

Alexander C. Michels

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SUMMARY

Data scientist with experience in software development, system administration, and DevOps. Led software projects with thousands of users, managed software developers, and ran workshops. Experience working in academia, insurance, and media on large, interdisciplinary teams.

EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Informatics	Jun 2019-May 2025 (<i>expected</i>)
University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign	
M.S. in Geography	Aug 2022-May 2024
University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign	
B.S. in Mathematics and Financial Economics	Aug 2015-May 2019
Westminster College	

EXPERIENCE

CyberGIS and CyberInfrastructure Researcher	Champaign, IL
CyberGIS Center & Geospatial Information Laboratory (CIGI)	<i>Jun 2019-Present</i>
– Lead developer on CyberGIS-Compute (75 users; Typescript, Python) and CyberGIS-Jupyter (1368 users; Docker, Docker Swarm, Linux, Bash, SLURM, Globus, Ansible, Kubernetes).	
– Managed 6 student research programmers; interviewed and hired students and full-time staff.	
– Led workshops with 50+ participants and organized conference symposiums/sessions.	
– Analyzed spatial Big Data using Bash, HPC, Python, Machine Learning (ML), and SQL.	
– Published 16 articles and presented at 20+ conferences, garnering 200+ citations.	
Systems Administrator and Software Engineer	New Wilmington, PA
Titan Radio and WCN 24/7	<i>May 2018-May 2019</i>
– Deployed Linux servers and VirtualBox VMs running software for news and radio staff.	
– Installed servers, upgraded operating systems, managed software, and automated workflows.	
Information Technology Intern	New Castle, PA
Treloar & Heisel	<i>Sept 2018-Dec 2018</i>
– Cleaned and upgraded database for sales and wrote apps in Java, Python, and Visual Basic.	
Data Scientist	Los Angeles, CA
Praedicat, Inc. & Institute for Pure and Applied Mathematics at UCLA	<i>June 2018-Aug 2018</i>
– Built toolkit to crawl and parse millions of webpages for insurtech business insights.	

AWARDS

2024	SDOH & Place Fellowship, Healthy Regions & Policies Lab
2023	PI (Co-PI: Dr. Shaowen Wang) (400,000 credits). Advanced Cyberinfrastructure Coordination Ecosystem: Services & Support (ACCESS) Explore Allocation for “SPACTS: a spatial partitioning algorithm for computing travel-time zones at scale” (CIS230031)
2022	Graduate Research Fellow, National Socio-Environmental Synthesis Center (SESYNC)
2020	Computational Research Techniques Fellow, Texas Advanced Computing Center (TACC)
2020	First Place, Robert Raskin Student Paper Competition, Cyberinfrastructure Group, American Association of Geographers (AAG)

SKILLS

Data Science: Big Data, G.I.S., Network Science, Git, ML/AI, Parallel Programming
Languages: Python, Javascript, Typescript, Bash, SQL (Postgres, PostGIS), HTML, C++, Java
Technologies: Ansible, AWS, Docker, Hadoop, Kubernetes, OpenStack, Terraform
Operating Systems: Linux (Debian, Ubuntu, CentOS, Scientific), Windows, Apple