Thomas Favre-Bulle

Software Engineer

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Skills

JavaScript (ES6, Node.js, Angular, JQuery, d3) ° Python ° R (stats, ggplot2, Hadleyverse, gis packages) ° SQL (PostgreSQL) ° CSS & Sass (Bootstrap) ° HTML & Pug ° git ° LaTeX

Adobe Creative Cloud · Office · QGIS

Languages

French, English: fluent · German, Spanish: basic

Summary

I'm an entrepreneur and software engineer with a love for finding and communicating actionable solutions to problems grounded in solid data analysis.

I started solving complex problems bringing together multiple dimensions by practicing architecture, and began automating the process with software. I started a PhD to strenghten my skills in scientific computing and conducted experiments with a large number of respondents. I co-founded a startup that successfully helped 15 political campaigns find new donors.

I'm looking for a company making an impact in the world by helping people take better actions using data.

Experience

Solon Intelligence · Co-founder · San Francisco · 2014 to 2016 (2 years) · link

- Built a lead-generation platform connecting political campaigns with the most promising donors, using network analytics.
- Assembled and cleaned political donation data from various dirty sources (10M records) and 3rd party contact into an **AWS PostgreSQL RDS** using **Python** (including scrapping some sources using beautifulsoup), updating nightly, filtering unidentified duplicated records.
- Identified 3M unique individuals in the data with efficient entity resolution using conditional self-joins in **PostgreSQL** and built a feature sets for these individuals.
- Wrote a sampled, weighted pageRank algorithm in **PostgreSQL** to identify central donors and used user inputs (list of contacts, past and current donors, opponents) to recommend promising donors based on their past donations (distance in the network of donation and centrality) and features' similarity using **Python**.
- Conducted user research and testing to build card-based UI to present donor recommendations and data with an **Angular** webapp styled with **Bootstrap**, built on a **Node** API, and high-level integration tests with Selenium.
- Closed sales to bring Solon to 15 paying customers and turn cash-flow positive.

Stanford University · Visiting researcher · Sep. 2014 to March. 2016

- Awarded a \$90,000 research grant by the Swiss National Science Foundation
- Designed and implemented a **fully randomized conjoint survey experiment** to uncover causal mechanisms in citizen's support for cross-border metropolitan policies on land-use, transportation, and water.
- Recruited 700 respondents on Amazon MTurk and wrote treatment randomization with JavaScript and JQuery.
- Uncovered significant effects of support for policy coordination using coinjoint analysis and ordinal logistic regression in R.
- Published results in a scientific article with custom visualizations using ggplot2 in R.
- Recruited and managed 2 research assistants and supervised a project to evaluate the definition of metropolitan areas using cluster analysis in R on the network of commuting relationships.
- Uncovered racial biases in California parole grants with logistic regressions in R and published a scientific paper.

Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (EPFL) • PhD Student • Lausanne, CH • Sep. 2011 to Apr. 2017 (expected)

- Assembled, cleaned and normalized data on population and local governments in the USA, including digitization of historical data from scanned sources, using **Python**, **R** and **PostgreSQL** (100,000 datapoints over 60 years).
- Calculated geographic relationships between entities with R GIS packages (sp. rgeos, maptools...).
- Computed institutional fragmentation metrics in R (Herfindahl and others).
- Designed and built an interactive atlas with d3is.
- Wrote successful \$40,000 grant application for scientific equipment.

Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (EPFL) · Lecturer · Lausanne, CH · Sep. 2011 to Sep. 2014

- Taught an architectural and urban project class (15 master students, 3 semesters)
- Taught an agent-based modelling class (20 bachelor students, 1 semester).

LRS Architectes · Architect · Geneva, CH · Feb. 2011 to Sep. 2011

• Lead a project to design a bank headquarters, finding a spatial solution (floorplans) to a complex set of constraints including budget, multiple levels of security, flow separation (10,000sqm, \$30M).

Office for Metropolitan Architecture (OMA) · Paid intern architect · Rotterdam, NL · Aug. 2007 to March. 2008

- Paid internship at one of the top 5 architecture firm worldwide.
- Collaborated in the design of an offshore hotel in Monaco (35,000sqm, \$90M), and a mixed-use tower in Paris (140,000sqm, \$600M), in both cases optimizing floorplans for a complex set of constraints in large projects.

Education

Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (EPFL)

PhD · Lausanne, CH · Sep. 2011 to Apr. 2017 (expected)

Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (EPFL)

MSc, Architecture and Urban development Lausanne, CH · 2010

• Wrote agent-based algorithms in **Java** and **Netlogo** to find floorplan configurations satisfying a large set of constraints, and conducted tests on a police station and an apartment building, both with 150+ rooms each with different constraints.

Univ. Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne

Bachelor of Laws · Paris, FR · 2010

ENSA Bretagne

BA, Architecture · Rennes, FR · 2007

Interests

I'm excited about medieval Iceland, public transit, and space exploration. I play city building videogames. I travel to explore new cities. I learned to code at age 12 on a Psion Organizer II.