# MICHELLE (ROBBERTS) HOOGENHOUT, PHD

www.michellehoog.netlify.app | https://github.com/michellehoog

#### RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

# Galvanize – San Francisco, USA (Senior data scientist)

**2020 - Current** 

Data science / Analytics

- Managed assessment team to improve student and instructor tracking
- Built test evaluation metrics to identify poor performing assessment items, improving item discrimination and reliability.

Teaching and curriculum development

- Taught machine learning, statistics and programming, incl. neural networks, time series modeling, random forest and boosting, transfer learning, Bayesian statistics.
- Developed data analytics curriculum.

Languages / Technologies used: Python, Tensorflow, PostgreSQL, Docker, AWS, Linux, MongoDB, Tableau

# **Ingane Health (Co-founder)**

**2019 - Current** 

Machine learning and experimental design for wearables startup

- Built signal processing and feature extraction pipeline
- Implemented and evaluated machine learning models (random forest, XGBoost, PCA) to predict hydration with 87% accuracy, F1-score 0.80 (30% greater accuracy than existing measures)

Designed Android app for detecting developmental disorders and disabilities

- Research / Business development: Ideation, grant-writing, partnership formation
- Data science: Designed data architecture and detection algorithm, analyzed census data

# Umuzi Academy- Johannesburg, South Africa (Data science manager, head of tech)

2018 - 2020

Data science / Analytics

- Designed and implemented psychological testing of internal applicants, created ETL pipeline, and obtained actionable insights from data. Decreased screening time by 80%
- Surveyed and conducted focus groups for Uber to create a training course for drivers
- Consulted on data ETL pipeline, analysis, and monitoring and evaluation strategy for Allan Gill Gray Philanthropy

#### Management

- Responsible for supervising management team of 7 web developers, data scientists and data engineers
- Served as interim CTO, overseeing managers and initiating company partnerships

Teaching and curriculum development

- Created data science curriculum, going from 0 to 17 students in a span of 8 months
- Taught Python, Database Management, Machine Learning, and Statistical Analysis

Languages/ Technologies used: Python, R, MySQL, Linux, Docker, Airflow

# University of Cape Town – Cape Town, South Africa (Postdoctoral fellow)

2017 - 2018

Researched genetic risk for developmental disorders in collaboration with Harvard, Univ. of Cape Town and Kenya Medical Research Institute (KEMRI)

Data science / Analytics

- Researched psychological test validity and reliability across language and cultural groups and created standardized language versions
- Used general additive and hierarchical linear models to predict risk factors for poor fetal and infant growth outcomes
- Genome wide association studies

Management and community engagement

- Conducted focus groups with community stakeholders
- Supervised 6 students to completion
- Chair, Student Training Committee, African Regional Int. Meeting for Autism Research 2018

Languages/ Technologies used: R, Linux, MATLAB, BrainVision Analyzer, E-Prime

# **University of Cape Town – Cape Town, South Africa (Contract lecturer)**Lecturing

2011 - 2018

- Taught multivariate statistics & machine learning (regression, classification, boosting, multilevel models, cross-validation), psychometrics, cognition and neuroscience
- Created textbooks and education materials for Statistics for Evaluation & Research Methods, School of Management Studies, Faculty of Commerce

Languages/ Technologies used: R, SPSS

# Cape Town, South Africa (Statistical consultant)

2010 - 2018

Conducted statistical analysis and consulting for research groups incl. Institute for Mindfulness South Africa

#### **AWARDS**

Winner: SCALE San Diego Urban Innovation Challenge, 2020

Emerging Researcher Award, South African Association of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and Allied Professions and International Meeting for Autism Research, 2017

Stevens-Shapiro Award, International Association for the Scientific Study of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities, 2016

#### **EDUCATION**

GINGER Fellow, Harvard TH Chan School of Public Health & Broad Institute of Harvard and MIT, 2020 PhD Psychology, University of Cape Town, 2017

MA Psychological Research (Neuropsychology) Cum Laude, University of Cape Town, 2011

BSocSc (Hons) Psychology Cum Laude, University of Cape Town, 2008

BSc Human Life Sciences Cum Laude, Stellenbosch University, 2007

#### RESEARCH

Characterizing genetic influences on neuro-developmental disorders in African populations Psychobiological correlates of empathy in autism

• Longitudinal and time series data, multilevel modelling, data reduction, structural equation modelling, reproducible research, measurement of physiological signals

Prediction of risk factors for poor fetal and infant growth outcomes

• Longitudinal and time series data, multiple imputation of multilevel data, additive modelling

# **LANGUAGES**

English (Native), Afrikaans (Native), German (Elementary), Dutch (Reading Proficiency)

## SELECTED PUBLICATIONS AND CONFERENCE ACTIVITY

# Publications (out of 16, with 160 citations)

- **Hoogenhout, M.**\*, de Menil, V.\*, Kipkemoi, P.\*, ... Newton, C.R., Donald, K.A., & Robinson, E. (2019). The NeuroDev study: Phenotypic and genetic characterization of neurodevelopmental disorders in Kenya and South Africa. *Neuron*, 101, 15 19.
- **Hoogenhout, M.** (2018). Displaying data. In C. Tredoux & K. Durrheim (Eds.), *Numbers, Hypotheses and Conclusions: A Course in Statistics for the Social Sciences (3rd ed.)*. Cape Town: UCT Press
- Tredoux, C. & **Hoogenhout, M.** (2018). Repeated measures analysis of variance. In C. Tredoux & K. Durrheim (Eds.), *Numbers, Hypotheses and Conclusions: A Course in Statistics for the Social Sciences (3rd ed.)*. Cape Town: UCT Press.
- Donald, K. A., Hoogenhout, M., Du Plooy, C.P., Wedderburn, C.J., Nhapi, R.T., Barnett, W., Hoffman, N., Malcolm-Smith, S., Zar, H.J., & Stein, D.J. (2018). Cohort profile: The Drakenstein Child Health Study (DCHS). BMJ Paediatrics Open, 2, e000282. doi:10.1136/bmjpo-2018-000282
- **Hoogenhout, M.**, & Malcolm-Smith, S. (2014). Theory of mind predicts severity level in autism. *Autism*, *21*, 242-252, doi: 10.1177/1362361316636758

# Symposia Organized

- Kaku, S. M., & **Hoogenhout, M**.\* (Chairs). *Strategies for management of children with mental health disorders in low and middle-income countries*. International Association of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and Allied Professions (Aug 2018), Prague, Czech Republic.
- **Hoogenhout, M.\*** & K. Donald. (Chairs). *The presentation and management of ASD in South Africa: Implications for multicultural and low-income settings.* African Regional International Meeting for Autism Research (Aug 2017), Stellenbosch, South Africa.

# **Conferences & Invited Talks (out of 31)**

- **Hoogenhout, M\***. Wearable technology for public safety: Promise, principles and practicality. Africa Tech (November 2020), Virtual.
- **Hoogenhout, M\***. *Growing young talent: Selecting and training the next generation of data scientists.* Deep Learning IndabaX (April 2019), Durban, South Africa.
- **Hoogenhout, M\*.** Services for the poor need not be poor services: Child mental health interventions in low and middle-income countries. International Association of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and Allied Professions (Aug 2018), Prague, Czech Republic.
- Donald, K. A., **Hoogenhout, M.\***, Du Plooy, C.P., Wedderburn, C.J., Nhapi, R.T., Barnett, W., Hoffman, N., Malcolm-Smith, S., Zar, H.J., & Stein, D.J. *Investigating determinants of early child development and cognition*

in the Drakenstein Child Health Study. International Association of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and Allied Professions (Aug 2018), Prague, Czech Republic.

• Hoogenhout, M. The physiology of empathy in autism. Yale Child Study Center (July 2017), New Haven, USA.