MIKHAEL GASTER









Summary

Researcher with experience in Python, data science & NLP, causal inference, and consulting. Career highlights include leading international projects at the Jain Family Institute, collaborating with academics at Oxford and UBC, and consulting on high-stakes environmental energy projects for the government of British Columbia.

Technical Skills

- Python, Git, SQL, Excel, R, JS/TS/React
- Causal Inference, NLP, Experimental Design, Regression, Probability
- polars, pandas, bs4, docker, HuggingFace, pytest, Azure, networkx, scipy, fastAPI
- Plotly, Matplotlib, Excel/GSheets Charting

Experience

Data Science Research Associate

2025 - Present

The Jain Family Institute

Leading a team to conduct quantitative and qualitative/strategic research on financing the energy transition in developing economies.

Lead Developer ← **Data Science Research Fellow**

2023 - Present

Center for Active Stewardship

Full stack lead developer for our **flagship database**, which makes a \$100k/year commercial product available to the public. Duties included parsing, normalizing, and correcting data from public financial filings; creating and deploying our database via a public API; and creating an interactive front-end display of the database. Utilized a wide range of tools including Python, SQL, LLMs, text embedding, clustering, FastAPI, docker, and graph algorithms.

Natural Language Processing Research Assistant

2023 - 2024

Oxford University / The Industrial Policy Group

Spearheaded the development and improvement of text classification workflows underpinning landmark research papers, ¹² Improving model accuracy from 87% to 94%. Derived feature importance from fine-tuned LLMs. Used LLMs to extract and normalize entity names, descriptions, and abbreviations from text. Implemented professional best practices, including version control and testing protocols.

Associate (Data Science and Analytics Consultant)

2021 - 2022

Deetken Insight Consulting

Developed a comparable static CGE model to estimate the economic impacts of BC's climate policies on sectors, households, demographic groups, commodities, and more. My proposal won the \$150k bid.

Other projects included a forensic audit of a major utility's environmental/financial modelling, and a project described as "hands down one of, if not the, best consulting engagements we have commissioned."

Education

M.A. in Economics

B.A. in Economics & Mathematics

2020-2021
The University of British Columbia 4.3 / 4.33

The University of British Columbia 4.0 / 4.33

Interests

- Data science for good (pro-bono, etc.)
- Chess: 2100+ rating

- Prediction markets
- Cooking, reading, soccer, meditation