

# Sebastian Turner, Ph.D.

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Motivated researcher and keen problem solver, with a strong track record in academic research and with experience in the higher education sector. Proficient in analytical and statistical methods and able to translate results into meaningful insights for stakeholders. Seeking out data-driven challenges and growth in the research sector.

## Experience

- **Senior Analyst** | Research England, UK Research and Innovation | Bristol, United Kingdom 2022-present
  - Shared product ownership of major system transition project, with key contributions including: assembly of new analytical platform, rewrites and optimisation of funding algorithms in R, design and functionality of sector-facing data-sharing portal, leading on introduction of Git for collaborative code development, leading on introduction of unit testing for quality assurance, procurement of training for team.
- **Visiting Research Fellow** | Tartu Observatory, University of Tartu | Tartu, Estonia 2022
  - Led a research grant application, led exploratory dimensionality reduction analyses, contributed to two publications as co-author, delivered a departmental seminar, and presented at an international conference.
- **Senior Analyst** | Research England, UK Research and Innovation | Bristol, United Kingdom 2021 - 2022
  - Delivery of analysis for several key funding streams of 2021-22 annual funding round, production of models for colleagues in policy directorates and outside the organisation, cleaning and processing of large datasets, engagement with sector on requests for information, checks and reviews of work of analyst colleagues

## Skills

- Coding: Python (incl. numpy, scipy, pandas, matplotlib, scikit-learn, keras, tensorflow, pytorch), R (incl. shiny, tidyverse), SQL, MATLAB, SAS
- Tools: Tableau, AWS, Spark (via Python and R), LaTeX, Git, Atlassian products (Bitbucket, Jira, Confluence, Trello), Microsoft (Office) 365
- Projects: technical writing, presentations, communication at varying levels of expertise, time-management, prioritisation, collaboration, working independently, planning

## Education

- **Ph.D. Astrophysics** | Liverpool John Moores University | Liverpool, United Kingdom 2016 - 2020
  - Thesis: "Extragalactic Machine Learning: in Theory and in Practice" – used prototype- and model-based clustering techniques and novel cluster evaluation approaches to partition and analyse large, multi-dimensional samples of galaxies and derive insights into galaxy evolution.
  - Awards: Best Poster (National Astronomy Meeting 2019)  
Best Oral Presentation (LJMU Research Week 2019)
- **M.Phys. Astrophysics (1<sup>st</sup>)** | University of Liverpool | Liverpool, United Kingdom 2012 - 2016
  - Dissertation: "Radial Star Formation Distributions of Galaxies from a Cosmological Simulation" – compared star formation in simulated galaxies with that of real, observed galaxies using statistical tests.
  - Awards: Isaac Roberts Award for Best Astrophysicist

## Academic Publications, Conferences, and Events (2016-2022)

- Click the link below to view a complete list of my academic publications:  
[https://ui.adsabs.harvard.edu/public-libraries/Z11LYsfPRRGU\\_vbmCfTQoA](https://ui.adsabs.harvard.edu/public-libraries/Z11LYsfPRRGU_vbmCfTQoA)
- 5x presentation at international conferences
- 3x presentation at UK national conferences
- 8x presentation at local/other events
- 4x research visits to collaborating departments

## Other

- Interests: languages, sports, literature