Ryan T. Willett, Ph.D.

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SKILLS

Hard: Python, R, SQL, Julia, HTML/CSS, LaTeX, shell scripting, linux, Docker, AWS, Git
Techniques: graph analysis, machine learning, data visualization, data cleaning, EDA, ETL
Professional: technical/scientific writing and presentations, project management, open-source intelligence (OSINT)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Sabbatical

Jun 2023 - Aug 2023 — New York, NY

- Took some time to focus on personal projects, personal learnings, and to recharge

Director of Data Science

Gryphon Strategies, May 2022 - May 2023 — New York, NY

- Spearheaded client engagement, scoping, and stakeholder alignment initiatives resulting in acquisition of 3 new clients for the data team
- Architected and developed 2 software platforms providing workflow automation solutions for internal and external clients
- Served as internal consultant and OSINT support on 4 client investigations
- Supervised and mentored 4 data scientists and analysts across several projects
- Recognized with the company "Ultramarathoner" award for most project-driven employee

Data Scientist

Gryphon Strategies, Jul 2020 - May 2022 — New York, NY

- Carried out data ingestion, QC, analytics, and report preparation for 2 large lawsuits, including the National Prescription Opiate Litigation MDL under direction of the expert witness Lacey Keller (now of MK Analytics)
- Built a feature engineering pipeline and risk model for a crime gun tracing platform used by a major metropolitan police department

Freelance Data Scientist and Scientific Consultant

Apr 2019 - Jul 2020 — New York, NY

- Transitioned from neuroscience to data science after completing a 12-week intensive data science bootcamp at NYCDSA
- Performed ETL, data integrity validation, and analytics for National Prescription Opiate Litigation MDL (w/ Gryphon)

- Built a data ingestion, analytics and visualization pipeline using network graph analysis to identify concerted bot accounts on a popular social network site thought to be involved in a disinformation campaign. A total of 250,000+ accounts were mapped.
- Collaborated with the Shindell Lab at Duke University to build data visualizations and dashboards, showcased at the Climate & Clean Air Coalition Science Policy Dialogue.
- Implemented a data pipeline to render high-resolution air quality animations from hundreds of stationary and mobile sensors over a multi-year period for a presentation on energy to the U.S. House of Representatives personnel.
- Executed about 10 scientific due diligence investigations for an Austrian-based venture capital firm specializing in biotech startup investment.

Scientific Associate

Chameleon Communications, Dec 2017 - Mar 2019 — New York, NY

- Composed, edited, and verified the scientific accuracy of commercial and medical affairs communication products based on clinical and scientific research data from pharma clients.
- Provided scientific and business intelligence support for several pharmaceutical brands at various stages of drug development

Research Fellow

Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, Mar 2011 - Nov 2017 — New York, NY

- Discovered a novel role of a brain structure (cerebellar nuclei) on coordinating brain growth and construction of larger neuronal assemblies
- Conceived of and led an original research project, resulting in 1 research paper, one book chapter, and 2 funded research grants, and presentations at 7 institutions and conferences
- Mentored and supervised 5 student researchers and 2 research technicians

EDUCATION

Columbia University, Ph.D. Pharmacology and Molecular Signaling
Brandeis University, B.S. in Biology (High Honors) and Biochemistry
New York Data Science Academy, Certificate in Data Science

PUBLICATIONS

4 papers and 1 book chapter. More information at https://rtwillett.github.io/#cv