

RAFAEL XAVIER

MACHINE LEARNING ENGINEER

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 [rxavier](https://github.com/rxavier)

 [Rafael Xavier](#)

 xavierr.com

EXPERIENCE

Staff Machine Learning Engineer @ Mercado Libre

Jun 2022 - current | Montevideo, Uruguay

- Lead image generation and editing for seller listings: implemented pipelines that transformed over 20 million product cover images with AI, increasing CVR by 0.7pp.
- Spent 2.5 years leading machine learning for content moderation: built systems that analyze over 600 million listings, 200 million product images and 60 million post-sale messages per month while reducing latency and costs.
- Hired and manage a distributed team of 6 MLEs.

Manager, Data Analytics @ CPA Ferrere

Nov 2020 - Jun 2022 | Montevideo, Uruguay

- Led a new Data Analytics area within the Consultancy Department focused on machine learning and business intelligence projects.
- Worked on a complex natural language processing project for the United Nations and forecasting engines for financial institutions.

Python instructor @ Instituto CPE

Jun 2021 - Oct 2021 | Montevideo, Uruguay

Technical Director @ Center for the Study of Public Policy

Aug 2018 - Nov 2020 | Montevideo, Uruguay

- Advised legislators and presidential candidates.
- Led a 300+ team of volunteering professionals tasked with designing and proposing public policies.

Research Associate @ CERES

Dec 2010 - Aug 2018 | Montevideo, Uruguay

- Responsible for macroeconomic analysis and forecasting.

EDUCATION

Master of Arts in Economics @ Universidad de Montevideo

2012 - 2018 | Montevideo, Uruguay

Bachelor of Arts in Economics @ Universidad de Montevideo

2008 - 2012 | Montevideo, Uruguay

SKILLS

- Python - REST APIs, data engineering and model inference.
- Machine learning and AI - heavily biased towards computer vision, image processing and diffusion models.
- Golang - REST APIs.
- SQL.
- Languages - Spanish (native), English (advanced, Cambridge CPE), Portuguese (basic).

OPEN SOURCE PROJECTS

- [Poniard](#) - a scikit-learn companion library that streamlines model evaluation.
- [Embedding Encoder](#) - a scikit-learn + Tensorflow categorical variable preprocessor.
- [econuy](#) - popular economic data retrieval and processing library with a HTMX+FastAPI web app ([econ.uy](#)).