Dr. Jack **Kennedy**

STATISTICIAN | DATA SCIENTIST | EDUCATOR | ALL-ROUND-NERD

✉ jckennedy18@gmail.com | 🏠 jcken95.github.io | ⌨ jcken95 | 💼 jcken95

Professional Summary

I am a PhD educated statistician and data scientist with experience in data science consultancy and training.

I love telling stories with data, working with technology, and finding data-driven solutions to challenging problems.

Experience

Jumping Rivers

DATA SCIENTIST   *Jan 2023 - Today*

- Provide statistical consulting services to a broad range of clients
- Software development: contribute to production-ready R packages
- Teach statistical and programming concepts in R with best practices front and centre to academia, industry and government
- Organise the 'North East Data Scientists' meetup

NU Solve

DATA SCIENTIST (INTERN)   *Jan 2022 - May 2022*

- Collaborated with NU Solve, Jumping Rivers and the Food and Agricultural Organisation (UN)
- Developed a model-based clustering approach to diagnose the sustainability of fish populations across the world
- Developed a bespoke R package to provide FAO with the tools to take the developed methods forward
- Provided a rapid scoping project for a large automotive manufacturer

Newcastle University

GRADUATE TEACHING ASSISTANT   *Oct 2018 - Dec 2022*

- Providing one-to-one support via the university Maths-Aid service to students; queries ranging from 'How to calculate a percentage?' to 'Which test is most appropriate for my data?' and 'How to solve this differential equation?'
- Provided maternity cover for senior tutor: triaging and delegating Maths-Aid appointments
- Delivered lectures to undergraduate students on statistical topics
- Marked coursework in a timely manner

Education

Newcastle University

PHD STATISTICS   *2018 - 2023*

- Thesis: Uncertainty Quantification for Stochastic Simulators with Application to Offshore Wind Farms
- Applied and developed Gaussian process based techniques to improve the efficiency of stochastic simulation experiments
- Research themes: Bayesian methods; Decision Analysis; Bayesian Optimisation; Emulation; Gaussian Processes
- Published in a leading Statistics journal

Newcastle University

MMATHSTAT (FIRST CLASS)   *2012 - 2018*

- Thesis: Multivariate Statistics & Machine Learning: An Application to Product Costing in Nissan
- Provided Nissan's finance team with a statistical and ML toolbox to help them understand their data; regression for fast product costing; dimension reduction and clustering for outlier detection
- Studied a range of mathematical and statistical topics: regression & statistical modelling; Markov models; time series; queuing theory; extreme value theory; flexible regression; multivariate methods

Technical & Professional Skills

R PROGRAMMING

- Developed production-ready R software and packages as part of a team. Confident with base R and the {tidyverse}

STATISTICS & MACHINE LEARNING

- Bayesian methods, linear and non-linear regression, Bayesian optimisation, clustering, classification, inference, prediction

COMMUNICATING

- Award-winning speaker with over 5 years teaching experience
- Produces professional, reproducible documents with R Markdown and Quarto
- Writes technical yet accessible content and documents; PhD thesis and blog posts described as accessible

- Linux, Git, CI/CD, Command line

OTHER LANGUAGES & SOFTWARE
- LaTeX, Stan, MATLAB, SLURM

Extra Curricular & Service

Royal Statistical Society

FELLOW & VOLUNTEER   *2019 - Today*
- Active member of the Royal statistical society; organised a variety of in-person and online events; collaborating with Head of Conferences and Events to organise conference sessions
- Member & Chair of the Young Statisticians Section; supporting early-career statisticians and data scientists
- Overseeing a team of 12 volunteers as chair of the YSS
- Treasurer for North Eastern Local Group

Projects & Online Activity

THINGS I DO BECAUSE I LOVE STATS, DATA AND COMPUTERS   -
- Participate in #TidyTuesday data visualisation challenge to practise visualisation and learn new-to-me R packages; see github profile for portfolio
- Top 5% overall contributor on Crossvalidated. As of September 2023 gained 2678 reputation and 26 badges

Interests

PROFESSIONAL
- Technical: Bayesian methods; data visualisation; modelling; reproducibility
- Non-technical: Supporting early-career statisticians and data scientists; communicating statistics

PERSONAL
- Cycling, hiking, running, you know, getting covered in mud