Joel Laskow
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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

A passionate educator and experienced data scientist with advanced problem-solving and analytical skills. Highly personable, with extensive experience designing differentiated lesson plans that inspire curiosity and cater to diverse learning styles. Leverages past experience in emergency medicine, lab research, and data analytics to tie educational topics to real-world scenarios, with emphasis placed on the skills necessary for students to stay competitive in job markets increasingly dominated by artificial intelligence. Expertise with advanced machine learning topics, statistical analysis, and modern AI tools. Insatiable curiosity and drive to inspire the next generation of leaders and thinkers in our community. Proven experience building cross-cultural ties with students that foster personal growth, particularly with "at-risk" and underserved students.

EDUCATION

Master of Science in Data Science - Southern Methodist University; Dallas, TX | *Current Candidate*

Bachelor of Science in Microbiology, Immunology, & Molecular Genetics - UCLA; Los Angeles, CA | *2018*

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Python | R | SQL | Excel (Advanced) | Data Visualization | KNN Regression | Multiple Linear Regression | Random Forest | APIs | Naive Bayes | Ensembling | Feature Selection | Data Modeling | Predictive Insights | Data Pipelines

RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

Southern Methodist University; Dallas, TX | Aug 2023 – Present
Data Analyst
Responsible for cleaning, processing, and analyzing datasets from FritoLay, Budweiser, and Kaggle using R Studio and SAS. Conducted exploratory data analysis and KNN clustering in group projects focused on beer and brewery data from Budweiser. Applied multiple linear regression techniques to predict housing prices in Ames, Iowa, using Kaggle datasets and used multiple linear regression to predict FritoLay employee salaries based on demographics. Employed KNN and Naive Bayes models to predict employee attrition, identifying high-performing candidates and those at risk of leaving. Gained experience in constructing localized databases and cloud-based data warehouses, integrating services like AWS and Looker for efficient data warehousing and visualization. Familiar with TensorFlow and TensorBoard, applying these tools to train models and monitor performance. Extended data visualization efforts beyond simple graphs by creating engaging and artistic visuals to facilitate the understanding of key trends.

ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE

Elk Grove High School; Elk Grove, CA | Jan 2022 – April 2022
Student Teacher (Biology)
Student teacher that worked under the guidance of two master teachers. Coordinated with Biology department staff to develop standardized unit plans for 9th grade Biology, with all plans in accordance with NGSS standards. Responsible for administering lectures, supervising learning activities, and grading all student work. Maintained contact with parents to keep them updated on class progress, and worked with them to identify key student accommodations. In addition, administered disciplinary action in line with EGUSD policies, fostering a structured and supportive learning environment.

Thunder Valley Casino Resort; Lincoln, CA | Jun 2022 – Aug 2023
Security-EMT, June 2022 - August 2023
Assisted in Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation of patients suffering cardiac arrest. Assisted with intervention measures involving patients suffering from drug overdoses. Coordinated with law enforcement for the safe removal of illicit substances including methamphetamine and fentanyl. Coordinated with local emergency services to transport patients and trespassers.

Covid Clinic; Sacramento, CA | Dec 2020 – Oct 2021
EMT / Covid-19 Screener
Collected and prepared mucosal samples from patients for the testing of Covid-19. Ran Rapid Antigen, NAAT, and Expedited PCR tests for the screening of Covid-19. Trained additional EMTs on procedures for the collection and testing of mucosal samples. Processed test results, ensuring appropriate results were forwarded to patients while maintaining HIPAA protocols.

Modlin Lab; Los Angeles, CA | Jun 2017 – Mar 2018
Volunteer Research
Helped design protocols for the isolation and study of Peripheral Blood Mononuclear Cells (PBMCs) from donated blood, modifying protocols to improve results. Adhered to proper bloodborne pathogen safety practices when handling and transporting human blood samples. Presented to and discussed data with colleagues to draw conclusions about our experiments.

SEA-PHAGES; Los Angeles, CA | March 2017 – Dec 2017
Student Research
Characterized mycobacteriophages under varying temperature and pH levels, analyzing viral morphology and infective potential. Processed large quantities of genetic data to compile a database of mycobacteriophage genes, using multiple analytical tools to predict their functions. Expedited critical testing results without compromising sample sterility or quality assurance.

Sierra College; Rocklin, CA | Feb 2014 – Aug 2015
Tutor
Provided friendly, personalized tutoring to students studying General Physics, General Chemistry, General Biology, Organic Chemistry, English Literature, and Algebra. Trained two additional tutors in General Chemistry, one during Summer of 2015 as my replacement, the other during Fall of 2014 when the tutoring center was understaffed with Chemistry tutors. Assisted and encouraged students to use critical thinking strategies to solve difficult tasks, and worked alongside students with disabilities to ensure they received proper assistance based on their needs.

REFERENCES

- Bivin Sadler, PhD
  Professor of Data Science and Statistics, SMU
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- Jacob Turner, PhD
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