Kirby Hermansen kirbyherm.github.io

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EDUCATION

Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI

Ph.D. in Physics; Graduate Certificate in High-Performance Computing GPA: 3.7/4.0

University of Notre Dame, South Bend, IN

B.S. in Physics, Economics

May 2015 GPA: 3.56/4.0

Exp. August 2023

Professional Experience

Facility for Rare Isotope Beams (FRIB)

Graduate Research Assistant, Nuclear Astrophysics Experiments

East Lansing, MI

- Analyze experimental data to constrain beta-decay transitions in select neutron-rich nuclei
- First author on a sensitivity study of nuclear reaction rates in core-collapse supernovae
- Contributed to 10 NSF-funded experiments and ongoing detector systems commissioning
- Lead guided public tours of the cyclotron facility

Graduate Research Assistant, SECAR Beam Development

2018 -

2017-

- Built a machine-learning pipeline for optimizing magnet settings in the SECAR separator
- Ported the pipeline to Microsoft Azure cloud resources as a 2021 ICER Cloud Computing Fellow
- Optimized results have been employed in an NSF-funded experiment

Travelers Insurance Fixed Income Investments

2015 – 2017

Senior Associate Quantitative Analyst

St. Paul, MN

- Assessed return attribution on a \$30 billion municipal bond portfolio
- Modeled asset/liability matching to minimize portfolio systematic and curve risk

European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN)

2014

Undergraduate Research Assistant and Programmer

Geneva, Switzerland

- Analyzed lifetime ratios and kinematic variables to better determine B-meson lifetimes
- Developed elements of the ROOT/R interface library, later distributed in ROOT

TECHNICAL SKILLS AND INTERESTS

Concepts: Machine Learning • Big Data Pipeline Analysis • High-Performance Computing • Software Management •

Version Control • Cloud Computing • Open-Source Collaboration • Linux Computing

Programming: Proficient: Python • C++ • Git • ROOT • Bash • Azure • Docker • I⁴TFX

 $Familiar\colon \text{ HTML} \bullet \text{Node.js} \bullet \text{SQL} \bullet \text{MS Access} \bullet \text{SharePoint} \bullet \text{MPI} \bullet \text{R} \bullet \text{JavaScript} \bullet \text{VBA}$

Publications: 8 publications; 3 refereed; 2 in prep. Citations: 11; h-index: 3

Language: Native: English; Basic: Spanish • French

PERSONAL PROJECTS

Major League Baseball Daily Hit Predictor (HitBot)

2022-

- Scraper to pull daily updates from MLB player stats, along with future matchup data and store in a private database
- Pipeline a ML algorithm to predict the most likely players to get a hit on a daily basis given past data
- Upload daily predictions to my personal website
- Top 5 choices have a 72% success rate over the 2023 season