

JAMES SILVESTER

Researcher with 10+ years experience in Data Analysis, Communication and Education

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EXPERIENCE

Teacher / Kursledare

Medborgarskolan, Stockholm

📅 Nov 2017 - Dec 2017

📍 Sweden

- Part-time lecturer for an evening course in Introductory Astronomy. Received positive feedback from students and from Medborgarskolan.

Postdoctoral Researcher/Forskare

Uppsala University

📅 Jan 2015 - Sep 2017

📍 Sweden

Main Responsibilities:

- Big Data processing, performing detailed analysis using computer-based numerical techniques (on multi-core machines) and visualisation of the data for publication.
- Heavily involved in the organisation of the Cool Stars 19 Conference, hosted at Uppsala University and lecturer for two undergraduate courses.

My research results provided valuable new information to our current understanding and lead to multiple peer-reviewed publications.

Observatory Manager

Scottish Dark Sky Observatory

📅 Aug 2012 - Jan 2013

📍 Scotland

Main Responsibilities:

- Project managed the observatory from a late construction phase to an operational state.
- Prepared the observatory for the official opening attended by the Scottish First Minister and conducted a tour of facilities with the First Minister.
- Designed the observatory branding, created press and media information for the observatory and maintained the observatory's social media presence.

I was greatly successful in getting the observatory operational and open for visitors and contributed to successful funding meetings with local authorities.

Research Assistant

Queen's University & Royal Military College of Canada

📅 Sep 2004 - May 2012

📍 Canada

Main Responsibilities:

- Analysis of scientific data using numerical techniques for my thesis project.
- Applied for instrument time and collected data from world-class facilities. Clean, analysed and modelled data.
- Teaching Assistant and secondary lecturer for undergraduate courses.

This work lead to successfully completed MSc and PhD degrees and provided new insights in my field and resulted in multiple publications.

Observatory Coordinator

Queen's University

📅 Apr 2008 - Apr 2009

📍 Canada

Main Responsibilities:

- Responsible for the operations of the observatory for public tours and student labs.

ABOUT ME

Open-minded, analytical and quick to learning new things, currently looking for a new challenge and to transfer my skill-set in communication, management and data analysis into a career in the private sector.

STRENGTHS

Data Analysis Research Statistics
Public Engagement & Communication
Teaching Project Management
Content Creation Photography

COMPUTING EXPERIENCE

Java SQL Fortran Python HTML
Linux Mac OS MS Office Excel
CMS & Social Media Data Visualisation
Photo & Audio Editing Software
Google Docs

LANGUAGES

English ●●●●●

French ●●●●●

Swedish ●●●●●

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Physics

Queen's University, Canada

📅 2007 - 2014

M.Sc. Physics

Queen's University, Canada

📅 2004 - 2007

B.Sc. (Hons) Astrophysics

University of Hertfordshire, UK

📅 2000 - 2004

- Provided technical support to the telescopes, responsible for organised tours and disseminated publicity to the press.

During my tenure the observatory program was re-invigorated and I strengthened the relationship with the University and local amateur astronomy group who also helped with monthly public events.

EXPERIENCE CONT...

Research Assistant / Visiting Student

European Southern Observatory

📅 Sep 2006 - Dec 2006

📍 Chile

- Analysed scientific data as part of a visiting 3-month ESO studentship.

Research Assistant / Visiting Student

Observatoire Midi-Pyrénées

📅 Sep 2002 - Jun 2003

📍 France

Main Responsibilities:

- Cleaned and analysed scientific data.
- Obtained data on behalf of international collaborators. Prepared data collection schedules and collaborated with local supervisor on research projects.

The work I contributed to during this studentship lead to the publication of a highly cited and influential paper in my research field.

Technical / Computer Support

Wingham Wyatt Financial Services

📅 Summer 2002, 2003 and 2004

📍 UK

Main Responsibilities:

- Supported the computer system, client database, e-mail and office software. Maintained the website.
- Updated client files and liaised with policy companies for client financial updates. Supported consultants and worked closely with software providers.

Quality of my work performed during short summer breaks was highly appreciated by colleagues and the director of the company.

OTHER EXPERIENCE

Volunteer

Mangapps Railway Museum

📅 June 2013 - Dec 2014

📍 UK

Main Responsibilities:

- Helped with operations during weekend openings, aided the cleaning and restoration of trains and museum buildings.
- Acted as train guard and driver on public train runs.

I was a regular volunteer at the museum and my contribution was rewarded with the rare opportunity to undergo locomotive driver training.

Sound Technician / Broadcaster (Volunteer)

CFRC (Queen's Campus and Community Radio Station)

📅 May 2008 - May 2009

📍 Canada

Main Responsibilities:

- Provided technical support for recording and broadcasting from public locations. Host of both music and spoken word shows.
- For a series of live audio productions "the magic soundbox", was the sound technician during the live performances.

During this time I was a highly active volunteer at the radio station, often referred to as the "most valuable non-staff member of the station", I even contributed to the running of the station over holiday periods.

INTERESTS

Photography

Cycling

Travel

Design

Digital media production

History

Music

Learning Swedish

ORGANISATIONAL POSITIONS

Cool Stars 19

Leading member of the organising committee for the CS19 conference with 500+ attendees, hosted by Uppsala University in 2016.

Astronomdagarna 2015

Member of the organising committee for the Astronomdagarna conference with 100+ attendees, held at Uppsala University in 2015.

Canadian Space Summit Conference RMC 2009

Member of Organising Committee and technical management of presentations.

CASCA RMC 2007

Leading member of the organising committee for the Canadian Astronomical Society Meeting with 300+ attendees, hosted by RMC in 2007.

CFRC (Queen's Campus and Community Radio Station)

Board Member.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Medborgarskolan Stockholm, Sweden

Teacher for introductory astronomy course.

Uppsala University, Sweden

Classical Mechanics Tutorial and Astrophysics Seminar Course Lecturer.

University of Ontario Institute of Technology, Canada

Sessional Lecturer Introductory Astronomy.

Royal Military College of Canada, Canada

Physics Tutor for students following the Aboriginal Leadership Opportunity Year course.

Queen's University, Canada

Lab instructor, demonstrator and marker for physics courses.