Data Science Engineer

Bromley, UK

Direct Line Group

We are looking for a talented Data Science Engineer to work within the newly established Data Science team. Based in our Bromley offices, you'll work with friendly and smart peers in an agile team providing valuable insight and analytical services over diverse large scale data for a variety of functions within the Direct Line Group; including: pricing, operations, marketing, counter fraud and HR.

Working closely with Data Scientists, you will be responsible for expanding our data processing framework; establishing efficient ways of implementing segmentation & predictive models; and ensuring that our reusable data assets build smoothly on a regular basis.

You will have an exceptionally strong academic background combined with a passion for innovation. Your outstanding technical skills in a variety of programming languages will complement our existing SQL, ETL, open source and commercial statistical analytics tool environment to enhance our existing capability. You'll be a technically focussed person who learns new programming languages for fun and can deliver robust engineering solutions.

Operating with a start-up mentality within an established FTSE 100 company, this is a fantastic opportunity to shape the strategic direction of data usage and deliver transformational innovation and value.

Key Accountabilities

- Develop, operate, support and continually optimise a common data analytical platform that can support rapid discovery and deployment of data products and enables a community of any data scientists to easily obtain insight
- To foster and cultivate a culture of “agile emergent design” so that it will enable the smooth and rapid transitioning of prototype data products into robust product assets.
- To establish credibility and thought leadership in the area of data science and to engage with the enterprise architecture function to ensure best practice, influence and contribute to the development of strategic vision for data usage within the company.
- Develop sophisticated and innovative data products that will have considerable and measurable impact; either in cost reduction, revenue increase or enable new business opportunities
- Take responsibility for the delivery of specific pieces of Data Science work, managing the overall process of delivery and taking responsibility for data, modelling and communication of analysis to stakeholders; including clear and actionable insight through advanced analysis and interpretation of multiple complex data sets

Technical Competencies & Behaviours

- Strong academic background [ e.g. expect at least Masters Degree in computer science, physics or maths based or equivalent
- Advanced SQL for data manipulation or experience of managing Tera-scale data sets within an analytical function
- Advanced working knowledge of unix-like environments; including shell scripting, version control, services etc.
- Python and/or Java (Advanced)
- Strong analytical, quantitative, problem-solving, and critical thinking skills
- Good written, verbal and presentation communication skills
- Ability to work collaboratively with other business units in order to achieve common objectives
- Organised self-starter, with drive and commitment; able to finish work with little supervision.
- Excellent interpersonal skills and the ability to maintain effective working relationships
- Exceptionally statistical skills, experience of building predictive models using a wide variety of tools and techniques (including: neural network, linear or logistic regression, random forest)
- Experience of commercial data science or analytics software (e.g. R, SAS, SPSS, MATLAB etc.)
We welcome flexible working for this vacancy

Career benefits and rewards

It all starts with a competitive salary, benchmarked against our competitors, which will grow as you do. We’ve made sure your annual holiday entitlement is attractive too – and what’s more, we let you choose the rewards that suit your lifestyle.

That kind of flexibility is a key feature of our benefits package. And there’s plenty to choose from, including:

- Pension funding of 9% of your base salary – you can choose to contribute less or more than this
- Income protection
- Life assurance
- Private medical cover (anyone can choose this through our flexible benefits scheme, and managers receive this as standard)
- Direct Line Group employees can apply for 50% off Direct Line and Churchill home, motor and pet insurance policies
- We also provide free Direct Line travel insurance and Green Flag breakdown cover to our people.

Who we are

Direct Line Group is an organisation with a clear mission: to make insurance much easier and better value for customers. We’re one of the leading motor, home and small business insurers in the UK. We’re home to some of the nation’s best-known brands, including Direct Line, Churchill, Privilege, Green Flag and NIG