

Benjamin Bolte

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Seattle, WA
github.com/codekansas

Facebook AI Research

Seattle, January 2020 - Present

- Research engineer, working with research scientists to experiment with and deploy new kinds of models

Facebook, Integrity AI NLP

Seattle, May 2018 - January 2020

- Increased accuracy for classifying terrorist posts by 54% over existing baseline, resulting in 500K more terrorist propaganda posts being hidden every day
- Shipped models which doubled previous accuracy for hate speech and tripled daily content actions across major markets
- Deployed BERT hate speech model to all content across Facebook, building the required infrastructure for ignoring benign content, which decreased server usage by 95%
- Authored team's core NLP toolkit, featuring implementation of common NLP tools like character convolutions, tokenizers, and various attention and transformer components, with documentation, TorchScript support for productionization, and test coverage

Facebook, Core Machine Learning (Intern)

Seattle, Summer 2017

- Built tools for automatically evaluating and deploying objectionable content classifiers
- Tripled model refresh rate and eliminated several hours of manual work per refresh

Google Research, Handwriting Recognition (Intern)

Mountain View, Fall 2016

- Improved mixed-script online handwriting recognition for Chinese-English and Devanagari-English language pairs
- Trained a Generative Adversarial Network for producing handwriting using recurrent neural networks with attention components (to attend to the desired text)

Amazon, India Invoicing (Intern)

Seattle, Summer 2016

- Built three APIs for interacting with the existing India invoicing service
- Built a web framework for helping product managers answer customer questions and solve bugs
- Diagnosed and fixed a Sev 2 which affected millions of dollars in transactions

Research Experience

- Undergraduate recipient of the Computational Neuroscience Training Grant, a highly competitive \$20,000 grant to study computational neuroscience at Emory University and Georgia Tech
- [Click here to go to my Google Scholar profile](#)

Open Source Contributions

- My Github projects and gists have collectively accumulated over 1000 stars
- I authored a fairly popular blog at codekansas.github.io, although I've started transitioning to a React-based, demo-oriented blog at codekansas.github.io/blog

Awards

- **1st Place, ACM Southeast ICPC** Division 2 2017
- **Dean's Achievement Scholarship** Highest undergraduate merit award 2014 - 2017
- **Computational Neuroscience Training Grant** NIH Blueprint Grant for computational neuroscience 2014 - 2016