Luka Negoita, PhD
Ecologist and Data Scientist

I believe the fundamental beauty of the world comes from understanding the stories behind the patterns we see—and that is what I seek as a data scientist. I eat, sleep, and breathe managing, analyzing, visualizing, and presenting data. Have some data? Let me clean it. Have some numbers? Let me tell a story.

Experience

Oct 2017 – Current

Ecologist and Biostatistician
Charles Darwin Foundation, Galapagos Islands, Ecuador
- Designed research studies and analyzed environmental data using Bayesian, regression, model selection, and time-series analysis to improve the success of environmental conservation programs
- Generated data visualizations, infographics, and technical reports for communicating results to stakeholders and general public
- Built a culture of learning by bringing staff together in joint educational and community-building experiences
- Built and maintained online dashboards with R-Shiny for managing, visualizing, and analyzing financial and ecological data

May 2010 – May 2018

Freelance Data Scientist
- Led four major research programs at two universities, executing all technical design, data collection, and data analyses
- Funded ten grants, fellowships, or crowdfunds totaling over $175,000
- Designed the research for a study to test effectiveness of an app designed to help people reduce stress
- Published three peer-reviewed publications and numerous conference presentations and technical reports

Dec 2017 – Mar 2018

Senior Research Analyst
The Research Foundation for SUNY, Syracuse, NY
- Conducted statistical analyses on environmental data from studies completed in the Galapagos islands
- Generated graphical and tabular summaries of analyses, and produced narrative of the statistical methods and interpretations of results

Sept 2015 – Jan 2018

Founder and CEO
HabitU Lab, LLC, Syracuse, NY
- Led a development team to build an app designed to help people reduce stress by combining a habit-tracking system with behavioral psychology
- Bootstrapped the tech startup through early growth stages by using the lean startup philosophy, consulting with mentors, and participating in business incubators and competitions.

Education

2012 – 2018

PhD in Biology (Quantitative Plant Ecology)
Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY

2007 – 2011

BA in Human Ecology
College of the Atlantic, Bar Harbor, ME

Contact

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Skills

R
Expert ●●●●●

Regression, Time-series, Spatial, Classification, ML, Bayesian, and Evolutionary
Expert ●●●●●

Data Cleaning/Wrangling
Expert ●●●●●

Data Visualization
Expert ●●●●●

Research Design
Expert ●●●●●

Dedication to Learning
Expert ●●●●●

R – Shiny
Skilled ●●●○○

NLP
Learning ●●○○○

Git/GitHub
Learning ●●○○○

Python
Learning ●○○○○

SQL
Learning ●○○○○