Context About Me

**Recent “Tell me about yourself” I prepared for an interview:**Yeah, for sure! I started out studying Economics at Claremont McKenna College because I just really loved the tangibility of solving real world problems, but I quickly realized that I didn’t want to just analyze data handed to me; I wanted to be able to build the tools, work with really technical people, and get a deeper understand the entire insight generation process.

That led me to pursue my Master's in Applied Data Science at the University of Chicago where I developed my Python, machine learning, and AI skills. For my capstone project, my team built an AI agent web app designed to help international students navigate the challenges of moving abroad.

As for my summers, my internships have been analytics focused and spread across a variety of industries including Real Estate, Baseball, and Tech. Through these roles, I’ve learned two things about the work I find most meaningful. First, I love solving problems that make people’s lives easier – whether it’s a 16 year old pitcher from cuba trying to throw harder, or enabling a supply planner to forecast next month’s demand for lasers more accurately. Second, I just really enjoy learning new things and tackling new challenges.

These drivers are part of what motivated me to pursue consulting. The opportunity to work across industries, collaborate with teams, and solve high-impact problems aligns perfectly with my strengths and interests.

**LinkedIn Post About Graduating from UChicago:**I’m excited to share that I’ve officially graduated from the University of Chicago with a Master’s in Applied Data Science!

I’m thankful for the support of my family, friends, professors, and mentors who’ve been there every step of the way. This past year and a half has been challenging, rewarding, and full of learning—not just about data science and AI, but also about myself and what I’m passionate about.

Looking back, my journey began with the realization that I often felt limited without the technical skills to build the things I envisioned. I wanted to be able to create something new. Learning to code and work with data felt like getting a first bike—all of a sudden, I could do so much more, go so much farther, and explore places I wouldn’t have been able to otherwise. It all came full circle during my capstone project, creating InternationAlly, an AI-powered app designed to help international students adjust to life abroad. Working with an amazing team—Kshitiz Sahay, Yijing Sun, and Daichi Ishikawa—we turned an idea into a working app, and it’s a project I’m incredibly proud of.

Now, as AI continues to transform the world, I’m eager to help harness its power to make a meaningful, positive impact. I’d love to connect with anyone working on full-stack data analysis or building impactful AI applications. Any recommendations or connections in these areas would be much appreciated. Thank you to everyone who’s been part of this journey—here’s to the exciting opportunities ahead!

**STACR for DBacks project:**

**Situation**: During my internship last summer with the Diamondbacks, my primary project was investigating the extent to which pitch velocity can be predicted given a pitcher’s physical strength and pitching mechanics

**Task**: The goal of the project was to gain insight into the strength exercises and key mechanics metrics that are most correlated with higher pitch velocity.

**Action**: Broke into 4 stages:

Data clean up - loaded in csv’s, choose what an observation would be (pitcher, year combo),, filtered out guys w/o primary key, just pitchers

EDA - joined player weight column to DFs missing it, dealt with missing data due to covid, feature creation (weight normalized, plant/drive leg, correlations, scatter plots, distributions, full-sample time trends, year over year changes, “Are players getting better or worse at these tests? Some selection bias present

Case Studies - Guys who gained the most velo versus guys who lost the most velo, Top 25, Middle 50, Bottom 25

Modeling - PCA, bucketing players (feature reduction), Linear regression, logistic regression, neural networks,

**Challenge:** First findings from neural net were very exciting. Very strong R^2. However, turned out that there were a small number of observations (position players pitching) significantly skewing the results. While it was certainly disappointing, I was determined to not let it derail the project because I knew there were still a lot of great takeaways from the investigation. I went back and thoroughly fixed the data and modeling and while the subsequent findings were less obvious, they were nonetheless meaningful and I put together a slide deck and github repo and readme explaining the findings and why they mattered.

**Result**: Both a player's physical strength and throwing mechanics are correlated with their pitch velocity, with certain abilities/mechanics being more important than others. This means there is potential to tailor different players' training to better address these important areas, especially in the ones they are deficient in. Findings presented to the Head of R&D as well as to the strength and pitching coaches. Good practice at communicating with both technical and non-technical stakeholders.

Good for “tell me about a time…”

* You dealt with a setback - how did you handle it
  + First findings from neural net were very exciting. Very strong R^2. However, turned out that there were a small number of observations (position players pitching) significantly skewing the results. While it was certainly disappointing, I was determined to not let it derail the project because I knew there were still a lot of great takeaways from the investigation. I went back and thoroughly fixed the data and modeling and while the subsequent findings were less obvious, they were nonetheless meaningful and I put together a slide deck and github repo and readme explaining the findings and why they mattered.

**STACR for WaHo Pitchbook/Tableau Data Project:**

**Situation**: Two summers ago I interned at Washington Holdings, a commercial real estate firm in Seattle. I worked remotely full-time while also playing a 40 game summer baseball season. I worked primarily with the R&D property team at WaHo who was wanting to make their portfolio management and analysis processes more data driven. They had started paying for PitchBook Enterprise services over a year ago, but had yet to really utilize it at all.

**Task:** I spearheaded the effort to integrate the PitchBook research data into their current portfolio management and tracking.

**Action:** To do so, I set up meetings with my supervisors and the company’s PitchBook Account Rep to get a platform tutorial and some recommended next steps. I then spent two weeks setting up a PitchBook dashboard for each WaHo property that contained information about each tenant company. I then set up weekly email alerts with updates and news on these companies. Next, I used the PitchBook Excel plugin to create a live Excel spreadsheet connected to the PitchBook information on each company. I then joined this with internal lease and occupancy data using fuzzy matching in Excel. Lastly, I used Tableau to replicate the figures and graphs they used in their prior year Annual Plan presentation, but enriched with the additional PitchBook data.

**Challenge:** This was my first experience using Tableau and I definitely ran into some hiccups when trying to recreate and design new figures. In particular, I remember figuring out how to use the marks card and particularly the difference between the tool tip and label marks took a lot of googling and youtube watching. I also had my first challenge with working across departments. I designed a “return to work survey” on SurveyMonkey to get a better understanding of how many people were coming into the office and essentially how important in person work was for our tenants. However, in order to get the survey distributed, I had to coordinate with the property managers and send it through their property management software to be consistent with their established communication methods. This took a lot more time and coordination than I was expecting and gave me an appreciation for how complicated it can be to communicate across departments at large organizations.

**Result:** I organized these graphs into Tableau Dashboards and presented them to my supervisors near the end of my internship. The project provided them with not only more detailed information regarding their portfolio, but also a much quicker, more automated process of updating this information. In the last few days of my internship I trained a new full-time hire how to work through the PitchBook to Tableau connection and I continued to serve as a part-time consultant for them throughout the following fall.

Good for “tell me about a time…”

* Project Walk through question

**STACR for Dodger’s Capstone:**

**Situation:** Last Spring I was the Project Manager for my semester-long Data Science Capstone Project at Claremont McKenna College. My three teammates, faculty advisor and I worked with the Los Angeles Dodgers’ Research and Development Department.

**Task:** The goal of our project was to construct models to predict the probability of throwing a runner out at home plate given that the baseball was hit to the outfield. We were provided with two different data sets - one where the runner is trying to score from third and one where the runner is trying to score from second.

**Action:** To model the third base data set, we used logistic regressions considering the radial distance of the fielder from home, the fielder’s arm strength, and the runner sprint speed to predict the probability of the runner being safe. The second base set was a little more complicated and we used a random forest model. With this model, we concluded that the most important factors in predicting if a runner is safe from second base were the time it takes for the fielder to get to and collect the ball, the difference in time between the fielder collecting the ball and the runner touching third, and the radial distance of the fielder from home plate.

**Challenge:** One challenge of this project was that I was the only person on my team who had any meaningful prior knowledge of baseball. As someone who likes to be proactive and work quickly, it was sometimes difficult to give my teammates time to catch up and not just try and zoom ahead and do everything myself. However, I knew that we would be able to accomplish far more as a team than I would be able to accomplish on my own and as Project Manager, I had a responsibility to support my teammates and foster that vital culture of care, goodwill and trust. I made sure to explain baseball concepts in simple terms and to give my teammates time to understand the game and situation we were trying to model before diving into any analysis.

**Result:** At the end of the semester, we were lucky enough to get to visit Dodger Stadium and give our presentation in person to the Dodgers’ R&D Department. We provided them with multiple visualizations of distance cut-offs based on the fielder’s arm strength and runner’s speed where the probability of being thrown out was 50%. These could be printed and given to the Dodgers’ Third Base Coach to use as an in-game reference to aid his decision of whether or not to send a runner home.

Good for “tell me about a time…”

* When data helped to drive a business decision

**STACR for Graphite Group:**

**Situation:** Team Lead. Had to source my own project, work with the other team leads on staffing and then lead two semester long projects for a small real estate investment firm in Seattle.

**Task:** Facilitate and lead a semester-long project for a team of four. Competitor and industry analysis. Market research, feature comparison matrix, presentation.

**Action:** Weekly progress meetings - always had an agenda with action items and team-building focused activities. Delegate work. Had to do performance reviews.

**Challenge:** See below

**Result:**

Good for “tell me about a time…”

* You missed a big deadline - how did you handle it?
  + First project with GEM
  + Fell into the trap of biting off more than we could chew
  + Realized a couple weeks before that it wasn’t going to be realistic to make the deadline with finals coming up. Didn’t want to do that to my team members
  + Owned up and was up front about not being able to meet the deadline. Apologized and offered to make it right by finishing the project over the break
  + They were understanding and appreciated the honesty and the fact that we valued delivering a high quality project above just hitting the deadline by delivering a less-than-our-best product
  + Rewarded by them asking us to do another project for them the next semester
* You had to deal with a particularly difficult co-worker
  + Rahul not being communicative
    - Wasn’t fair to the rest of the team
    - Finally asked to meet with him and learned that he was dealing with some health issues that were significantly impacting his daily life
    - Taught importance of transparency and honesty in a team and to not be afraid of conflict