JOEL BECKER

PERSONAL INFORMATION

email mail@joelbecker.ca

website joelbecker.ca

phone (519) 502 1517

SKILLS

Data Analysis Discovering powerful, reproducible insights using statistical inference and data visualization in

Python and R.

Software Designing flexible and coder-friendly Python packages for data extraction and data integration.

Development

Research Design

Developing research questions, methodologies, and implementation strategies to understand

complex social phenomena.

Data Preparation Extracting data from text corpora and APIs. Integrating data from disparate sources. Data

cleaning and normalization.

Technical Experienced Python and R programmer. Also proficient in C++, SQL, Scala, Matlab, and HTML.

WORK EXPERIENCE

2016–Present Software Developer and Data Scientist

NetLab

Developed Python packages that have enabled our interdisciplinary research team's leading-edge work in large-scale collaboration networks by streamlining the process of extracting and integrating data from multiple sources. Contributions include expanding features and increasing performance of existing tools; developing new Python packages; implementing data extraction

and integration solutions; and developing coding tutorials.

Reference: John McLevey, Assistant Prof. · john.mclevey@uwaterloo.ca

2013–2017 Research Assistant

Conrad Business, Collaborated with Dr. Mark Weber on all aspects of research in behavioural ethics and online Entrepreneurship, and Technology as well as developing hypotheses, study materials, and research methodology.

Reference: Mark Weber, Director · mark.weber@uwaterloo.ca

2012–2016 Staff

Centre

Silver Lake
Mennonite Camp
Held a variety of leadership positions involving: representing staff in capital, financial, and
personnel decisions on the board of directors (2016), coordinating summer camp programming
(2016), designing and implementing a two-part six-week leadership training program (2015), staff
training (2014), and evaluating junior staff (2014). Other responsibilities included youth
supervision, crisis management, and emergency preparedness.

Reference: Mark Weber, Chair of the SLMC Board of Directors · mark.weber@uwaterloo.ca

EDUCATION

2012-2017 Bachelor of Knowledge Integration

The University of Waterloo

Joint Honours Knowledge Integration and Psychology

Computer Science Minor

Achievements Honours Thesis · 97%

Major Averages · 90% / 93%

Dean's Honours List

RESEARCH

2016-2017 Do just actions beget just evaluations for supervisors with intersectional identities?

Honours Thesis

My thesis investigated whether the race and gender of workplace supervisors changes how their subordinates react to fair or unfair treatment. In a large-scale multi-phase field survey of 400+ workers, I found that supervisors' race and gender do not affect how subordinates evaluated supervisors who they perceive treat them with dignity and respect; that white women and black men are evaluated unusually harshly when their subordinates feel poorly treated; but that black female supervisors do not experience this kind of bias. My findings added to our growing understanding of the complex relationship between race, gender, and workplace outcomes.

Supervisors · Professor Ramona Bobocel & Assistant Professor Winny Shen

SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT

2017 recordlinkage

Python Package

recordlinkage is a powerful open-source toolkit for intelligently matching and merging data from multiple sources. I dramatically improved performance by identifying inefficiencies in a major performance bottleneck, making several key algorithms *up to 97 times faster*. A collaborator and I also contributed important new features, designing and implementing an all-new workflow for fusing matched records and resolving conflicting data, as well as implementing two new record comparison algorithms.

2017 tidyextractors

Python Package

I created the **tidyextractors** package to simplify data extraction for both coders in a hurry and researchers new to Python. The current version makes it easy to extract ready-to-analyze datasets from git repositories, mbox mail archives, and Twitter user data via the Twitter API, with end-to-end pandas support. The tool is built to be extended, with modules for extracting data from Factiva queries and GitHub issues planned for the near future.

OTHER INFORMATION

Languages English · Native Lanugage

FRENCH · Intermediate

Interests Da Capo Chamber Choir · Exhibit Design · Piano · Volleyball

October 16, 2017