AGUSTÍN BENASSI

Data Scientist & Python Developer

ABOUT ME

Economist from Buenos Aires University and self taught programmer, currently working as Public Data Director at the Secretariat of Modernisation, part of the Argentina's Cabinet Office.

I have experience designing and building tools and data infrastructure for data scientists.

In my daily work I design and enforce data standards, develop products and solutions for working with public data and get other areas of government to publish data assets properly developed, managed and published.

CONTACT INFORMATION

agusbenassi@gmail.com | twitter | github | medium | linkedin

EXPERIENCE

Undersecretary of Open Government and Public Innovation · Cabinet Office of Argentina

Public Data Director (Jun 2019 - current)
Open Data Policy Coordinator (Jan 2018 - May 2019)
Technology for Public Policy Adviser (Jan 2016 – Dec 2017)

I coordinate the design and implementation of the Open Data Policy at the national level, build an open data infrastructure and assist different government units in improving their data management capabilities.

I currently manage an in-house team of data analysts, designers, system administrators and product managers together with a contracted team of font-end, back-end and QA developers.

I also design and manage the implementation of data based technological solutions for particular projects with our government partners.

Products I have developed:

- **Time Series API** and related tools. A practical API to query time series data - following FRED s inspiration - and its ecosystem of tools to transform data into time series, validate time series catalogs and visualize time series on the web. This project

required designing a metadata standard and several ETL routines, together with negotiating with partners data publishing and delivering within the system. Also I conducted user research to target specific data user needs for building user oriented product features.

Github repository

- **Georef API** . An API to normalize geographical names in Argentina, geolocate addresses and expand coordinates associated data. This was a part of the national data architecture oriented to ease data assets interoperability.

  Github repository

- **Portal Andino** . The technology behind the National Open Data Portal of Argentina and several portals of other ministries, provinces and cities. Built following a designed metadata standard for documenting data assets in Argentina and part of our federated strategy to consolidate management of different organizations data.

  Github repository

- **API Gateway** . A tool to manage public APIs, used to ease our data API developments.

- **Precios Claros** (not open source). I designed a technical data specification for a normative resolution under which supermarkets securely transfer daily prices lists across the country to a centralized data base. Also developed the back-end and API of the system.

Other published open source projects from the Public Data Direction are at **Argentina's Data Team Github** .

Technologies: `Python - Elastic Search - PostgresSQL - PostGIS Javascript - AWS`

Buenos Aires City Government Laboratory

Resident Innovator (Sep 2015 – Dec 2015)

Developed the prototype "Transport Oriented Development" at Buenos Aires City Government Laboratory. I designed and implemented data requirements, model, ETL routine and final web application to meet public officials needs in a challenging time schedule.

Technologies: `Python - PostgresSQL - PostGIS - Javascript`

Recurse Center

Participant (Feb 2015 – May 2015)

The Recurse Center is a community-driven educational retreat for programmers in New York City. There I sharpen my programming technical skills together with a top notch technical community of international developers.

Technologies: `Python`

Center of Studies of the Situation and Perspectives

of Argentina (CESPA) · University of Buenos Aires
Research Assistant (Aug 2012 – Feb 2015)

Researched about freight transportation networks and Argentina's economic issues. I compiled and built structured data bases and programmed data based simulation models to analyze research scenarios.

Some publications:

- Un Modelo de Costos para el Transporte Terrestre de Cargas en Argentina | PDF

- Transporte Automotor de Cargas en Argentina: una Estimación de Orígenes y Destinos - 2010 | On-line version | PDF | Github repository

Technologies: `Python`

Center for the Implementation of Public Policies for Equity and Growth (CIPPEC)
Applied Research Assistant (Jun 2013 – Dec 2013)

Modeling and analyzing data bases about transportation and economics. I implemented ETL routines and compiled different data sources oriented to feed a research goals in efficient time frames.

Technologies: `Python`

Faculty of Economics · University of Buenos Aires
Teaching Assistant (Jan 2012 – Dec 2017)

Compared Economic Systems, Projects Evaluation and Industrial Organisation.

STUDIES

University of Buenos Aires, Economics Science Faculty
Economics Degree (2007 – 2013)

Colegio Nacional de Buenos Aires
Bachellor's Degree (2002 – 2006)

SELECTED TALKS

Regional Conference of Open Data in Latin America and the Caribbean (CONDATOS 2019)
Participation on panel "Open Data Public Policies in the Region".

International Open Data Conference (IODC 2018)

Participation on panel "Open Data Infrastructure: The Importance of Data Governance".

Belize Open Week (BOW 2018)

Talks and workshops over a week of training in Open Government and Open Data organized by the Organization of American States for the Government and civil society of Belize.

Regional Conference of Open Data in Latin America and the Caribbean (CONDATOS 2016)

Talk in the "Smart Cities" workshop about Open Data applied in urban contexts.

Regional Conference of Open Data in Latin America and the Caribbean (CONDATOS 2015)

Workshop "Xlseries: a python package to scrape time series from Excel files".

CERTIFICATIONS

Certified Scrum Product Owner (CSPO 2017)

2 day workshop on PO topics and techniques.

SKILLS

The strongest

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Python - Jupyter Notebooks - Data Science - Agile Development
Data Design / Architecture - Product Management - User Centered
Design
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The rest

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JavaScript - HTML - CSS - PostgresSQL - SQL - PostGIS - Git - Github
PEGs - Travis CI - Coveralls
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