

Mohammad Awad

Machine Learning Scientist

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[in/mohammad-awad-profile](#)

Machine Learning Scientist with a decade of experience across applied ML, generative AI, and large-scale personalization, spanning big tech (Booking.com, PayPal), a co-founded startup, and ML research. MSc in Computer Science (4.0 GPA).

Experience

Machine Learning Scientist

Sep 2022 to Present

Booking.com · Amsterdam, Netherlands

- Use generative AI and large language models to enhance large-scale personalization and recommendations across Booking.com.
- Work across recommender systems, ranking, and experimentation (A/B testing).

Co-Founder & CTO

Sep 2021 to Sep 2022

Savy · Boston, MA, USA

- Co-founded Savy, a cloud-based instant-messaging system designed to organise information and boost productivity by reducing unnecessary noise.
- Led technology and engineering as CTO, from concept through build.

Fellow, DesignX

Jun 2021 to Sep 2021

MIT designX · Boston, MA, USA

- Selected for the DesignX fellowship in the MIT School of Architecture & Planning, focused on design innovation and entrepreneurship.

Data Scientist

Jan 2018 to May 2021

PayPal · Israel

- Built classifier models across a range of datasets and business problems.

- Developed anomaly-detection algorithms for time-series data.
- Clustered and classified data from multiple channels.
- Owned datasets end-to-end, from requirements gathering to deployment.
- Visualised machine-learning graphs and results for stakeholders.

Machine Learning Engineer (Research)

Sep 2015 to Oct 2017

Bahçeşehir University · Istanbul, Türkiye

- “Learning Shape from Focus”: estimated image depth from focus cues using MLPs, SVMs, and Random Forests.
- Worked on light-field imaging, Shape-from-Focus / Shape-from-Defocus, depth estimation, and occlusion detection.
- Built Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs) for facial-expression recognition.

Software Engineer

May 2012 to Sep 2015

Mellanox Technologies · Israel

- Built enterprise mobile apps (native Android; ported apps from iOS): web-service integration, JSON, SQLite, multithreading, responsive UI.
- Tested regression systems for InfiniBand technologies (OpenSM simulator, Ibutils2, UFM); acted as team focal point with the client.

Education

MSc, Computer Science

2015 to 2017

Bahçeşehir University · GPA 4.0

BSc, Computer Systems Engineering

2007 to 2012

Birzeit University

Certifications

- Generative Adversarial Networks (GANs) Specialization, DeepLearning.AI / Coursera (2022)
- Build Basic / Build Better / Apply GANs, DeepLearning.AI / Coursera (2022)

Skills

Python

SQL

PySpark

LLMs

Generative AI

Agents

Evaluation

PyTorch

TensorFlow

Deep Learning

Recommender Systems

Ranking

A/B Testing

Causal Inference

ML in Production