October 31, 2019

Eastman Chemical Company

Kingsport, TN

I am interested in transitioning from academia into an industry data science career and am seeking an opportunity at Eastman Chemical. I am currently a tenured associate professor of quantitative psychology at East Tennessee State University, where I teach undergraduate and graduate courses on applied statistics, machine learning, research methods, and measurement. From 2007 to 2011, I worked at UNC Chapel Hill as a statistician at the Frank Porter Graham Child Development Institute.

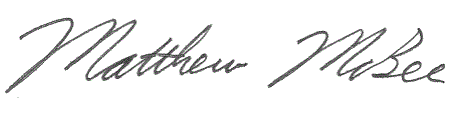
I have twelve years of experience working as a statistical consultant as a member of multidisciplinary research teams, a practice that I have continued in my current role at ETSU. At UNC, my primary responsibility was to determine what questions the project leads wanted to answer, to design well-calibrated studies to answer them, to perform the data analysis, and to communicate the results clearly and effectively to a variety of stakeholders. While I have significant expertise in a number of data analytics and statistical programming packages, I have special expertise with R, which has been my focus for the past seven years. I have authored several R packages and Shiny apps and have used it extensively in my teaching and research.

My most valuable skill is that I know how to learn and can teach myself effectively. I am a tenacious problem solver and innovator. I thrive on solving tough problems. Though my background is in social sciences, I have operated on the technical end of my discipline. Over time, I have become more interested in data science, applied statistics, and machine learning themselves than in the substantive problems to which I have been applying them. Further, I would argue that social science data, with all its messiness, ambiguities, and flaws, is the perfect training ground for a data scientist.

I am also an excellent presenter, a craft honed by hundreds of hours in the classroom. I have given keynote address at two conference and made nearly a hundred presentations at scientific conferences and have published two books and over forty papers. I am a clear and engaging technical writer and excel at explaining complicated statistical or mathematical ideas to lay audiences. While my passion lies in the technical work, I could represent the data science team effectively in writing and in presentations to clients.

I am truly excited about the potential of working at Eastman. Please feel free to contact me by e-mail or phone.

Sincerely,



Matthew McBee, Ph.D.