Will Kurt

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Summary

AI engineering and Data Science leader with 10+ years of experience spanning machine learning, data science, and software development. Specialized in LLM architecture, prompt engineering, and inference optimization with proven success in both startup and enterprise environments. Published author of two technical books and creator of the Count Bayesie blog (10k+ monthly readers). Combine deep technical expertise with strategic vision to deliver impactful Data Science and AI solutions that drive business growth and technological advancement.

Experience

Senior AI Engineer
LightTable — April 2026–Present

- Create sophisticated agentic workflows to power automation of construction document review
- Define and implement evaluations for AI performance for core product features
- Develop novel techniques for automating AI improvement

Senior Principal Data Scientist
Gierd — May 2025–April 2026

- Lead Engineer for Supply and Demand product pillar
- Develop and deploy key forecasting models: price decay, unconstrained demand, etc.
- Built Claude Code skill for interfacing with Linnworks OMS
- Model inventory lifecycle observability to provide critical insights to the operations team
- Trained junior engineers to create agentic workflows automating major aspects of their role

Founding Engineer + Advocate
.txt — January 2024–April 2025

- Established product groundwork directly tied to $12 million VC raise
- Co-designed and implemented novel LLM-inference algorithm resulting in 2-5x speedup
- Successfully beat GPT-4 on "Function calling" tasks with open weights model
- Collaborated on engineering and content work with HuggingFace and Deeplearning.ai
- Led Advocacy team activities driving core GitHub repo to over 10k stars

Staff AI Engineer
Hex — June 2023–January 2024

- Managed internal evaluation framework to measure text-to-SQL LLM performance
- Implemented prompt engineering techniques for improved SQL generation
- Developed table metadata Retrieval Augmented Generation (RAG) system

Senior Data Scientist — AI/ML Team
Braze — February 2021–June 2023

- Developed AI algorithm for automatic subject line testing using GPT-3 and HuggingFace; achieved performance on-par with standard A/B testing
- Designed and developed novel, user-level, interaction-based A/B testing framework providing users up to 5% conversion lift over traditional A/B tests
- Implemented probabilistic sales account scoring model with potential 20% conversion increase

Lead Data Scientist (Manager) — Pricing Team
Hopper — December 2019–September 2020

- Directly managed activities of the Pricing & Recommendations data science team
- Developed optimal pricing strategies for fintech-related product lines
- Implemented dynamic pricing algorithms in TensorFlow

Data Science Technical Lead
Wayfair — March 2019–December 2019

- Developed statistical testing for large-scale product experiments (Hive and Python)
- Collaborated across departments to improve scalable, big data infrastructure for the DS team
- Implemented and deployed the "early orders" model to predict product performance

Senior Data Scientist
Bombora — November 2017–March 2019

- Developed large-scale behavior models to predict firmographic information from IP traffic
- Engineered features and created models on multi-terabyte datasets using PySpark
- Debugged and tested production machine learning implementations

Head Data Scientist
Quick Sprout — April 2015–October 2017

- Led all data science, machine learning, and analytics-related projects
- Developed and deployed a highly scalable web application (Python/React/AWS Lambda/Redis)

Lead Data Scientist
KISSmetrics — October 2013–April 2015

- Directed and managed the activities of the data science team
- Implemented A/B testing tool in core product using JavaScript and Ruby
- Led implementation of customer-facing time series forecasting
- Developed Markov chain-based attribution models

Publications

Local Image Generation
Manning Publications — November, 2026

Bayesian Statistics the Fun Way
No Starch Press — 2019

Get Programming with Haskell
Manning Publications — 2018

Education

MS in Computer Science
University of Nevada, Reno

MS in Library and Information Science
Simmons College, Boston

BA in English with Honors
Rutgers University, New Brunswick

Technical Skills

Programming
Python, TypeScript, R, Haskell, C++

AI & Machine Learning
Large Language Models, Prompt Engineering, LLM Evaluations, Diffusion Models, JAX, PyTorch, TensorFlow, A/B Testing, Causal Inference, Bayesian Statistics

Data Engineering & Infrastructure
LanceDB, Snowflake, MongoDB, Redis, PySpark, Airflow, AWS