

Taner Giray Sönmez

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EDUCATION

- **Columbia University** New York City, USA
Master of Science - Computer Science; Machine Learning *September 2024 - Present*
Related Coursework: Applied Machine Learning, Artificial Intelligence, Natural Language Processing, Algorithms
- **Sabanci University** Istanbul, Turkey
Bachelor of Science - Computer Science; GPA: 3.82/4 *September 2019 - June 2024*
Honors and Awards: Dean's List - High Honor : 6x (Six Terms) %50 Encouragement Scholarship (Aug 2022 and Aug 2023)
Related Coursework: Advanced Programming, Data Science, Machine Learning, Data Analysis and Research in Business, Mobile Application Development, Software Engineering, Computer Networks, Database Systems, Optimization Models in Business Analytics
- **Uppsala University** Uppsala, Sweden
Bachelor of Science - Computer Science; Exchange *January 2023 - June 2023*
Honors and Awards: Monthly Erasmus Grant

INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE

- **Mars Athletic Club (MACFIT)** Istanbul, Turkey
Data Scientist (Part-Time) *July 2022 - January 2023 / July 2023 - June 2024*
 - : Developed an enhanced "Churn Prediction Model" using statistical analysis and machine learning algorithms.
 - : Conducted clustering to segment users and identify their unique characteristics for more accurate predictions.
 - : Utilized SQL to extract, manipulate, and preprocess data for modeling purposes.
 - : Conducted sentiment analysis on user comments, categorizing feedback by key areas and sentiment to identify trends in satisfaction and improvement opportunities.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- **Sabanci University** Istanbul, Turkey
Learning Assistant *September 2021 - June 2022*
 - : Worked as a Learning Assistant for the IF100 course, teaching Python and computational logic to freshman students.
 - : Reinforced lecture topics and provided assistance to students during weekly recitation hours.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- **Mars Athletic Club - Sabanci University** Istanbul, Turkey
Researcher *September 2023 - July 2024*
 - : Studied exercise habit formation using machine learning and causal inference on data from Mars Athletic, Turkey's largest gym chain, under Dr. Onur Varol's supervision.
 - : Collaborated with three peers to develop a novel survival metric for assessing exercise habit durability.
 - : Led causal inference analysis to evaluate the impact of interventions like group classes, personal training, and social interactions on exercise adherence.
 - : Analyzed data from 200,000+ gym members to identify key factors influencing habit formation and provide actionable insights for gym management and public health.
 - : First-authored a final project report on the study's methods and results; journal publication is in progress.

PROJECTS

- **FFP Tracker** *September 2022 - January 2023*
Web Developer
 - : Led a team of 3 in the development of FFP Tracker, a web-based platform designed to increase transparency in the Turkish Football Federation by requiring teams to submit financial documents for review by the federation and its lawyers.
 - : Implemented forecasting and regulations monitoring tools to prevent breaches and ensure teams generate revenue while staying within budget limits, making all information publicly accessible to promote accountability and transparency.
 - : Skills: React, PostgreSQL, ExpressJS, NodeJS, Agile Development, Git, Full Stack Development.
- **Simple Quiz Game** *September 2022 - January 2023*
Developer
 - : Developed a client-server application, a simple quiz game, consisting of two modules: a server and a player.
 - : Implemented the server module to handle incoming connections, ask questions, and keep scores during the game. Created the player module to allow users to enroll and participate, with results and score tables broadcasted by the server after each question.
 - : Skills: C Sharp.

- **Heart Disease Prediction**

- *Machine Learning Researcher*

February 2022 - June 2022

- : Conducted a comprehensive exploratory data analysis on heart diseases and medical data with a team of 4 people.
- : Developed a machine learning model that can predict the existence of heart disease based on health information with high accuracy.
- : Skills: Python, Pandas, NumPy, Hypothesis Testing, Supervised Learning, Data Analysis.

- **Ace**

- *Mobile App Developer*

February 2022 - June 2022

- : Developed a mobile application, Ace, which serves as a social media platform for sports lovers, using Flutter with a team of 4.
- : Modeled the app after Instagram and utilized Flutter's widgets to create a unique user interface and user experience.
- : Skills: Dart, Flutter, Frontend Development, Backend Development, App State Management, Firebase, Git, Android Development.

SKILLS SUMMARY AND CERTIFICATIONS

- **Programming Languages:** Python, C++, JavaScript, SQL, Dart, R.
- **Tools and Frameworks:** Scikit, Numpy, Pandas, Selenium, DoWhy, Flutter, React, expressJS, nodeJS, Git, postgresSQL, MongoDB, Verilog.
- **Soft Skills:** Team Work, Communication, Adaptability, Project Management.
- **Certifications:** Data Scientist with Python Track @Datacamp, Data Analyst with Python @Datacamp, Data-Driven Decision Making in SQL @Datacamp.

VOLUNTARY WORK

- **Gazi Mustafa Pasa Primary School**

Kocaeli, Turkey

- *Teacher*

February 2020 - June 2020

- : Participated in a volunteering project visiting 4th-grade students weekly, offering assistance with school work and providing lessons on general culture. Made a positive impact on the lives of young children and supported their education.
- : Developed interpersonal and communication skills, as well as the ability to work effectively in a team. Reinforced commitment to making a positive impact in the lives of others, showcasing a dedication to community service and social responsibility.