Patryk Laurent, Ph.D.

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AI Executive | AI Strategy · Data & AI Governance · Enterprise Value Creation

AI executive (CEO, Chief Scientific Officer, Director of Emerging Technologies) with 25+ years in AI, from neural network research to enterprise deployment. Built a data science Center of Excellence across DMGT's portfolio companies, whose transformation work supported $2.8B in exits. Pairs C-suite AI strategy with hands-on depth in architecture, data governance, and compliance.

Core Competencies

- **AI strategy & value creation:** aligning AI investment with business outcomes and exit value.
- **AI operating model:** ML Centers of Excellence; tight Product–Engineering–Sales loops.
- **Data & AI governance:** customer-owned models, data isolation, anonymization, lineage.
- **Platforms & architecture:** AI-powered process automation, generative & edge AI, API-first, MLOps.
- **Leadership & partnerships:** hands-on leadership, strategic partnerships, AI/IP go-to-market.

Positions held

Scenera, Inc. (San Diego & Cupertino, CA). 2023–present

Edge AI platform company backed by $8.5M in strategic investment from Sony, Nikon, and Wistron.

Chief Executive Officer 2025–present (promoted)

- Took over as CEO with 4 months of runway; monetizing the IP portfolio to fund the pivot.
- Pivoted from edge AI SaaS to AI-triggered video security services built on Scenera's patents, addressing market pushback and privacy concerns in video AI adoption.
- Sold the Korean subsidiary (TnM AI) and streamlined operations to minimize burn.

Chief Scientific Officer 2023–2025

- Led data science team (10 ICs) for edge video and sensor time-series analytics providing video AI analytics for Wachter, Netflix, ABM, Grosvenor, Samsung, GS25, LG Group.
- Used **schema-contextualized large language models (LLMs)** attached to AI event-filled data lakes to reason about and improve workplace building energy efficiency, operations, and safety.
- Enforced per-customer **AI model privacy**: models trained only on each customer's own data and owned by that customer, with data siloed on-prem and in the cloud.
- Architected automated MLOps pipelines, **generative training data**, data lake management.

***Principal*, Lighthill Technologies, Inc.** (San Diego, CA). 2022–present

- Fractional CTO and head of data science, leading AI strategy and architecture, build or buy decisions.

Appitome, Inc. | *Fractional CTO* Jun 2026–present

- Architecting **voice-enabled GenAI** for phone intelligence and attribution **(buy)**.

CampusReady, Inc. | *Fractional CTO* Mar 2023–present

- Building a scalable and highly customizable e-commerce and analytics platform **(build)**.

Whering, Ltd. | *Fractional CTO* Nov 2022–Apr 2023

- Led visual AI and mobile app stack development teams **(build & buy)**.

Barefoot Solutions | *Fractional CAIO* Aug 2022–Oct 2023

- Led data scientists, communicated with stakeholders, and crafted AI strategy **(build & buy)**.

***Director of Emerging Technologies*, DMGT, plc.** (San Diego, CA & London, England). 2018–2022

- Led AI in a transformation group whose work across portfolio companies supported exits totalling ~$2.8B: RMS to Moody's (£1.4B, ~30x EBITDA), Hobsons ($410M, 3.4x revenue), Genscape to Verisk ($364M, ~4x revenue; up from $130M in 2006), and BuildFax to Verisk.
- Helped turn Trepp into a growth business; supported Landmark's transformation.

- Demonstrated the value of business data via ML models, e.g., BuildFax models estimating roof age from drone and satellite imagery, opening a larger market for its data.
- Built automated pipelines to accelerate stakeholder-to-data scientist development cycles.
- Implemented systems to bundle technology as SKUs with minimal Engineering involvement.
- Performed technical due diligence on three (3) potential acquisitions.

***Architect in Residence (Acting ML Architect)*, Trepp, LLC** (New York, NY). 2020 (6 mos.)

- Defined AI-powered process automation and data products leveraging Trepp's data lake.
- Built proofs-of-concept on CRE and CMBS data, **early pre-LLM work with transformers**.
- Codified the portfolio's data-product pattern into "The Usher," a reusable authorization system.

***Acting Director, Data Intelligence*, Genscape** (Louisville, KY & Boston, MA). 2019 (11 mos.)

- Led a 12+ data scientist division productionizing models nowcasting energy consumption, production, and demand from EMF sensors, satellite images, weather, and video feeds.
- Led the shift to an API-first business model with consistent, documented interfaces.
- Simplified entitlements by factoring out authorization, cutting time to launch new data products from 3–6 months to 3 weeks; established data catalogues and lineage.

***Director of Artificial Intelligence Initiatives*, CliniComp, Intl.** (San Diego, CA). 2017–2018

- Led data science division (5 data scientists / engineers) and worked with CTO/CIO.
- Applied ML to classify and forecast anonymized, multi-scale temporal and spatial clinical data.
- Held models to high performance standards given their impact on patient outcomes.
- Liaised between data science, software engineering, and product domain experts.

***Co-founder and CTO*, Lasso Home, Inc.** (San Diego and Mountain View, CA). 2017

- Built mobile app and backend to track home appliance maintenance with computer vision.

***Director of Engineering (AI)*, LeEco US** (San Diego, CA & Beijing, China). 2016–2017

- Defined the AI roadmap for LeEco's US consumer device ecosystem, aligning technical teams.
- Developed novel models to recognize naturalistic user behaviors and minimize false positives.

***Senior Scientist/Director of R&D*, Brain Corporation** (San Diego, CA). 2012–2016 (promoted)

- Managed 8+ scientists/engineers (Ph.D., M.Sc.); shipped a commercial robotics framework.
- Co-designed a novel ML architecture that learned to track objects in video (DARPA).
- Built vision ML prototypes for gesture control (Fortune 500) and smarthome IoT [Qualcomm].

***Academic research*, Johns Hopkins; University of Pittsburgh & Carnegie Mellon** 2003–2012

- Studied attention and decision making with Reinforcement Learning (RL), fMRI, and behavioral methods; simulated RL agents that learned to control eye movements and attention [Java].
- Modeled reward discounting with spiking networks, and speech perception with Jay McClelland.
- Provided technical support and advice to multiple fMRI and big data projects.

Earlier roles, 1997–2003: *Co-founder and CTO*, Inductive Logic, Inc. (NLP sentiment analysis); *Software Developer*, Super Natural Tools, Inc. and ScholarOne, Inc. (acquired by Reuters); *Researcher*, Laboratory of Systems Neurodynamics, University of Virginia (spiking neural networks).

Education

- **Ph.D.**, Computational Cognitive Neuroscience, Center for Neuroscience, University of Pittsburgh.
- **Certificate**, Center for the Neural Basis of Cognition, Carnegie Mellon University.
- **B.A.**, Cognitive Sciences (minor in Mathematics), University of Virginia. Echols Scholar, Holland Scholar.

Publications and Patents

• Named inventor on 35 patents • Author on 36 scientific publications (two of which are single-author)