# Heather Van Tassel

Data Scientist

Skilled data scientist with 3 years of industry experience. Passionate about creating reproducible statistical analyses and data visualizations that tell stories that shift human perception and actions in the field of personalized medicine and wellness.

## Work History

**2022-03-** | **Data Scientist**

**2022-02 -**
**2023-02**

*Visier, Vancouver, BC*

Software algorithm development and research with millions of HR employee records. Created 10 new benchmarks and Insights Report on applicant rates across industries.

**2020-08 -**
**2022-02**

**Data Scientist**

*Viewpoint AI, Vancouver, BC*

Machine learning, statistical algorithms and data visualization development in agile software team for a collaborative decision making software startup.

**2020-03 -**
**2020-06**

**Data Scientist**

*Imbellus, Vancouver, BC*

- Statistical analysis of test-taker performance across forms for psychometric models in R. Code reviews of python scoring pipeline in agile scrum team.

**2019-09 -**
**2020-02**

**Data Scientist**

*Floka, Women's Wellness platform. Vancouver, BC*

- Created clustering algorithms, correlations and regressions to provide internal reports for improved understanding of user's health behaviours using data from 200 different wellness apps.
- Built and maintained cloud infrastructure for deploying machine learning models and improved personalized wellness recommendation system model.

**2019-04 -**
**2019-06**

**Data Scientist – Capstone project**

*E-comm 911, Vancouver, BC*

- Improve data management strategy by creating a reproducible data integration pipeline from 4 departments for: 1) attrition analysis using survival analysis and regression models for analyzing factors affecting employee retention and 2) short-term absence classification model to predict whether employees will be absent.

## Contact

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**Blog**
https://heathervant.github.io/

## Skills

Machine Learning

R

Python

Scikit-Learn

Research Design

Software Engineering

Statistical analysis

Presentation skills

Data wrangling

Pandas

NumPy

Time series analysis

Regression modeling

Natural Language Processing

- Present results to key stakeholders and collaborate with multiple departments to guide staffing model.

**2017-01 - 2017-08** · **Research Project Manager**

*BC Children's Hospital, Vancouver, BC*
- Executed research plan for assessing the opinion of 100 pediatric biobank stakeholders.
- Performed qualitative and quantitative analysis.
- Processed patient blood, tissue, and urine samples for different studies, data entry, large database inventory management, clinical consenting with children, families, and women for multiple studies.

## Education

**2020-11** · **AWS Academy Cloud Architecting Course.** *COMP 3215 - BC Institute of Technology, online.*

**2018-08 - 2019-06** · **Master's of Science: Data Science**

*University of British Columbia - Vancouver*
Course Projects available on
https://github.com/heathervant:
- Collaborative R shiny app for visualizing qualitative and quantitative survey response data.
- Collaborative software package in R and Python for dataframe cleaning.
- Reproducible 2-way ANOVA analysis pipeline of viral DNA using Docker and Make files.

**2012-08 - 2018-05** · **Bachelor of Science: Integrated Science, Biochemistry and Neuroscience**

*University of British Columbia - Vancouver, BC*
Coursework included: Physiology and Cellular Neurobiology, Psychopharmacology, and Membrane Biochemistry

**2014-09 - 2015-06** · **Exchange Student: Physiology and Neuroscience**

*University of California San Diego*

## Achievements

- 2018 + 2019 Hackseq participant. UBC. Teracyc viral voyager shiny app, and antimicrobial resistance clinical analysis pipeline
- April 2019. Women in Data Science UBC conference at UBC Ambassador and host.
- 2012-2014. Varsity Athlete, University of British Columbia Track and Cross-country runner

## Publications

Zaidi FN, Cicchini V, Kaufman D, Ko E, Ko A, Van Tassel H, Whitehead MC. Innervation of Taste Buds Revealed with Brainbow Labeling in Mouse. *Journal of Anatomy.* Dec. 2016

Shih J, Kong C, Dittrick M, Van Tassel H, Tarling T, Vercauteren S. Biobank awareness changes opinions of adolescents and parents on participation and practices. *Journal of Pediatrics.* Under review. March. 2020

Forecasting
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Keras
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Data Visualization
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Written and Verbal communication
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AWS cloud services
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HTML
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SQL
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**Volunteer Experience:**
- Presentation on post-concussion brain health for UBC's mental health network, and started my own brain health coaching business.
- Speaker at The Climate Action Young Leaders Summit 2020

**Travel Experience:**
- Lived in BC, Canada. Italy, California, Washington. US + Canadian citizen
- Visited: Costa Rica, Belgium, France, UK, Wales, Greece, Israel, Hungary, Austria, Brazil, Peru.