

# Vlad Sobal

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## About

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I'm a PhD student interested in autonomous vehicles and reinforcement learning, particularly model-based. I'm also interested in self-supervised learning for vision and RL, and unsupervised exploration in RL.

## Education

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**PhD in Data Science, New York University** New York, NY  
*NYU Center for Data Science, advised by professors Yann LeCun and Kyunghyun Cho* *Sep. 2019 – present*

Working on applying model-based learning to controlling self-driving cars in dense highway traffic.

**BSc in Computer Science, University of Warsaw** Warsaw, Poland  
*Faculty of Mathematics, Informatics, and Mechanics* *Oct. 2015 – May 2019*

Thesis topic: Feature Space Augmentations for Object Classification and Detection.

## Experience

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**NVIDIA** June 2021 - Present  
*Deep Learning Research Intern* *Remote*

- Applying joint-embedding methods to pre-train autonomous vehicles perception models.

**NVIDIA** May 2019 - August 2019  
*Software Engineering Intern with Autonomous Vehicles Perception team* *Santa Clara, CA*

- Contributed to C++ pipeline for intersection bounding box processing.
- Built a model to classify digital traffic signs.

**Jane Street Europe** July 2018 - September 2018  
*Software Engineering Intern with Trading Systems team* *London, UK*

- Working on Jane Street trading systems' price processing pipeline built with OCaml.

**NVIDIA** March 2018 - June 2018  
*Software Engineering Intern with Autonomous Vehicles SDK team* *Santa Clara, CA*

- Built a tool to monitor pipeline throughput for autonomous vehicle's sensor data.

**NVIDIA** October 2017 - March 2018  
*Software Engineering Intern with GPU Cloud team (NGC)* *Santa Clara, CA*

- Contributed to the front-end and back-end of communication system for GPU cluster (Python), making dataset upload up to 10 times faster.

**Google** July 2017 - October 2017  
*Software Engineering Intern with Google Ads team* *Mountain View, CA*

- Built a logs analysis pipeline for dynamically generated ads using Go.

**Google** July 2016 - September 2016  
*Software Engineering Intern with Google Maps for iOS team* *Zurich, Switzerland*

- Worked on permission notification system for Timeline feature of iOS app for Google Maps (Objective C).

## Technical Skills

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Python (Pytorch and Tensorflow), C/C++, SQL, OCaml, Go, Java (Android development), Objective C

## Achievements

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- 2017, Bialystok, Poland, 1st place at Polish national team ACM contest in Bialystok
- 2014, Moscow, Russia, 2nd degree diploma at the Open International Russian Olympiad in Informatics