Anton E.

Applied ML Engineer | Custom Models & Synthetic Data

Russia | Open to remote work and relocation

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Professional Summary

Independent ML engineer with 6+ years of hands-on AI/ML research and development across personal experiments, freelance work, and commercial projects. Trained and integrated custom models for Smartist, a US startup. I build synthetic-data pipelines, train and evaluate specialized models, and package inference for local applications and the web.

Technical Skills

Models PyTorch, Hugging Face Transformers, Sentence Transformers, autoregressive models, fine-tuning

Data and evaluation Synthetic data, curation, caption embeddings, quality filtering, reproducible splits, held-out validation, sample inspection

Inference FastAPI, ONNX, ONNX Runtime Web, INT8 quantization, KV caching, local inference

Programming Python, NumPy, JavaScript, Git

Selected Technical Projects

PixelGPT 24×24

Independent research | Published model, datasets, and demos

- Developed a 68M-parameter autoregressive transformer for native 24×24 generation conditioned on text and a five-color palette. The documented training run used about 218K examples.
- Trained in PyTorch with next-token cross-entropy and held-out validation. The documented RTX 5090 run took about 30 minutes. Inspected saved samples across prompts and palettes.
- Published a 20K-example CC BY 4.0 subset and a separate 216,838-image commercial release with captions, metadata, predefined splits, and a searchable offline viewer.
- Released a local FastAPI inference app with streamed output and an interactive canvas. Ported inference to a Web Worker with ONNX Runtime Web and an INT8 decoder.

Case study | GitHub | Browser demo | Public dataset | Full dataset

PixelGPT Zero

Research experiment | Runnable demo

Trained a separate coarse-to-fine MicroVAR model on procedural and curated images. Exported a 1.6 MB INT8 ONNX model for browser-side sampling with KV caching.

Browser demo

Professional Experience

Smartist | AI/ML Engineer

US startup | Remote contract project

- Prepared datasets and ran training and fine-tuning experiments for custom models used in the Smartist app.
- Packaged model inference and integrated it into the application's product pipeline.
- Tested outputs in the app and iterated on model quality using product requirements and feedback.

Independent ML Engineer | Freelance Developer

Independent AI/ML R&D since 2020 | Freelance engineering since 2023

- Build specialized generative models and synthetic-data workflows, from programmatic generation and curation through validation and inference.
- Publish reproducible demos, model code, and datasets. Deliver client integrations using tool-using agents, retrieval, and APIs, with QA and handover documentation.
- Built Slava+, an interactive design tool with browser-based hand tracking and a geometric composition engine.

Slava+ demo

Art. Lebedev Studio | Design and Creative Technology

Moscow | Previous role

- Prepared visual materials, digital assets, and presentations for studio production. Checked final assets for quality and consistency.
- Worked with a studio team on iterative delivery of visual systems and brand graphics.

Additional Research

Tiny Vector

Research prototype | Browser demo

Trained matched 2.24M-parameter decoders to compare lines and quadratic curves on a procedural icon dataset. Exported both to ONNX with grammar-constrained decoding, browser inference, and editable SVG output.

Interactive prototype

Education

Self-directed study in machine learning and software engineering through coursework resources, experiments, and applied projects.

Languages

Russian (native). English (reading and writing technical documentation).