

# Michael Bobak

Knowledge-Engineer / Research-Programmer

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[Champaign, IL](#)

[Tweets:@MBstream](#)

## SUMMARY

[Research-Programmer](#) starting with (bio)[physical-science](#) simulation, adding AI study and years of [Knowledge-Engineering](#) work

[Knowledge-Based](#) aids, for process improvement to [teaching](#). AI: [Knowledge-Representation&Reasoning](#), [Rules](#), [Kn-Acq](#), [NLP](#), [ML](#), ...

## WORK EXPERIENCE

Present  
Dec 2023

**Xendat/Vertex** remote

[Ontology Data Developer/Analyst \(Integrations\)](#)

Contract ontology engineer through a shop serving a large pharma [Python, TripleStore, SemanticWeb-Libs]

2025  
Jun 2018

**AlohaHealth** remote

[Sr AI Research-Engineer](#)

Part of a startup built on the topic of my UCSF research. Semantic search for clinical trials. [graph store/s]

Aug 2023  
Nov 2019

**National Center for Supercomputing Applications** Urbana, IL

[Sr Research Software Engineer](#)

- All the PoCs for [earthcube.org/geocodes](#) incl. organizing others to bring in a great NSF review  
- Focus on semantics/metadata search, with some NLP and sim. [Python/SPARQL...]

Aug 2019  
Aug 2018

**Agribile/Nutrien** Urbana, IL

[Sr Engineer, Natural Systems](#)

Ag-informatics/sim/.. Planned and guided reworking the main simulation, documentation and ML/verification [Python]

Jul 2018  
Jul 2011

**Freelance** San-Francisco, CA

consultant

- Working as an ontologist for [osthus.com](#) on aligning bio/pharma ontologies to BFO to annotate masses of data in HDF5 files, for the [allotrope.org](#)

- Worked with IDEO on their systems integration issues that could be aided by Knowledge-Graph for information refinement and cleanup
- Worked with the Siemens Web of Things research group on use of SemWeb+IoT for adaptable manufacturing
- Advised start-ups in AI: fashion blog to trends, sport dbpedia info, work chatbot
- Developed ideas to take my UCSF research and fuse it with the Patient Data Mining Cluster that was developed by the UCSF Head of Research Computing and a PhD student, which has now been submitted for a patent
- Worked with UCSF in Psychology Department understand how to apply NLP and graph relation insights into an app they developed called Prime, to help with mental health management
- Continued to build skills around ML, Semantic-Web/Linked-Data, and Knowledge-Engineering, with these courses, from:
  - Coursera: Data Analysis, Data Science (with distinction), Machine Learning (with distinction), Discrete Optimization (audit)
  - openHPI: Semantic Web, Knowledge Engineering, Kn Eng w/Semantic Web technology, LinkedDataEngineering
  - Stanford: Design Thinking

Jul 2011  
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Oct 2010

### ***ApolloGrp.edu*** *San-Francisco, CA*

Architect , [Adaptive Learning Platform](#)

Conceptually annotate study material & tests for automated remediation, instrument classroom to learn from use [Hadoop, Lisp, KM]

Oct 2010  
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Sep 2007

### ***UCSF.edu*** *San-Francisco, CA*

Programmer/Analyst III

Medical-Informatics [research](#) (relating to clinical-trials) in Lisp/KM, and Natural-Language-Processing in Java/etc; [paper](#) with Stanford [group](#); [ontology](#) dev/use [Lisp, KM, ..]

Sep 2007  
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Feb 2001

### ***Freelance*** *Chicago/Boston*

Knowledge-Engineer/ Research-Programmer

[mindbox.com](#) 3/02-10/02. [used Art\*Enterprise] See: [Ocwen\\_Mindbox](#) Worked up to half-time for [cas.dis.anl.gov](#) 5/03-5/04 [Java Simulation] Worked full-time 8/03--05([verizon](#))[labs.gte.com](#), Model-Based-Diagnosis on a national scale. [Art \*Enterprise] See: [aaai.org/Papers/IAAI/1996/IAAI96-287.pdf](#) Bioinformatics/control [contract](#) 11/04-12/05 [CLIPS&Protege.stanford.edu/Java/DB] Control of perfusion pumps on light microscope sample, monitoring incl. Machine-vision, Bio-ontology/reasoning/Kn-mngt for the experiment setup. & Grant proposal work. Worked for CME.com 2/06-06/06 (re)organizing trade-data validation code. [CLIPS/Jess] Signal-Processing/Machine-Learning (startup) 06/06-[Lisp/etc] Hospital Informatics/Machine-Learning ghx.com 02/07-05/07-[Lisp], MachineLearning speedup for financial-scientific [Lisp]

Feb 2001

Jun 1998

**kbs.ai.UIUC.edu** Urbana, IL(Senior) Research Programmer ([Knowledge Based Systems Lab](#))

University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, IL Organize many levels of a very large knowledge based simulation projects. Brought over 18 programmers together to deliver a coherent product. Ran weekly (sub)group meetings, down to help solving any problem. Hiring, demo, design, install trips, prototyping to lead project direction. Taught group of 6 how to use a Rule-Based-shell for a reasoner-rewrite in Art\*Enterprise. Projects included: Simulation-based, Intelligent Tutoring System (ITS) & Real-Time control system. Being used in classroom, real life testing, presented at IAAI99 'Automated Instructor Assistant for Ship Damage Control' The system teaches Navy officers how to save a simulated ship in crisis. A variant was developed to catch real-time crisis conditions and suggest solutions [www.dwilkins.org/members.htm](http://www.dwilkins.org/members.htm)

Jun 1998

Oct 1996

**Brightware** out of Chicago, IL

Knowledge-Engineer

Helped develop and install their very [first product \(Intelligent email reply\)](#). Worked between development and consulting. Helped on several Knowledge-Based business applications. Helped with several deployed Knowledge-Based business applications (ie. financial: mortgage, web based job finder). [Art\*Enterprise]See: [http://www.brightware.com/eservice\\_solutions/](http://www.brightware.com/eservice_solutions/) More recently I worked 1/2year for the new version of the company: Mindbox.

Aug 1996

Feb 1996

**Institute of Learning Sciences** Evanston, IL

Lead Programmer/Analyst

Wrote Lisp code (mainly GUI) for Qualitative Research Group. Learned more about Qualitative/Quantitative Simulation, Model-Based Reasoning, Intelligent-Tutoring-Systems, & general Lisp programming. See: <http://www.qrg.northwestern.edu/projects/NSF/Cyclepad/aboutcp.htm>

Feb 1996

Feb 1993

**Argonne National Lab** Argonne, ILSoftware Engineer ([EAD](#) then [DIS](#) groups)

Wrote fielded Expert System by myself at the end of grad-school. [in Lisp rule-shell then CLIPS] Prototyped communication & control of distributed simulation. [in CLIPS PVM etc] Agent wrapping of simulations with CLIPS+PVM, to describe then mix and match them. Also used C++/Smalltalk/FORTRAN with PVM; Other work as needed. Algo/Viz/Etc. Written up in a book about innovative distributed object application. See: [http://www.dis.anl.gov/DEEM\\_HLAsim](http://www.dis.anl.gov/DEEM_HLAsim) [http://www.dis.anl.gov/DEEM/DIAS\\_diaswp.pdf](http://www.dis.anl.gov/DEEM/DIAS_diaswp.pdf) \_More recently I worked part-time for the new subgroup of dis: [cas.dis.anl.gov](http://cas.dis.anl.gov).

Jan 1993

Jan 1990

**UIUC.edu** Urbana, IL

Graduate Research Assistant /Research Programmer

Wrote molecular graphics package used in classes & for publications. [in C] Used machine-learning techniques for protein structure prediction.

Wrote thesis on Knowledge-Based Simulation Environment. [Lisp/OPS5/C] Overseen by heads of the NCSA CompBio group and head of Biophysics at the time. see: [web.bilkent.edu.tr/ncsa/Apps/CBdir.html](http://web.bilkent.edu.tr/ncsa/Apps/CBdir.html)

Dec 1989

Apr 1989

**[National Center for Supercomputing Applications]NCSA,Uof IL,GIST Urbana/Savoy, IL**

Programmer/Consultant

Suggested scientific software path for Software Tools Group of NCSA; Wrote molecular viz code for a professor. Wrote testing code for Global Info Systems Tech. [in C]

Apr 1989

Oct 1988

**Shearson Lehman Hutton London, England**

Programmer (Research Computing)

Maintained financial databases & daily report information. Organized worldwide mailing system. Wrote statistics code for stock predictions. [MUMPS and Maths-package]

Aug 1988

Mar 1982

**US Army Corp. of Eng. Research Lab Champaign, IL**

Research Programmer (Modeling then Acoustics teams)

Provided research support from start to finish. [FORTRAN] Wrote and ran computer simulation code, compared output with field data. Did field measurements to back up predictions. (Team/Self; Local/US/World-wide) My work went into several [published papers](#). GRASS: [grass.osgeo.org](http://grass.osgeo.org)

## EDUCATION

### University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

MS Biophysics & Computational Biology with AI, 1990-93

BS Physics, BS Biophysics, 1983-88, dept. distinction

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS:

[AAAI \(Association for the Advancement of Artificial Intelligence\) life-member.](#)  
[IEEE \(Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers\)& Computer Society 10yr](#)

### Other groups:

[meetup.com](#), [linkedin-groups](#)

### ID

[orcid.org/0000-0003-2357-5918](http://orcid.org/0000-0003-2357-5918)

[wikidata.org/wiki/Q104512704](http://wikidata.org/wiki/Q104512704)

### Papers

[scholar.google.com/&q=michael+bobak](https://scholar.google.com/&q=michael+bobak)

## SKILLS & EXPERTISE

AI [Artificial Intelligence](#) [Adaptive Systems](#) [Business Rules](#) [Recommender-Systems](#)

[Conceptual Modeling](#) [Data Mining](#) [Intelligent Agents](#) [Intelligent Systems](#) [Knowledge Engineering](#) [Knowledge-based Systems](#)

[Machine Learning](#) [Natural Language Processing](#) [Natural Language Understanding](#) [Ontology Engineering](#) [Rules](#) [Semantic Web](#)  
[Semantics](#) [Causal Inference](#) [Case-Based Reasoning](#) [Composite Applications](#) [Computational Intelligence](#) [Controlled Vocabularies](#)  
[Data Analysis](#) [Decision Modeling](#) [Expert Systems](#) [Information Access](#) [Information Extraction](#) [Information Retrieval](#)  
[Intelligent Tutoring Systems](#) [Knowledge Representation](#) [Logic Programming](#) [Mathematical Logic](#) [Mathematical Programming](#)  
[Model-based reasoning](#) [Ontology Development](#) [Rules Engines](#) [SNOMED](#) [Semantic Search](#) [Semantic Technologies](#)  
[Taxonomy Development](#) [Text Classification](#)

Science [Research](#) [Scientific Software](#) [Scientific Computing](#) [Scientific Visualization](#) [Simulation](#)  
[Computational Mathematics](#) [Biophysics](#) [Computational Biology](#) [Physics](#)

Others [Cloud Computing](#) [MapReduce](#) [Hadoop](#) [Dynamic Languages](#) [Exploratory programming](#)  
[Common Lisp](#) [other Languages](#)

## PROGRAMMING LANGUAGES/...:

19+ years overall Object Orientated Rule-Based KnRep& Libs: Databases: Operating-Systems:  
 14+yr Reasoning: 10+yr  
 C(6+yr) [Smalltalk](#)(1yr), C++(1+yr) [OPSS](#), [Prolog](#), [GoldWorks](#)(1yr) [Viz:](#) [OpenGL](#)(3+yr) MS-Jet/SQL, NeXTSTEP, MS(NT..XP)  
 FORTRAN(6+yr) Python(5+yr), [CLIPS](#)(4+yr), [ART](#)(4+yr), [HPC:](#) [PVM](#) (1+yr) MySQL (8+yr)  
 Scheme(~1 yr) Java/Scala(1+yr) [Knowledge-Machine](#)(3+yr), [WS:](#) Tomcat/Axis SOAP/REST PostgreSQL, UNIX  
 MUMPS(1/2yr).. [CLOS](#)[[CL](#) -Object-System] [JESS](#)(1 yr), [Protege](#)(6+yr) [ORDB](#) (18+yr), [GNU Linux](#)  
[Lisp](#) (7+yr) [CommonLisp](#) 10+yr others) [Graph&triple persistance](#) [OS-X](#). Darwin(10+yr)  
[some opensource examples at:](#) [github.com/MBcode](https://github.com/MBcode) [github.io](https://github.io) & other [NoSQL](#)  
 as [html/ pdf](#) and [latest-talk](#) . .