Matthew Glenn Finster

Master of Data Science
Data Engineer

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EXPERIENCE / EMPLOYMENT

Data Manager – Education Queensland, Education Victoria

January 2020 – December 2023

- Analysed student wellbeing and behaviour datasets to identify at-risk students, trends, and outliers, informing evidence-based support initiatives.
- Presented data findings to staff to enhance evidence-based planning and teaching practices.
- Prepared and developed tabulated data and graphical reports for decision-makers to coordinate effective interventions for at-risk students.
- Analysed literacy datasets to develop targeted classroom interventions which improved comprehension of analytical language in Year 7-10 students.
- Developed literacy toolbox and strategies based on literacy data to share with other staff.

Senior Mathematics & Science Teacher – Education Victoria, Education Queensland, International IB School (France)

January 2020 – present

Senior Mathematics & Science Teacher across various departments including Department of Education Queensland (2020-22, 25-present), Department of Education Victoria (2023) and a private IB school in France (2024).

- Teaching focused on experimental design, hypothesis testing, and statistical decision-making.
- Guided students through defining research questions, identifying dependent and independent variables, and formulating null and alternative hypotheses.
- Taught use of descriptive and inferential statistics (including mean, standard deviation, variability, and p-value interpretation) to analyse behavioural data.
- Led classroom investigations applying sampling principles, randomisation, and bias control, helping students evaluate evidence validity and reliability.
- Strengthened students' ability to reason about correlation vs causation, interpret patterns in data, and draw justified conclusions under uncertainty.

Data Engineer (Internship) – Cairns Basketball

December 2025 – present

Part of a discrete data project for Cairns Basketball (CBI) to support grant readiness using community and operational datasets.

- Conducting exploratory analysis of community participation, performance, and operational data to identify meaningful trends and gaps.
- Scoping dashboards and repeatable reporting scripts to enable consistent, defensible reporting for funding bodies.
- Presenting findings to the CBI general committee for timely and accurate decision-making regarding member retention and association funding.

SIGNIFICANT DATA PROJECTS

Bias in LLM Outputs - La Trobe University
July 2025 – November 2025

- Designed an end-to-end bias evaluation framework combining human ratings with uncertainty-aware modelling to assess bias signals across large sets of LLM outputs.
- Built reproducible Python pipelines for batch ingestion, schema validation, and analysis to support repeatable runs and auditability.
- Compared models and rater behaviour using appropriate statistical testing, producing concise, defensible results and stakeholder-ready summaries.

Microarray Gene Expression Subtyping (251 Breast Cancer Patients)
September 2024 - October 2024

- Cleaned and normalised microarray expression data and implemented hierarchical clustering with multiple linkage methods.
- Validated cluster structure using silhouette analysis, PCA and heatmaps; then ran differential expression workflows and downstream biological interpretation.
- Linked molecular subtypes to prognosis via survival modelling documenting decisions and limitations clearly.

Review and Extension of a Meta-Analysis (Exercise & Telomere Length)
August 2024 - October 2024

- Replicated and audited a published meta-analysis reproducing effect sizes, heterogeneity statistics, and subgroup results using R.
- Identified methodological limitations (outcome scale inconsistency, post-only means, influential case handling) and re-implemented the analysis using change scores.
- Extended the analysis with sensitivity checks and meta-regression (exercise modality, age), producing revised forest plots, prediction intervals, and evidence-based conclusions suitable for non-technical stakeholders.

EDUCATION

La Trobe University, online – Master of Data Science (with Distinction)
March 2023 – November 2025

Flinders University, Adelaide – Bachelor of Secondary Education
February 2015 – June 2019

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Language	# Years of Experience
R and R Markdown	3+
Python (ML and Deep Learning)	3+
SQL (MySQL, SQL Server, NoSQL)	3+
PowerBI	2+
Version Control (Git)	2+

REFERENCES

Available upon request.