

DILLON SPARKS

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EDUCATION

Columbia University

Master's in Data Science

New York, New York

Sep 2022 - Dec 2023

- Relevant coursework: Statistical Inference and Modeling, Data Analysis & Visualization, Database Management
- (2022-23) JPMorgan DSI Diversity Fellowship for students committed to advancing diversity in data science

Georgetown University

Bachelor of Science in Mathematics

Washington, DC

Aug 2017 - May 2021

- Relevant Coursework: Calculus-based statistics, Discrete Dynamical Systems, Math Modeling
- (2021) Lena Landegger Community Service Award for students with significant contributions to community service

WORK EXPERIENCE

RForwards

Consultant

New York, NY

Feb 2024 - Present

- Restructuring five years of conference attendee data on the taskforce's dashboard for continuous implementation and continuous development through GitLab, utilizing Flexdashboard in R
- Performing exploratory data analysis on five years of survey data to finalize reports for the taskforce's public dashboard

Columbia University Women's Basketball Team

Data Team Member

New York, NY

Aug 2022 - Apr 2024

- Tracking and inputting statistics in ten categories of interest to construct post-game reports for the staff, analyze player and team performance, and adjust the game plan based on findings
- Collaborate with other data team members in weekly meetings to investigate trends in team performance and develop additional metrics of team success

JPMorgan Chase

AI Research Summer Associate

New York, NY

Jul 2023 - Sep 2023

- Conducted an intensive literature review of two different clustering algorithms and four feature selection methods to understand the intricacies of the internal fair-lending system in place
- Advised the Explainable Artificial Intelligence (XAI) team and leadership to utilize a new clustering algorithm, improving model performance and reducing time complexity
- Proposed and executed an end to end pipeline for clustering, feature selection, and fairness evaluation of the model using two publicly available datasets with sensitive attributes

The Data Science Institute (DSI) at Columbia University

Project Analyst

New York, NY

May 2023 - Jun 2023

- Cleaned, merged, and transformed four years of data collected by the DSI Scholars project to produce a visualization showcasing the DSI's vast reach across campus
- Suggested three significant improvements to the data collection process to facilitate the reproduction of results and analysis in the future

Bridge to Enter Advanced Mathematics (BEAM)

College Support Assistant

New York, NY

Jul 2021 - Apr 2022

- Administered annual surveys to 300 college students and analyzed findings in Salesforce to identify and combat various barriers to STEM persistence for underrepresented minority students
- Implemented three changes to student programming based on survey results, including STEM career days, info sessions on how to pick a major, and organizing study groups
- Provided holistic support to 65 under-represented STEM majors via regular 1:1 meetings, workshops, and events

SKILLS & INTERESTS

Technical Skills: Python | R | SQL | Salesforce | Microsoft Excel | LaTeX

Interests: Educational Equity | Community Advocacy | Hiking | Anime | Cooking | Basketball