

Ben Drury

Senior Data Scientist | AI & Automation | MSc Data Analytics | BSc Computer Science

Leicestershire, UK • 07485 066092 • bendrury9@gmail.com

[LinkedIn](#) | [Portfolio](#) | [GitHub](#)

Senior Data Scientist with a track record of turning messy, real-world data challenges into production systems that make a measurable difference to how teams operate. Commercially-driven and execution-focused, I take full ownership from scoping through to deployment and measure success by the impact delivered, not just the complexity of what was built.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- **Scaling Operations:** Built an extraction engine at Zoro processing 4M+ records (96% approval rate), enabling a 10x increase in catalog capacity without headcount growth.
- **Modernising Content:** Designed a componentized content framework at Cromwell, replacing legacy unstructured descriptions with structured, reusable fields, enabling automated content generation and improving data consistency across channels.
- **Operational Efficiency:** Implemented a vector-based entity resolution model at Zoro to auto-group 300K+ products into families, reclaiming 120+ hours of manual effort per month and improving product discovery across the site.

CAREER HISTORY

Cromwell Tools - Data Scientist

December 2025 - Present

Building and deploying AI and automation systems across product content, customer service, and sales, focused on problems that were previously too complex or too manual to solve reliably at scale.

- **Data Extraction:** Building an AI engine to extract structured information out of various sources like PDFs (product datasheets) and supplier data (utilising ETL pipelines). This turned manual tasks into automated workflows.
- **Data Architecture:** Leading the design and shift to a structured content framework for product pages, replacing unstructured blobs with reusable, structured fields via automated content generation to support marketplace and external channels.
- **Standardisation:** Implemented a normalisation model to enforce attribute consistency across thousands of products, giving downstream search and content tools the clean, reliable inputs they need to perform.

Zoro UK (Grainger plc) - Senior Data Automation Analyst

October 2023 - December 2025

Assumed technical ownership of the automated intelligence systems for an assortment of 5M+ products. My role focused on translating commercial logic into automation systems, presenting technical implementation and ROI projections to global leadership from USA and Japan.

- **System Efficiency:** Built a hybrid classification pipeline to auto-categorize 5M+ records across 2,000+ categories at 84% accuracy, reducing manual categorization workload by 50% and accelerating supplier onboarding.
- **Discovery Optimization:** Developed a vector-based product grouping model that auto-groups 70% of SKUs across 300K+ families at 90%+ accuracy, improving product discovery across the site and reclaiming 30+ hours of manual effort per week.
- **Leadership:** Managed and upskilled a direct report to Mid-level and established internal SQL training programs to foster a results-driven data culture across the organization.

Zoro UK (Grainger plc) - Data Automation Analyst

November 2022 - October 2023

Built and maintained the Python-based pipelines and automation tooling that made product onboarding more reliable and scalable across supplier lines.

- **Revenue Impact:** Developed an alternative product algorithm (TF-IDF + Cosine Similarity) and A/B tested via Unleash, increasing click-through rates, reaching significance and scaling to 100% of site traffic.
- **Pipeline Reliability:** Built out supplier data ETLs via Python and SQL, eliminating manual handling and creating the foundation for additional content pipelines to be layered on top.
- **System Expansion:** Supported early-stage ML experiments that transitioned from prototype to production-grade attribute extraction and categorization tools.

Zoro UK (Grainger plc) - Content Quality Analyst

March 2022 - November 2022

Implemented foundational Python-based solutions to scale product onboarding to millions of products.

- **Onboarding Automation:** Built the preparation and automation tooling that cut average handover-to-launch time to 3 days, including a mass image downloader responsible for 1M+ downloads, eliminating manual quality checks and repetitive tasks across the launch workflow.
- **Quality & Monitoring:** Developed automated reporting to measure content quality and attribute completeness, visualised through Looker/BigQuery dashboards to give the Merchandising team real-time visibility into catalogue integrity.

TECHNICAL TOOLKIT

Systems: Python, SQL, FastAPI, Docker, GCP (Cloud Run, Vertex AI, BigQuery, Datastream), ETL Design.

Capabilities: Multi-Modal Extraction (PDF/Text), Vector Search, NLP, Clustering, Information Retrieval.

Strategy: Stakeholder Management, Technical Roadmapping, Agile Delivery, Production Monitoring.

Certifications: Databricks Generative AI & AI Agents; Google Cloud Generative AI; TensorFlow.

EDUCATION

De Montfort University, Leicester

October 2020 - February 2022

Master of Science (MSc) - Data Analytics (Distinction)

De Montfort University, Leicester

October 2017 - July 2020

Bachelor of Science (BSc Hons) - Computer Science (First Class)