Michael **Wiebe**

Vancouver, Canada

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Summary

Ph.D. economist specialized in predictive modelling and causal inference.

Experience

Self-employed
Vancouver, Canada

Economist
Oct. 2022 — present

- Checking the reliability of published findings by testing for robustness to alternative statistical methods or data sources.
- Working for Open Philanthropy, replicated economics research on the effect of air pollution on mortality, the long-run economic benefits of vaccinations, and agglomeration effects for innovation.
- Found several critical coding errors in a paper published in the top economics journal, and submitted a comment (currently under review).

Nike
Vancouver, Canada

Data scientist
May 2021 — Sept. 2022

- Built a machine learning model to estimate ROI across marketing channels, using Bayesian estimation in Python and Stan.
- Reduced customer acquisition cost by 10% and increased total demand by 2.5%.
- Used R to simulate ground-truth marketing data to validate the model.
- Set up quality control measures to validate the data.

Data Golf
Vancouver, Canada

Data science consultant
Jan. 2021 — Apr. 2021

- Built a forecasting model with stroke-level data, using nonparametric regression and random forests.
- Improved the accuracy of user-facing golf score predictions.

University of British Columbia
Vancouver, Canada

Graduate Researcher
2014 — 2020

- Applied microeconomist studying political economy and development economics using quasi-experimental methods.
- Teaching assistant for econometrics courses, introducing undergrads to Stata.
- Managed a team of undergrad research assistants working on data collection.
- Refereed four papers for the *Journal of Development Economics*.

Research

- The Long-Term Effects of Measles Vaccination on Earnings and Employment: Comment — working paper, 2024

- The Effect of High-Tech Clusters on the Productivity of Top Inventors: Comment — working paper, 2023

- Can we detect the effects of racial violence on patenting? Reanalyzing Cook (2014) — working paper, 2023

- Replicating the literature on prefecture-level meritocratic promotion in China — Research & Politics, 2024

Education

University of British Columbia
Vancouver, Canada

Ph.D. in Economics
2014 — 2020

- Awarded $18,000 in research funding from CIDER Small Grants in Innovative Data, 2019.

University of Western Ontario
London, Canada

M.A. in Economics
2013 — 2014

- Awarded the *SSHRC Master's Fellowship* in a national competition, worth $17,500.

University of Manitoba
Winnipeg, Canada

B.Sc. Joint-Honours in Mathematics and Economics
2009 — 2013

- Coursework in real analysis, functional analysis, metric spaces.

Skills

Experienced	Python (pandas), R (dplyr), SQL, Stan, Stata
Some experience	QGIS, Matlab