Michael Paul Scherrer

Home | New York, New York
Phone | (914) 715-8727
Email | michael.p.scherrer@gmail.com
GitHub | github.com/iicky
LinkedIn | linkedin.com/in/mpscherrer

Experience

Insight Data Science | New York, New York

Data Science Fellow | September 2015 – Present

- Created **parkpic.us**, a web application to predict the best photo opportunities in US National Parks.
- Utilized the Flickr API and Python to collect and store over 35,000 photo records in a MySQL backend.
- Applied the DBSCAN clustering algorithm to determine photo opportunities from geolocations and natural language processing of photo tags to describe the photographic opportunities at the predicted park locations.

Sapling Learning | Austin, Texas

Market Development Biologist | November 2014 – June 2015

- Showcased the customer value propositions of Sapling's online biology homework products to college professors through ~20 webinars, ~100 one-on-one virtual presentations, 12 nationwide campus demonstrations and 3 biology conferences.
- Provided training to the sales team on effectively communicating the value of our biology homework products during sales calls and email pitches. Collaborated with local and field sales teams in strategy planning to identify opportunities and move new business through a multi-million dollar pipeline.

Biology Instructional Support | June 2014 – November 2014

- Partnered with program manager to design, build, and launch a beta trial consisting of 14 biology professors of Sapling's new online homework product. Led content team in the development of standard processes for executing and delivering a beta trial.
- Designed and built a project management tool in JavaScript to communicate priorities and set deadlines to the Content Team to ensure on time delivery of custom assignments to beta professors.

The University of Texas at Austin | Austin, Texas

Research Assistant | August 2007 – August 2013

- Implemented statistical and bioinformatics algorithms across multiple supercomputing clusters by orchestrating the software packages HyPhy, RaxML, DSSP, and PSI-BLAST with customized software written in Python.
- Curated and cleaned large genomic and proteomic data sets from public databases for analysis within our laboratory group.
- Examined underlying causes of evolutionary rate variation of proteins within the context of their three-dimensional structures across numerous species using computational and statistical methods. Research resulted in three scientific journal publications and completed dissertation.

Teaching Assistant | January 2008 – July 2013

- Designed and taught Biostatistics lab courses to an audience of 90+ college students for seven semesters.
- Authored laboratory exercises and created data sets to guide students through the foundations of statistical analysis, including how to write code, apply analyses, and interpret the results using computer software.

Skills & Tools

- **Skills** | Python | R Statistical Software | JavaScript | JQuery | SQL | Unix
- **Tools** | Flask | pandas | numpy | plyr | OpenCV | scikit-learn

Education

- **Doctorate** | The University of Texas at Austin | Cell and Molecular Biology | 2013
- **Bachelor** | State University of New York at New Paltz | Biology | 2007