Dr. John Engelsted Hester

Location: Austin, Texas
Email: hesterj@etableau.com
Github: github.com/hesterjeng
Nationality: U.S. citizen

Experience

2025   Algorithmic Trading Platform Development
Created Longleaf, a modern high performance algorithmic trading platform. This platform allows users to define and execute their own strategies, with an entirely open source backend that supports different brokerages and data providers. Contributions to the Guix operating system and package manager.

2021-2024   Senior Research and Development Engineer, Imandra
Project leader for program discovery and testing as part of DARPA contracts. Built a transpiler for verifying properties of trading venues, used to formally verify the behavior of venues used by quantitative trading firms. Designed a transpiler for the SysML v2 modeling language. Led a team of three to create a hallucination-free chatbot for interacting with SysML v2 models using large language models.

2019-2021   Graduate Research, University of Florida
Developed Etableau, an AI automated reasoning tool for first-order logic.

Skills

Python, OCaml, C, Javascript, Git, Docker, Linux, Guix, Nix, Lisp

Education

2021   PhD in Mathematics, University of Florida

Publications

2024   Towards the Formal Verification of SysML v2 Models (MODELS Companion '24).
2023   Revisiting Variable Ordering for Real Quantifier Elimination using Machine Learning.
2021   Novel Methods for First Order Automated Theorem Proving (Dissertation).
2021   Etableau: Combining Tableaux and Superposition (Submitted to JAR).
2020   Alternating Path Relevance for First Order Theorem Proving (Arxiv).
2019   Automated ZFC Theorem Proving with E (Proceedings of ARCADE 2019).
2017   Metaphysics in Mathematics (Arxiv).

Honors & Awards

2019   Woody Bledsoe Student Award
2019   Certificate of Excellence for Outstanding Teaching
2019   Visiting Graduate Student, Czech Technical University, Prague
2018   Vice President, UF Graduate Math Association
2017   Robert Long Prize (Honorable mention), University of Florida