Colin K. Curtis - Software Engineer

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Major Achievements

- **Developer** - Adaptive Learning Analysis for Images (ALAI), an Automated Image Analysis application
- **Developer** - Footprint Metric Analysis Tool (FMAT) - An image analysis tool for tire footprint measurement
- **Project Manager and Author** - 'Friction: Friend and Foe', book chapter in Surface and Interface Science Vol. 8

Work Experience

Software Engineer - EASi; *April 2019 - Present*

- Python Engineer focused on the architecture and implementation of (often web-based) applications for science and engineering. This includes use of Continuous Integration/Deployment (CI/CD) tools, cloud-based test suites, UI/UX, and back-end analysis using analytic, numerical, and machine learning techniques. Working at the interface of science and software to help move projects from in-situ to in-silico.
- Contributor to automotive CAD system is written in Python3 and React.js with a premium placed on reliability, readability, and reusability
- Strong focus on consistent and effective communication within work groups
- test-driven development using pytest/unittest and robot frameworks
- Converted and upgraded FMAT, a tire image analysis tool, from MATLAB to Python3 - introduced 'alpha-shapes' computational geometry technique to improve the boundary estimates of complex 2-D geometries
- Agile style development with two-week sprint timelines, daily stand-up meetings, and frequent code reviews

Research Software Engineer - Renaissance Computing Institute (RENCI) @ UNC - Chapel Hill; *June 2018 - March 2019*

- NIH National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences (NCATS) - Biomedical Data Translator Project - Green Team
- Statistical Analysis: risk/odds ratio testing and Bayseian statistics to quantify drug performance
- Utilized Jupyter Notebooks, with Python3, to analyze data and visualize results in an interactive, shareable format
- Embedded SQL and SPARQL queries within Python to access and parse Ontologies
- Performance tested services for high-concurrency request loads using and 'locustio' and 'pytest'

Research Assistant, Krim Group; *January 2015 - April 2018*

- Developed ALAI, an application for automating fractal analysis of nanoscopic images
- Primary skills: equipment building, data capture, data analysis, and mathematical modeling
- Subject-matter expertise: in carbon nano-structures, inter-facial friction
- Software packages and programming environments included Origin, LabVIEW, MATLAB, and Python 3

Research Assistant, Clarke Group; *January 2013 - July 2014*

- Research focus: Polymers, LASER for spectroscopy and photothermal heating, nanoparticle synthesis
- Utilized ANSYS Maxwell mesh-calculation to simulate 3-D electro-magnetic fields
- Used and maintained LabVIEW software systems for instrument control and data collection

Lab Instructor, Department of Physics, NC State University; *August 2012 - December 2014*

- Instructor for introductory physics laboratory sections (PY 205 and PY 208)

Independent Coding Projects

www.github.com/colinkcurtis

Numerati
- Numerati is a Python package for training, validating, and predicting with existing machine learning models
- The tool allow users to fluidly compare the results of multiple models without leaving the interface
- Numerati provides an accessible platform with straight-forward feedback to accelerate the pace of machine learning adoption
- This tool is in the early stages of development and changing rapidly!

Adaptive Learning Analysis for Images (ALAI)
- An automated image analysis application in MATLAB using categorization and regression fitting techniques
- Reduced user's active analysis time, per image, by a factor of ~50, drastically reducing labor costs
- ALAI calculates and produces figures for: fractal dimension, saturation roughness, and correlation length
- Classification of 'fitting zones' (linear v. exponential) by $Adjusted - R^2$ comparison between multiple fitting attempts
- Weighting and bias-of-fit calculated according to uncertainties from measurements stored in file meta-data

Professional Skills & Interests

Languages & Environments
- Python 3
- react.js
- MATLAB, LaTeX
- Linux, macOS, & Windows

Software Engineering Toolkit
- Algorithm Design
- Object Oriented Programming
- Gitlab and Azure for CI/CD
- Jupyter Notebooks
- RESTful & OpenAPI standards
- json & yml
- VMs & Virtual Envs
- SPARQL, NoSQL & Graph Databases
- pytest & locustio
- networkx, obonet, & pronto
- Flask, FastAPI
- pandas & numpy
- memory_profiler

Professional Skills & Abilities
- Expert Problem Solving
- Adaptable to Broad, Multi-disciplinary Teams of all sizes
- Statistical Data Analysis
- Image Analysis
- User Interface & Experience Design
- Strong Written, Verbal, and Quantitative Skills
- Advanced Physics Knowledge
- Mathematics for Machine Learning: Statistics, Linear Algebra, Probability and Information Theory
- Data Analysis
- Fractal Analysis

Other Interests
- Science Fiction, History, and Biographies
- Skiing, Running, and Mountain Biking
- Gardening and Cooking

Education Milestones

- **M.S. Physics**, North Carolina State University (2014)
- **B.S. Physics, Mathematics Minor**, Appalachian State University (2012)

Research Publications

- First Author, *A Comparative Study of the Nanoscale and Macroscale Attributes... of Nanodiamonds*, Beilstein Journal of Nanotechnology, Sep 2017 (PDF available here: https://www.beilstein-journals.org/bjnano/content/pdf/2190-4286-8-205.pdf)
- Second Author, *Unconfined, melt edge electrospinning from multiple, spontaneous, self-organized polymer jets*, Materials Research Express, 28 Nov 2014 (Vol. 1, Num. 4)
- Third Author, *A Tribological Study of γ-Fe$_2$O$_3$ Nanoparticles in Aqueous Suspension*, Tribology Letters, Dec 2018 (66:130)