

Adam Pohl

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INTRODUCTION

A Mathematics graduate from Cardiff University, with an interest in computer programming. An instrumental member of the schools code club, with experience of handling various managerial duties, web development and encouraging new learners.

ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS

Cardiff University <i>BSc Mathematics, Operational Research and Statistics</i> Modules include: Computational Statistics, Computing for Maths (Python and Sagemath), Mechanics, Multivariate Statistics, Visual Basic programming for OR.	2013 – 2016
Rougemont School, Newport <i>4 A Levels:</i> Maths (A*), Further Maths (B), Chemistry (B), Physics (B). UCAS points: 440	2011 – 2013
St Davids Sixth Form College, Cardiff <i>A Levels:</i> Maths, Further Maths, Chemistry, Physics, Young Engineers.	2010 – 2011
Rougemont School, Newport <i>9 GCSEs:</i> Maths (A*), Physics (A*), Statistics (A), Chemistry (A), English Literature (A), Biology (B), English Language (B), Geography (B), History (B), OCR Level 2 Key Skills in IT.	2003 – 2010

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Office for National Statistics <ul style="list-style-type: none">Statistical Analyst in the Big Data teamCurrently on a 6 month temporary contract.Through the use of Python and R, I perform statistical analysis of interesting datasets.	Sept 2016 – present
Target Group <ul style="list-style-type: none">1st/2nd line IT support1 month temporary contract.I answered the phone and setup new windows and email accounts for staff members	Aug 2016 – Sept 2016
Computing for Maths tutorials <ul style="list-style-type: none">After a strong performance in this course, the module leader specifically chose me to act as a tutor. This involved the teaching of Python and Sagemath to subsequent first year students.	Oct – Dec, 2014 and 2015
TK Maxx, Newport. <ul style="list-style-type: none">Part time Store AssociateFinancial transactions and customer relations.	Oct 2010 – Dec 2016
Silvertel, Newport. <ul style="list-style-type: none">Electronic component testing, programming of parts.Edited web pages using Adobe Dreamweaver, mechanical assembly.Completed a stock check using SAGE, circuit drawing on Visio.	Aug 2010
Cricket coaching (9 – 13yr olds) <ul style="list-style-type: none">Certified ECB level 1 cricket coach.	2009 – present

IT/Computer Programming

RELEVANT SKILLS

In completing the ‘Computing for Mathematics’ module, I have learnt how to code in python and also how to write mathematics in \LaTeX . I found this to be very enjoyable and as computers are an essential part of any business, I feel that being able to code is a valuable skill to have.

During my second and final years at university I undertook modules which taught me how to code in R and use it to perform statistical computing/analysis in both one and N dimensional space.

Over my second and third years at Cardiff I was involved in the setting up and running of a code club in the Maths department at my university. This has helped me to improve my web development skills through the creation and maintenance of the clubs’ website.

I have been instrumental in building a web application that assists students in choosing modules. This is a dynamic tool with a basic database and a user interface implemented in JavaScript.

Towards the beginning of last year I became a contributor to various open source software used by the international

programming community: git-control and script (used in the Atom editor) which I contribute to via modern software development practices including git and GitHub.

During my time at the ONS I have learnt how to write web scraping scripts in python using the modules *scrapy* and *requests* and also how to manipulate data for statistical analysis with the module *Pandas*. As a team we are working in an **agile** way, splitting the work up into different *stories* and completing them over a number of *2 week sprints* which greatly improved my programming ability through the constant review and improvement process that working in an agile manner brings.

From 12th till the 15th March 2017 I was part of a three man team from the ONS that competed in the first *European Big Data Hackathon*, during which we produced a tool that helps policy makers better understand the mismatch of skills and jobs across Europe. Data sources that we used included: web scraped job vacancies from 5 different european countries and EURES job vacancy & CV data. Using Python I was able to create csvs that consisted of the supply/demand for skills and also the number of job vacancies for the covered european regions. Using these we created a shiny app in R with three tabs, one that allowed us to overlay the data over a map of Europe and then select whether we wanted to see the supply/demand/mismatch of jobs across Europe on one tab, one with a scatter plot of the supply/demand of skills for a certain job level in a region and one that allowed us to see what training people with a particular job level undertook across the different regions.

Currently I am taking two online courses, one hosted by the University of Helsinki on *Object-Oriented Programming in Java* and one hosted on pluralsight on *Apache Spark*, as I feel that these would be useful programming knowledge to have.

Communication, Presentation and Interpersonal skills

Working in an Agile manner within my team at the ONS has helped me to improve my communication and interpersonal skills because Agile is only effective as long as the teamates communicate clearly and precisely with one and other.

During code club we often have 'lighting talks', in which we have to go up to the front and present something code related to the rest of the group. This has helped me with my presentation and communication skills as I have to make sure that (a) what I am talking about is easy enough for others to understand and (b) I am ready for any potential questions that may be come about from my presentation.

Analytical and Problem solving

As a mathematics graduate I have developed these skills fully throughout my modules. Furthermore my level of programming experience further evidences my analytical and problem solving abilities.

Team work

One of the pieces of coursework in Computing for Maths was taking part in a group project. This experience has shown me that in order for any team to be successful, you must develop effective working relationships with all members of the group. It has also helped me to better understand the phrase: *every idea is a useful idea*, because it made me recognise generating innovative solutions can sometimes be more meaningful and useful than the final outcome itself. We were able to achieve a score of 86% by utilising our strengths and working together.

Leadership

When I took part in the Young Engineers scheme, I was the leader of my group and helped us to become the best team in Wales that year by only dropping two marks overall and win the award for best presentation. At TK Maxx I quite often have to run the cash registers and look after/train the new people on this section.

As a founding member of code club, I often have to run it when the residing lecturer is unavailable. This has involved me deciding what the focus of the code club will be and also arranging any lighting talks that would take place. Another way in which I have used code club to enhance my leadership skills is that, like with TK Maxx, I often have to guide/teach new members on how to contribute to the website and also where they may have gone wrong with regards to any code they are writing.

Business and Commercial Awareness

Having worked in retail for six years, I feel that I have gained a good commercial awareness as I have had to make sure that whatever part of the store I was in, it was always neat and tidy so as to make it more appealing to the customer. It has also given me a better business awareness as we have regular meetings about how the business is doing, be it my store or TJX Europe, and how what I do on the shop floor can help the business to grow.

INTERESTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Duke of Edinburgh Bronze award in 2009,
Cricket, Tennis, Golf, Reading, Computer Programming
Lead Young Engineers group to being the best group in Wales.

REFEREES

Dr Vince Knight
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