Benjamin **Jones**

Head of Machine Learning, Data Science & Generative AI

🏠 Location: **London**
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Technical background; skilled across organisational ML & AI strategy, and overseeing delivery of transformational AI-driven products and solutions. Experienced in internal and client-facing roles, across product development lifecycle, AI & GenAI solution architecture, engineering excellence & business case development. Comfortable with executive comms. Commercially driven; experienced across startups, unicorns, multinationals, private and public sectors. 3 x security cleared.

Passionate about growing and enabling people to do their best work. Looking for positions where I can maximise the impact of how organisations build genuinely valuable products with AI and deliver real transformational change across industries and organisations.

TECHNICAL

Comfortable building & leading teams across multiple languages and cloud stacks, with 8+ years experience as an IC. Tech stack includes **Google Cloud** (BigQuery, VertexAI, Kubeflow pipelines, Cloud Functions/Run), **AWS** (Lambda, Fargate, Bedrock), Certified **Azure** ML Engineer

10 years' experience in production engineering, notably Python (numpy, pandas, scikit-learn, fastAPI, dvc, streamlit, keras, pytorch, bigframes, spaCy, SHAP, dask, flask, langchain, langgraph, openai, ADK, pydanticAI, pytest etc). **Expertise across agentic GenAI applications, evaluation**, ML engineering, ML & AI Ops. Competent across data pipelining and visualisation. Prior experience also in SQL, JS/TS, Java, R, postgres, mongoDB etc.

EXPERIENCE

HEAD OF MACHINE LEARNING & AI
Motorway.co.uk   🔗

02/2023 - current
2 years 8 months

Automotive technology unicorn | $1bn valuation in 2021 | UK's fastest growing used vehicle marketplace and 17th fastest growing company in 2024

At Motorway, I head up our Product Data Science, Machine Learning, AI and Generative AI department of 17 employees. My remit ultimately is to ensure Motorway maximises the value of its data. With use cases across: • bespoke pricing • automotive computer vision • document extraction and automation • recommendation & personalisation • augmenting customer support agents with genAI reasoning engines and beyond.

Day to day, I sit at the interface of Product, Engineering and Machine Learning; acting somewhere between a lead data scientist, engineering manager, technical product manager, and strategic advisor to the CPO & Engineering leadership. I also head up our Generative AI Governance & Advisory Group, committed to responsibly utilising LLMs to transform the future of the product, business and employee productivity.

The team under my leadership has delivered +30% (~£20m) ARR and has dramatically changed how we leverage AI across the business.

HEAD OF MACHINE LEARNING
DeGould   🔗

08/2021 - 02/2023
1 year 7 months

UK technology startup | £100m valuation in 2023 | Computer vision for automotive manufacturing OEMs

As a start-up in the automotive space, DeGould builds automated inspection systems to disrupt the quality inspection process of production-line vehicle manufacturing using AI.

- Built and managed a world-class, interdisciplinary team of 12 talented data scientists, machine learning engineers, AI researchers, data analysts and cloud engineers.
- Ran workshops with large corporation OEMs such as Ford, Toyota, Nissan, JLR etc to understand requirements, manage expectations, build relationships.
- Reported directly to CEO. Managed the board, C-suite, customer relationships and interdepartmental communications.
- Hands on technical across various roles: data scientist, MLE, engineering manager, product owner, customer success manager, and writing grant and investment proposals.

Doubled the revenue of DeGould in 18 months by identifying opportunity to develop additional ML-driven product line while improving existing product lines and signing contracts with 3 new major OEMs.

MACHINE LEARNING SPECIALIST - CONTRACTOR
UK Hydrographic Office   🔗

01/2021 - 08/2021
6 month contract

Trading fund of MOD | Oceanic and sub-sea mapping, satellite data

Optimised Machine Learning Operations (MLOps) for production-grade pipelines, developing reusable frameworks to accelerate AI-driven value creation • Delivered end-to-end deep learning (CNN) model pipelines for denoising bathymetric sonar data • Blended hands-on technical expertise with strategic advisory to ensure robust ML lifecycle management and product alignment. Focus areas: Python (DVC, CML, TensorFlow) • GitHub Actions for CI/CD • ML model deployment and management • Advanced data management and model evaluation strategies • Continuous Integration tailored for ML workflows • AWS optimisation for cost efficiency and scalability.

Produced reusable model pipelines that transformed R&D into productionised products. Reduced time to market by about 90%. Presented at and contributed to UK Data Strategy for Defence.

MACHINE LEARNING CONSULTANT
Accenture   🔗

03/2018 - 08/2020
2 years 6 months

Global technology consultancy | 4th largest employer worldwide | Sat in the UK&I Data Science Community of Practice

Consulting Data Scientist, Machine Learning Engineer and AI Strategy Consultant at Accenture. Client-driven, customer-facing data science & ML projects across multiple industries including manufacturing optimisation, startups, aerospace, heavy industry, pharmaceuticals and public sector (UK Police - WMP). Both hands-on and strategic, Accenture formed the foundation of my passion to sit at the intersection of organisational challenge and data opportunity. Developed client solutions in Python, R, and Javascript across AWS and Azure. In addition to my technical development, I learned essential interpersonal and political navigation skills, as well as developing a vital business acumen to get outcomes from data and communicate how those outcomes can drive real-world improvements for clients.

Ranked 2nd out of 34 at year end performance review among UK&I technical consultants of the same grade after year 1, and 1st out of 42 after year 2. Evaluated against client value delivery, technical excellence, stakeholder management, and chargeable hours.

EDUCATION

MSCI NATURAL SCIENCES (Computational Physics)

University of Durham | 1.1 First Class Honors 🛡️ 2013-2017

• Computational condensed matter physics crystallography • Computational astrophysics • Nuclear physics • Rocket physics • Statistical mechanics • Special relativity • Artificial intelligence (symbolic and ML) • Quantum computation • Network analysis • Software engineering fundamentals

Master's Dissertation: "*Crystalline laser spectroscopy for next-generation sustainable photovoltaic solar-cell devices (Cu_2ZnSnS_4)*"

A-Level: A* A* A A B

GCSE: 6 A*s 4As

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

Speaker at Google Cloud Summit London 2024 & Big Data London 2025

45 minute talk on the biggest stage at Google Cloud's inaugural Cloud Summit to 250+ attendees & invited to speak on the biggest stage at Big Data London with Women in Data, about transforming the industry with AI. Video 🎥

Winner - Employee of the year 2024

Winner of the 2024 employee of the year award at Motorway (out of ~600 employees).

Excerpt from the award ceremony:

*"This award, named in memory of Hugo Burge, celebrates someone who embodies his spirit of innovation and ambition, and you exemplify that perfectly! Your contributions to Motorway in 2024 have been truly transformative. You've been at the forefront of our data and AI revolution, driving incredible progress across the company.
From groundbreaking work in auction dynamic pricing to leading AI projects that have generated over £7,000,000 in revenue, your impact has been nothing short of phenomenal. You're not only a brilliant leader but also an incredible mentor, empowering your team and fostering a culture of innovation. You've championed the adoption of AI across the company, ensuring that Motorway stays ahead of the curve." - Motorway Leadership*