KAIDEN ELAM

DATA SCIENTIST | PHYSICIST

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Masters of Data Science graduate with a background in physics, looking to combine those fields. Skilled in understanding coding language documentation to leverage similar capabilities across languages, and explaining work to others. Confident in ability to learn on the job and advance skills to enable team success. Committed to lifelong learning, and to translating technical topics for general audiences so science is more accessible.

EDUCATION

Masters of Science: Data Science, Willamette University | *Portland, OR*
Bachelors of Science: Physics, Willamette University | *Salem, OR*

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- Python (pandas, etc)
- R (tidyverse)
- SQL
- Markdown
- Git version control
- Microsoft Office suite
- Machine learning
- Data visualization
- Documentation diving

PROJECTS

Trimet Stop Usage Analysis, MSDS Capstone **May - August 2025**

- Found data sources relevant to project by exploring TriMet website
- Analyzed TriMet usage data by stop to engineer and determine qualities of stops that were associated with higher usage

Use of … Machine Learning Models in Calculating Peculiar Velocity, BS Thesis **August 2023** - **May 2024**

- Calculated cosmological values by constructing neural networks using TensorFlow in Python
- Proved that neural networks can be used to calculate important distance values

RELEVANT PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Lab TA, Willamette University | *Salem, OR* **January 2023 – May 2023**

- Ensured lab documents and instructions could be easily understood by students by assisting with lab preparation and completing lab worksheets before lab hours
- Increased professor availability in lab by checking off worksheet milestones and ensuring students were on track
- Increased student learning by interpreting coding error messages and providing clear explanations about specific inputs and outputs to answer student questions

Research Assistant, Willamette University | *Salem, OR* **May 2022 – August 2022**

- Launched ongoing cosmological research project in professor's lab by applying methods described in a research paper to machine learning models
- Contributed to the research project by collecting data from cosmological databases and testing machine learning algorithms in an iterative process
- Increased team understanding of the dataset by presenting research weekly and interpreting model output graphs
- Made complex machine learning work accessible to a multi-disciplinary audience by presenting research to 50+ faculty and program participants during SCRP symposium

Research Intern, Jet Propulsion Lab | *Pasadena, CA* **May 2021 – July 2021**

- Used Microsoft Excel to transfer geological standards to calibration files for PIQUANT software
- Compiled existing software documentation from a Word document into Markdown files for each section
- Hosted the compiled documentation on GitHub for easy access outside PIQUANT core team