

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
- Examples of projects can be found on my website: jimmerrell.github.io

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Graduate Research Assistant *Brigham Young University*

Provo, UT

September 2017 – August 2018

- Involved in data denumeration project which strips data of individual data yet preserves marginal totals
- Used probabilistic linkage methods to link two data tables
- Created quadratic discriminant analysis model to identify malignancy of cancerous tumors

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
- Developed 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

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

CERTIFICATIONS AND PROJECTS

- Actuarial Exams: Financial Mathematics (FM), Probability (P), and Models for Financial Economics (MFE)
- Certificates (Brigham Young University): SAS Programming, and Advanced Statistics
- More detail about data analysis projects can be found on my website: jimmerrell.github.io

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