

# Brian Forristal

(301) 922-2621 – [Bkf19@pitt.edu](mailto:Bkf19@pitt.edu)

## Professional Summary

I view most any business or life challenges through a data lens. I see the tenuous connections between life's complex dynamics and the systems that momentarily capture snapshots of them. Statisticians, to which I'm officially trained as, see merely the statistical properties of the system, while what's needed is a holistic view of the end-to-end problem. The integration of technology and statistics – data science – has been a primary focus of mine outside my studies for quite some time. Learning is a continuous endeavor and I seek opportunities to learn and develop my skills in leading technologies and techniques whenever possible. I have learned to connect disparate systems, like R, PostgreSQL, Docker, AWS cloud services, and proprietary APIs to perform powerful analyses with meaningful impacts. In addition to my technical proficiencies, I can speak to business leaders in a clear and concise manner, fitting language and interpretations to the audience, ensuring effective decision making. I want to leverage these honed skills to solve complex challenges with data and make a meaningful impact on the world.

### Key Achievements

- Completed several data science projects on real-world datasets in a university setting
- Led a high-performing team of site supervisors for 3 years with excellent outcomes
- Developed the business case, by running a time-study to demonstrate efficiency and savings estimates, for an enterprise investment in a *Salesforce* CRM platform
- Subject matter expert, contributor to the requirements, configuration, and deployment of said platform
- Developed a 'Return to University' business plan and presentation for an actual Ernst & Young (EY) client
- Created go-to-market sales material, sales deck and brochure, for EY sector partners to utilize for data governance framework products and services

### Technical Skills

- *R Studio* – data cleansing, analysis, and visualization, R Markdown, statistical learning, predictive analytics, and machine learning
- *PostgreSQL* – data integration and management
- *Docker* – beginner skills in containerization of scripts and models into deployment-ready configurations
- *REST APIs* – google Gmail, twitter, and other API usage for scrapping data into R environment
- *Tableau* – data exploration and visualization

### Core Competencies

- Skilled in developing machine learning, predictive, and statistical models to gain key insights
- Confident with data and understand its fundamental statistical properties and limitations
- A keen eye and sense for informative and clear data visualizations
- Adept at integrating multiple platforms to seamlessly work in unison for data science applications
- Tidying and cleaning data for easy consumption and analysis
- Highly attentive to detail, thorough when annotating code for reproducibility and interpretation
- Translation of complex business challenges to specific data requirements for hypothesis formulation and testing
- Effective listener, strong communicator, and confident and concise in presentations to senior leadership
- Adaptive to change and energized by challenges

### Recognition and Awards

- Data Integration Badge – *EY Analytics*
- Dean's List – *University of Pittsburgh* – Spring 19, Fall 19, Spring 20
- Dean's List – *Community College of Allegheny County*
- Humanitarian Service Medal (Haiti)
- Meritorious Mast
- Navy Meritorious Unit Commendation (2nd Award)
- Marine Corps Good Conduct Medal
- Certificate of Commendation (Haiti)

## Education

**Bachelor of Science in Statistics – GPA 3.55**  
University of Pittsburgh – Pittsburgh, PA

Expected Graduation Spring, 2021

- Predictive analytics, machine learning, statistical learning, and elementary deep-learning with Keras in R
- Applied-multivariate analysis, regression, experimental design, probability, and mathematical statistics
- Exploratory data analysis, cleansing, visualization, storytelling, and inferential statistics
- Statistical and algorithmic model selection, testing, and validation

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- Deep knowledge of probability theory and statistical properties of data
- Fluent in R scripting language, PostgreSQL, and elementary Python

## **Incline Consulting Group – VP of Corporate Relations**

January, 2019 – May, 2020

University of Pittsburgh – Pittsburgh, PA

- Secured corporate sponsorship with consulting firms in the Pittsburgh region
- Developed unique opportunities for members in collaboration with corporate sponsors: training events, mentorship-style coaching, on-site visits to firm offices, project feedback, and financial resources
- Sourced and secured clients by leveraging my professional network

## **Professional Experience**

### **Technology Consultant Program – Intern**

Summer, 2020

Ernst & Young – Pittsburgh, PA

- Earned an EY Analytics – Data Integration badge for completing a PostgreSQL coding course
- Researched and developed a partner-level presentation on competitive offerings for data governance frameworks and implementations, Data & Analytics managed services, and project accelerators and toolkits
- Developed marketing materials for partner-level presentations to clients to include a high-level slide deck and brochure
- Thoroughly reviewed the feasibility and usefulness of existing-project accelerators for presentation materials

### **Data Analyst – Intern**

Summer, 2019

PNC Bank – HR Metrics and Analytics – Pittsburgh, PA

- Conducted data exploration and analysis on HR-related datasets
- Developed an understanding and appreciation for data integrity and validation techniques to ensure consistent deliverables to upper-level executives
- Honed data visualization skills in *Tableau*
- Extensively researched business use cases for implementation of a HR data privacy policy
- Researched the “true” analytics capabilities of Workday

### **Territory Manager**

March, 2015 – April, 2018

American Tower Corporation – Pittsburgh, PA

- As a subject-matter expert within Operations, teamed with counterparts on an enterprise-wide initiative to consolidate departmental processes, tools, and data into a streamlined case management system
- Responsible for monitoring and tracking projects, budgets (\$1M+ per year), resources and equipment for 1,500 plus cell-tower sites across the northeast region
- Developed team members’ critical thinking and reasoning skills to creatively and proactively seek solutions to challenging problems
- Responsible for the daily training, mentoring, and coaching of a team of up to 14 remote technicians
- Provided ongoing feedback and evaluation – including performance improvement plans, bi-annual performance reviews, and biennial talent management reviews

### **Field Operations Technician**

September, 2014 – March, 2015

American Tower Corporation – Washington D.C.

### **Infantry Rifleman/Radio Operator**

June, 2006 – June, 2010

United States Marine Corps – Camp Lejeune, NC