PAVEL MERINOV

Summary

PhD student in Recommender Systems. I have a solid background in math and professional R&D experience in Machine Learning. My research interests cover the following areas: (1) Recommender Systems, (2) Bayesian Modelling, (3) NLP.

Programming languages

- Python
- Matlab

Libraries

- Numpy
- Scipy
- Polars
- Cython
- Numba
- Pytorch
- Scikit-learn
- LightGBM
- Stan
- Jax
- Cvxopt
- Matplotlib

Technologies

- Linux
- Git
- Docker
- TeX

Languages

English (B2), Italian (A1), Russian

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Machine Learning Engineer @ Recommender Systems Group — **Moscow, Russia**
IVI, an Online Video Streaming Service — Apr 2021 – Jul 2021
- Worked on understanding and learning content-to-content similarity function for movie recommendations
- Implemented new features for offline (data and models) and online (real-time user experience) parts of IVI recommendations engine

Researcher @ Machine Learning Group — **Saint Petersburg, Russia**
Proprietary Trading Firm — Oct 2017 – Jul 2020
- Conducted research on time series forecasting with semi-structured data and Tree/CNN/RNN models
- Worked on machine learning pipelines (from data retrieval to model backtesting)
- Mentored junior researchers and interns

Junior Researcher @ Neuroscience Lab — **Moscow, Russia**
Institute for Information Transmission Problems (Academy of Science) — Jan 2015 – Oct 2017
- Developed a signal processing library for EEG noise suppression
- Carried out experiments with OpenBCI brain-computer interface hardware

Junior Researcher @ NLP Group — **Moscow, Russia**
MIVAR Technology Startup at Research and Technology Center Poisk-IT — Oct 2013 – Nov 2014
- Designed rule-based architecture for Russian language processing module. Improved anaphora resolution engine

EDUCATION

Ongoing PhD — **Bolzano, Italy**
Free University of Bozen-Bolzano — Nov 2021 – Present
- Research in RecSys related to urban sustainability and algorithmic user-system interaction modelling. I develop counterfactual simulation protocols to evaluate in-offline the impact of recommendations on multistakeholder systems

MS, Applied Mathematics and Physics — **Moscow, Russia**
Moscow Institute of Physics and Technology (Phystech) — Sep 2012 – Jun 2014
- Thesis: Scalarization and steepest descent methods in multicriteria optimization problems

BS, Applied Mathematics and Physics — **Moscow, Russia**
Moscow Institute of Physics and Technology (Phystech) — Sep 2008 – Jun 2012
- Thesis: Estimation of sparse vectors

SELECTED REFERENCES

[1] P. Merinov, F. Ricci.
Shaping Sustainable Tourist Experience: Simulating the Impact of Recommendation Salience (2025)
ACM Transactions on Recommender Systems
(https://doi.org/10.1145/3762816)

[2] P. Merinov, F. Ricci.
Positive-Sum Impact of Multistakeholder Recommender Systems for Urban Tourism Promotion and User Utility (2024)
RecSys '24: Proceedings of the 18th ACM Conference on Recommender Systems
(https://dl.acm.org/doi/10.1145/3640457.3688173)

[3] P. Merinov.
Towards Sustainable Recommendations in Urban Tourism (2024)
RecSys '24: Proceedings of the 18th ACM Conference on Recommender Systems
(https://dl.acm.org/doi/10.1145/3640457.3688016)

[4] P. Merinov, F. Ricci.
Simulating the Impact of Recommendation Salience on Tourists Experienced Utility (2024)
RecSoGood 2024 Workshop, co-located with RecSys '24: 18th ACM Conference on Recommender Systems
(https://link.springer.com/chapter/10.1007/978-3-031-87654-7_4)

[5] P. Merinov.
Sustainability-Oriented Recommender Systems (2023)
Proceedings of the 31st ACM Conference on User Modeling, Adaptation and Personalization
(https://dl.acm.org/doi/10.1145/3565472.3595617)

[6] P. Merinov, D. Massimo, and F. Ricci.
Behaviour-Aware Tourist Profiles Data Generation (2023)
13th Italian Information Retrieval Workshop
(https://ceur-ws.org/Vol-3448/paper-08.pdf)

[7] P. Merinov, D. Massimo, and F. Ricci.
Sustainability Driven Recommender Systems (2022)
12th Italian Information Retrieval Workshop
(https://ceur-ws.org/Vol-3177/paper22.pdf)