

LUCIEN F. SIMPFENDOERFER

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Education

The Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA Summa Cum Laude, August 2018
Master of Science in Meteorology and Atmospheric Science GPA: 4.00
Bachelor of Science in Meteorology and Atmospheric Science
Schreyer Honors College
University Centre in Svalbard, Longyearbyen, Svalbard, Norway Spring 2016, 2018
Courses taken: Air-Sea-Ice Interaction I, Snow and Ice Processes, Arctic Safety Training.
Research and field experience in the high Arctic.

Work Experience

Department of Meteorology and Atmospheric Science at Penn State University 2014-2018
Undergraduate/Graduate Researcher

- Studied how Arctic stratocumulus clouds form in the Arctic.
- Debugged and built on a numerical atmospheric model. Learned patience, persistence, and how to tackle difficult technical problems with minimal supervision.
- Wrote Matlab scripts to post-process, analyze, and synthesize results from >2000 simulations.
- Lead author for scientific publication (in progress).

Teaching Assistant in Matlab, Atmospheric Thermodynamics, and Synoptic Meteorology

- Guided students through coursework with individual and small-group tutoring sessions.

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Earth System Research Laboratory, Boulder CO Summer 2016
Hollings Scholar Researcher in Climate Science

- Wrote Matlab algorithms to compile statistics on Arctic stratocumulus clouds from a decade of raw observations at Barrow, AK and Summit Station, Greenland.
- Learned how to handle and draw insight from >500GB of data from disparate sources.
- Presented results through oral presentations at the 2017 annual meeting for the American Meteorological Society, Hollings Scholarship research symposium.

NASA Goddard Institute for Space Studies, New York NY Summer 2014, 2015
Research Intern in Climate Science

- Wrote Python scripts to evaluate regional climate model precipitation forecasts over West Africa.
- Built skills in collaboration, teaching, and communication: led a high school student and NYC public school teacher through the entire research and data analysis process.
- Conveyed results through two oral presentations, poster presentations, and research reports.

Activities

Penn State Fossil Fuel Divestment Campaign, University Park PA 2013-2017
Co-founder and Co-president

- Strengthened leadership, science communication, and organizational skills by planning events, collaborating with student groups, and coordinating with Penn State administrators.

Honors/Awards

- NOAA Hollings Scholarship Recipient 2015-2017
- Student Marshall, Penn State College of Earth and Mineral Sciences 2018
- Oral Presentation Award Winner, Hollings Scholarship Program 2016

Other Skills

- Computer languages: Python, Matlab, Fortran, Unix, Bash, Basic HTML/CSS
- Proficient in German
- Scientific communication to both technical and nontechnical audiences
- Currently teaching myself statistical modeling, machine learning in Python