

CHRISTOPHER CONNELL

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Profile

I'm a self proclaimed geek! A strategic, creative, number wrangling Data Scientist. Reformed startup Co-Founder. I love hacking away at both hardware and software. I am a nerd through and through, and spend my free time playing with my raspberry pis, arduinos, learning new programming languages, welding, metal shaping and general all around tinkering

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DREAMIT VENTURES |
Start-Up Accelerator
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
2011

Top 10 program

- Presentations, investment theory, legal structures, and networking

START-UP CHILE | Seed Accelerator
Santiago, Chile
2012

Grant program from the government of Chile

- Network startup building for seed stage companies

Databricks Apache Spark Workshop| Paco Nathan
Austin, Texas
2014

- Instruction on how to use Spark, SparkSQL, and Spark streaming in production using Scala and Python

Education

UNIVERSITY OF EAST ANGLIA
Master of Science Finance and Economics
2010

- Dissertation focused on analysis of Hedonic models of airline tickets for predicting price base on unique characteristics of each, deriving implied volatility, and applying the Black-Scholes option pricing theory

UTAH STATE UNIVERSITY
Bachelor of Science, Economics
2009

- Semester abroad in Bangkok, Thailand
Studied emerging market trade theory, negotiation, and cooperation from Trade Ministers

Professional Experience

General Assembly | Data Scientist in Residence
2016

Austin, TX

Transforms thinkers into creators through education and opportunities

- Lead part-time Data Science intensive course
- Build lesson plans on foundational statistics, python, regression analysis, and classification
- Conduct office hours and answer students question on machine learning, python programming, and data science

[RentHub.com](https://www.renthub.com) | Co-Founder/Chief Data Scientist
2011 – 2015

Austin, TX

A product for Landlords and Property Managers to help them maximize revenues from rentals by guiding decision making with respect to pricing and lease terms

- Developed main company feature, a real time automated pricing engine for any apartment in the nation-based on its unique characteristics and location. Tools: R, PostgreSQL. Packages: lme4 (mixed effects regression), snow (multicore processing), XML (parsing html for characteristics)
- Created a multi server naive bayes classifier to disseminate online listings (i.e. Craigslist, Zillow) for single family homes or multi-family complexes. Tools used: Apache Spark in Python calling JSON data from AWS S3 into Spark SQL. Packages: MLLib:NaiveBayes, SQLContext, numpy
- Lead data cleaning initiative using qualitative and quantitative techniques. Excluding listings with identified keyword classification and standard deviation of predicted prices. Tools: Python, R, PostgreSQL. Packages: pandas, rpy2, numpy

General Assembly | Data Science Instructor
2015

Austin, TX

Transforms thinkers into creators through education and opportunities

- Personally designed an Introduction to data science and analysis course with topics in R, Rstudio, Python, and IPython Notebook.

CEB | Quantitative Analyst
2011

Washington, D.C.

A Best Practices Consultancy

- Responsible for quantitative analysis in the Marketing Leadership Council department, by identifying inefficiencies and creating solutions to help the clients CMOs be more competitive.
- Spearheaded the integration of data and services for a new company acquisition, Iconoculture, with the company's current offerings.

Projects

Natural Language Processing (NLP)

- **Presidential Candidate Sentiment Analysis-** Sentiment analysis of tweets about candidates during the 2012 presidential debates. Using R and the twitterR package. front page of Hacker News and Technically Philly

Data Visualization and Mapping

- **Mapping Average Price Per SQFT for Rentals by zip code in San Francisco-** Combined mean rental prices in San Francisco to their corresponding shape file to create a heat map of the whole bay area. R with maptools, Rcolorbrewer, and plyr packages. Front page of hacker news and picked up by the Wall Street Journal, Business Insider, and KQED

Robotics/Arduino

- **LED sound board changing colors to beat of music-** Back lit star wars themed sound board with RGB LEDs that change colors depending on the beat of the music being heard through and internal microphone. Arduino. Featured in Hackaday online magazine

Hardware Hacking

- **Directional WiFi antenna using only kitchen utensils-** wire spoon, baby bottle, and usb wifi dongle to create and amplified directional wifi antenna based on the Cartesian equation for finding the focal point of a parabola. Featured in Life Hacker (73k views), Hackaday, and Make Magazine