Jacob M. Merrell

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EDUCATION

Brigham Young University, Provo, UT
Bachelor of Science, Actuarial Science

- Cumulative GPA 3.91
- I also completed master's level coursework in such topics as data mining, statistical learning, optimization, linear models, covariance structures, and simulation studies

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Graduate Research Assistant *Brigham Young University*
Provo, UT
September 2017 – August 2018

- Involved in data denumeration project which strips data of individual information yet preserves marginal totals
- Used results of a matching algorithim and SQL to compare claims costs for Vioxx and Celebrex drug users to similar persons who did not take Vioxx and Celebrex

Actuarial Analyst *Milliman*
Salt Lake City, UT
December 2015 - August 2017

- Helped price individual and small group rates for multiple carriers, as well as generate their rate tables
- Aided in formulating accrual recommendations for an employer by calculating the changes in large claim experience
- Developed a process to streamline the creation of pro forma scenarios which showed high and low estimates for the gain/loss

Actuarial Intern *SelectHealth*
Murray, UT
May 2015 - August 2015

- Analyzed claim distributions and ran simulations to price a reinsurance product
- Created automated monthly reports in Excel; this included writing code to query Oracle SQL using VBA
- Created a web scraping tool to export data embedded in HTML

Statistical Research Assistant *Brigham Young University*
Provo, UT
January 2015 - August 2015

- Headed 28 student research assistants for Brigham Young University's statistical program
- Involved in a project to determine mortality rates of U.S. immigrants and pioneers who journeyed westward
- Constructed a name matching algorithm to identify immigrants

Statistics/Property Valuation Intern *Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints*
Salt Lake City, UT
May 2014 - Dec 2014

- Created VBA tools to dynamically optimize decision making for the land acquisition and sizing of Church temples worldwide; helped save $72 million for organization
- Analyzed economic indicators and created a multiple regression model to predict land values
- Designed spreadsheet to automatically adjust accounts due to changes in foreign currency rates

CERTIFICATIONS AND EXAMS

- Financial Mathematics (FM) Exam - December 2014
- Probability (P) Exam - July 2015
- Models for Financial Economics (MFE) Exam - November 2015

SKILLS / STRENGTHS

- R, SQL, Python, VBA, Access, SAS
- Wrote a script in R that uses Markov Chain Monte Carlo methods to decipher encrypted messages
- Public speaking; addressed an audience comprised of members of the Federal Reserve Bank, and 500 other students
- Fluent in Spanish (speaking, writing, and reading)

MEMBERSHIPS/ INTERESTS

- Member, Collegiate Investment Society responsible for the asset allocation of a $5 million endowment fund
- Piano player
- Sports enthusiast
- Computer programming