

Duarte's lecture was the most inspirational and motivational of the three. He was a calm and collected person who could change his career onto so many paths multiple times. That alone takes skill, hard work, and effort. I thought it was so neat that he was able to explore many different options with his degree, both far and near. I hope to understand what I truly love to do so I can continue doing and developing my skills at it, as Duarte mentioned. That was my largest takeaway. Doing something you truly love and care about means you don't work a day in your life. Something that I never thought about was the maintenance of past projects as a current freelancer. Making sure old works stay valid, as bits truly do rot.

I thought the best talk was the one given by Duarte because he was quite engaging and authentically passionate about the work he was doing. I had always wondered what careers in ML looked like, especially ones that stray away from hard research, so it was great to see from a new lense the way he integrates modeling into his software engineering solutions. One thing I loved him sharing was his outlook on solving the problems presented to him; I am not particularly interested in pursuing ML, so I hadn't thought about potential projects and always thought they had to be particularly novel or grand. As he went through some of his example problems, I became more interested in trying it out for myself. Something new that piqued my interest was when he mentioned the importance of code maintenance and the fact that code is never "dead". I think this, coupled with his approach to SWE, really changed my outlook on developing appealing code.

I thought the talk Duarte gave was really interesting, and probably my favorite talk of the week. He was very engaging and had a lot of new things for us to hear about. I enjoyed how he gave us some real-world problems that he had worked on, in order to get a better look at machine learning in practice. I also thought it was great that he talked about the ways in which he continues to perfect his craft and stay informed in the tech industry. I also had never heard of someone who worked as a free-lance computer scientist, and while I do not think it is necessarily a career I want to pursue, it is another cool option that we have open to us in this growing field.

I thought Duarte was a very engaging speaker, and I appreciated hearing about a non-traditional way of working in the tech world. I found Duarte's point about not making a ML model just for the sake of making one to be very valuable. It's a pretty simple take, but I think it's important to emphasize because ML is an exciting concept, which might make people more prone to applying it to situations where it doesn't make sense. I would have liked a little more clarity as to how Duarte was able to freelance, but overall I really enjoyed his presentation.

I really enjoyed Duarte's lecture because he really gave me a big motivational push to continue learning ML on my own while emphasizing the importance for understanding the fundamentals. Also I just found his ambition to be a freelance ML programmer so sick. Seeing him so happy in that role after working in a number of jobs and companies was inspiring but I also felt kinda happy for him if that makes sense. Anyways, I'm really glad he came in because it further encouraged me to learn on my own and do what I can. Also he introduced embeddings which I thought was really cool.

As a student at a liberal arts college where computer science is taught in an extremely abstract / academic sense, it was great to hear about how Duarte used machine learning in practice to make a living. I also appreciated how he touched on ML Ops, additionally moving concepts from abstract to coding implementation. I would have appreciated hearing a bit

more about his arc and how he came to be in a position where he is able to do freelance work, though that may be a bit of an US-centric question as most people in the states get healthcare through their full time employers. I thought it was interesting that Duarte spends much of his time maintaining models he built previously, I had never thought about the work that goes into constantly tweaking a product that was finished years ago.

Like many others in the class, I really enjoyed Duarte's presentation. I thought he was a very engaging speaker, and explained his projects in a concise manner. Duarte also taught me about opportunities that I did not know of before. I like that he emphasized having a passion for work, and definitely inspired me to want to find a passion that will make work just like having fun. It was great to hear from someone that has a perspective that values interest over stability, and wants to share such a belief with students entering the workforce.

I really enjoyed Duarte's talk, especially because of how engaging he was and how excited he seemed to be about his work. He had a really unique perspective on ML and I thought the way he works was super interesting. His quote "don't start with models, start with people" really resonated with me because at the end of the day, everything we code in the real world has a purpose related to humans, so it makes so much sense to take the feelings and ideas of the people into account rather than simply starting with code and later trying to account for what the people/businesses want to see. It was also really cool to see how he is able to create his own schedule, ensuring it works for his personal work processes. It was also interesting how he maintains all of his older projects, which leads me to ask the question of how? When does it get to the point where it's too much work to both maintain previous work and work on new projects? Also I look forward to taking a look at his list of resources, as they seem quite helpful and a good place to expand my knowledge on ML related topics.

I really enjoyed the talk by Duarte Carmo at the beginning of last week. I think he did a good job explaining how he approaches machine learning projects. It was also nice to see some real-life examples of potential projects we could be doing. He gave some great insight into the industry as well. He seemed really passionate about the subject and it made the talk much more interesting. I thought it was really cool that he walked us through his whole process and it allowed me to really understand what he was doing, even though most of us were still beginners on the subject.

I enjoyed the talk by Duarte. It was my first time (apart from meeting Daniel) that I met someone who actually works with ML and making models professionally. I appreciated the tips he had about approaching ML projects, particularly the fact that not all problems need models as solutions and that we should have a heuristic approach before we jump to making models. I also appreciated the constant callbacks to Statistics and Data Science because as both a CS and Statistics major, I am still trying to find the best way to intersect the two fields.

Duarte's presentation was also very interesting to me, mostly because it was obvious that he really likes what he does and is passionate about machine learning. His emphasis on constantly learning really challenged me because I can see how it's important to stay knowledgeable in your field, but also realize that the only way you would willingly pick up a book to read about something is if you really love it. His talk helped me feel more comfortable about the idea of dabbling in a few things until I find something that I really like, not only career-wise, but also in life in general.

I found Duarte's talk interesting and helpful. Duarte's take on being a professional in the field

of machine learning was meaningful and applicable. I like his take about being “a maker at heart” — I think it is pretty accurate, but not something that I hear very often. I also liked hearing about his freelance work and enjoyed hearing about his wide variety of experiences. I especially thought that word embeddings were pretty cool! His advice was real and honest: especially the parts about getting out of the basement, working with heuristics as well as models, and continuing to be curious and staying up to date with advancements in the field. Overall, I enjoyed hearing someone passionate and experienced share their adventures.

I enjoyed the talk that Duarte gave us, it was different than talks I had heard at school, career fairs, etc. I think the difference was in the passion that he had for what he was doing and the fact that he worked for himself, it seemed like this added a component of freedom and also one of understanding to his career. He had to really understand what he cared about and wanted to spend his time doing and then he had to be really good at it. He also had to have a really holistic comprehension of not only developing models but also this ML Ops he was talking about, meaning how to put a model in production and then maintain it. This just wasn't something I had thought much about before. Overall, I thought he was really inspiring and seeing this other perspective on the industry was pretty eye opening. I would have loved to hear a little more about the process of starting off being a freelancer and how you go about finding customer. I think since it's more common here than in the US, Duarte may not have understood that we really have no idea what it would look to go down a path like this.