Leon Shpaner

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EDUCATION

Master of Science (M.S.), Applied Data Science, **University of San Diego** (GPA: 4.00/4.00) — August 2022
Bachelor of Arts (B.A.), Economics, **University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA)** — September 2007

EXPERIENCE

Data Scientist | UCLA Health | Los Angeles, CA | Hybrid | Full-time — April 2023 – Present

- First author of two American Society of Nephrology Kidney Week abstracts on kidney failure risk prediction using internal EHR data, both achieving AUCs in the 80th percentile: one reproducing gold-standard risk equations, and a second extending prediction across CKD stages 1-4.
- Built the kfre Python library and kfre R package, implementing Tangri et al.'s kidney failure risk equations, designed for broad use in predictive analytics in healthcare.
- Co-developed Python libraries model_tuner and equiboots (bias and fairness auditing), leveraging bootstrapping techniques for equitable model evaluation across diverse groups, and served as a speaker for the EquiBoots tutorial at JupyterCon 2025.
- Produced an XGBoost Regression model used in production to predict high-cost Medicare Advantage patients year-over-year; implemented system-wide, with a forthcoming paper detailing the project's impact and methodology.
- Delivered an XGBoost model used in production to predict one-year mortality risk, facilitating timely transition to supportive (palliative) care.

Data Scientist | Children's Hospital Los Angeles | Los Angeles, CA | Hybrid | Full-time — March 2022 – October 2022

- Developed an Extra Trees machine learning model in the pediatric ICU to predict post-terminal extubation mortality (AUC 0.88), resulting in a co-authored paper in *Pediatric Critical Care Medicine*.

Sales Data Analyst | Real Social Dynamics/Self Mastery Co. | Remote | Contractor — May 2014 – December 2023

- Automated sales reports in Excel using VBA and built SQL queries for revenue aggregation and KPI analysis.

Financial Analyst | The Los Angeles Film School | Los Angeles, CA | Full-time — September 2013 – October 2020

- Integrated financial reporting into CPM software to streamline data flow.
- Automated reports with VBA macros, cutting 20 staff hours per month.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor | UCLA Extension | Hybrid | Contractor — August 2023 – Present

- Instruct fundamentals of data science, statistics, and machine learning in Excel and Python.

Adjunct Professor | University of Maryland Global | Remote | Contractor — April 2023 – Present

- Teach undergraduate courses in data science and statistics with Python.

Adjunct Faculty | Purdue University Global | Remote | Contractor — October 2022 – February 2024

- Instructed database fundamentals, entity relationship diagrams, tables, and SQL queries in Access.

Adjunct Professor | University of San Diego | Remote | Contractor — December 2020 – Present

- Co-designed and instruct graduate statistics with Python course for the Applied AI program.
- Designed and instructed inaugural course on Excel-based statistics for the Data Analytics Certificate Program.

Course Facilitator | Cornell University | Remote | Contractor — November 2018 – November 2025

- Facilitated data analytics and statistics certificate courses.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- **The Linux Foundation:** JupyterCon 2025 Official Speaker Credential — November 2025
- **Cornell University:** Certificates in Data Science, Data Analytics, and related areas — 2018 – 2025

SKILLS

- **Programming:** Python, R, SQL, JavaScript, LaTeX, HTML, CSS.
- **Python Libraries:** NumPy, Pandas, Scikit Learn, Statsmodels, SciPy, MLflow, AutoKeras, Aequitas, Flask, Dash Plotly.
- **R Libraries:** Tidyverse, Ggplot, Caret, e1071.
- **Tools and Platforms:** Git, Azure, Databricks, BigQuery, Tableau, Looker Studio, Excel, Access.
- **Languages:** English (fluent), Russian (fluent), Spanish (basic).