

# Clara Bennett

## Software Engineer

Versatile product engineer with strong problem-solving skills, leadership experience, and a knack for building domain expertise. I value collaborative teamwork, business impact, and learning.

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### WORK EXPERIENCE

#### Slack

##### Software Engineer Search, Learning, & Intelligence

September 2017 - February 2018

- Developed new features for Highlights message recommendation model, using **Scala** and **Apache Spark**
- Researched strategies for measuring situational awareness and overwhelm in large organizations
- Contributed to home screen prototype
- Built model for dynamic channel-relevance ranking prototype

### WORK EXPERIENCE

#### Google

##### Software Engineer Geo Data Infrastructure

August 2016 - September 2017

- Led development of an analyst-oriented data warehouse for Geo, using **C++**
- Built and enhanced tooling for monitoring and preventing spam edits to Google Maps
- Contributed to data-integrity tools aimed at preventing data changes from breaking downstream client applications

### SKILLS

#### Engineering Skills

- Agile product development
- Naming things
- Deciphering and maintaining legacy code
- Technical presentations
- Writing detailed, thorough documentation

#### Software Tools

- Python
- Git
- Flask
- Pandas
- Django
- Scikit-Learn
- Apache Spark
- MySQL
- C++
- Scala

### WORK EXPERIENCE

#### Picwell

##### Lead Software Engineer, Commercial Team

December 2014 - April 2016

- Led development of a new recommendation product for commercial health insurance, using **Python**, **Flask**, **Redis**, **Pandas**, **Scikit-Learn**, and **Apache Spark**
- Designed significant improvement to Picwell Score scaling algorithm
- Restructured app to disentangle data retrieval from business logic for clarity and testability
- Designed and prototyped a "modeling harness" wrapping **Scikit-Learn** that allows the analytics team to build deployable models
- Rebuilt client data templates to improve data quality and reduce redundancy
- Created domain-relevant interview problems to improve candidate experience
- Built engineering team site and blog

### WORK EXPERIENCE

#### The Motley Fool

##### Software Developer Wealth Management Team

April 2014 - December 2014

- Built stock-recommender and managed-account apps, with **Python** and **Django**
- Wrote new optimizer with **Scipy** to create personalized allocation of managed funds
- Reworked legacy data acquisition system for reliability and clear alerting
- Discovered and fixed several layered bugs that caused crucial account management actions to silently fail

### WORK EXPERIENCE

#### NASA Goddard Spaceflight Center

##### Detector Systems Engineer

September 2011 - March 2014

- Designed and built experimental rig and wrote **LabVIEW** software for measuring low-temperature superconductors
- Developed charge-injection protocol to mitigate effects of cosmic-ray damage on Hubble ACS imagers
- Modified the imager control software to test new injection methods and wrote **IDL** software for data analysis

### EDUCATION

- Data Science, General Assembly (2014)
  - Studied and used several classification, regression, and clustering techniques, including naive Bayes, random forests, SVM, K-means clustering
- Massachusetts Institute of Technology (2006-2011)
  - Majored in physics
  - Coursework in scientific computing
  - Coursework toward a second major in Mathematics, incl. applied math and advanced algebra

### EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

#### Tech Community and Talks

- **Falcon Framework** contributor
  - Added Jython compatibility
  - Wrote Werkzeug-inspired dev server
- **Git: A Peek Under the Hood** (PyCon 2016)
- **Femme hacks 2016** mentor and speaker
- **Code Comments** Lightning Talk (PyCon '15)
- **Intro to Pandas** workshop for PyLadies DC
- **Python Lead**, **Women Who Code** DC ('15)

#### Swimming

- Youngest person to **swim across the English Channel** in the 2008 season