraries and APIs.
- Used NLP techniques to engineer meta-features and analyze patterns distinguishing high-rating vs. low-rating movies.
- Constructed and trained deep neural networks to predict movie IMDb ratings.

Vaccination Predictor - GitHub
Used classification models to make inferences and predictions about individuals' decisions to get vaccinated.
- Performed exploratory data analysis on dataset of 26K+ responses to expansive public health survey.
- Conducted binary classification using various machine learning models to predict vaccination outcomes.
- Identified that a doctor's recommendation is the top predictor of a decision to get vaccinated, among other inferences.

🔗 **Additional Technical Projects**

EDUCATION

Flatiron School, Remote   January 2022 – November 2022
Data Science // Immersive coding, data science, and machine learning bootcamp

The George Washington University, Washington, D.C.   August 2012 – December 2016
Bachelor of Arts in Journalism & Mass Communication // Minors in Economics and Psychology