Increasing Research Impact through Visualization

Hyejin Youn, an Assistant Professor of Management & Organization at the Kellogg School of Management, recently released a paper that looks at how different cities will be affected by automation, titled "Small cities face greater impact from automation." Using interactive visualizations of this research readers can explore how their city and job will be affected.

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Community Partnership
The Graduate School

Computational and programming skills are essential for many researchers, but graduate programs can't always cover the wide range of skills students may need in their careers. To help meet the need for additional training, Research Computing Services is collaborating with The Graduate School, Northwestern University Interdepartmental Neuroscience (NUIN), and the Biostatistics Collaboration Center on myDATA: Preparing Science PhDs for Careers in a Data-Driven World Program. After leading workshops on Python programming skills for graduate students and postdoctoral fellows this fall, consultants from Research Computing Services and the Biostatistics Collaboration Center are now working with participants on their own data-intensive research problems. The program will culminate this summer with a workshop to train participants to lead workshops themselves over the coming academic year. If you're interested in partnering with Research Computing Services on computational training programs for researchers, please contact Christina Maimone.

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Featured Researcher
Kyle Kremer

Kyle Kremer is a PhD student and National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellow in the Department of Physics and Astronomy. He and his colleagues study the formation and evolution of compact object binaries in dense stellar environments such as globular clusters. In addition to his research, Kremer also leads a science outreach program called Cosmos in Concert, which combines astronomy education with live music performance.

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Featured Staff Member
Matthew Rich, Senior Cloud Services Specialist

A long-time computer programmer and technologist, Matthew Rich joined the Research Computing Services team in August 2017. He began his technology career as a web developer in the 1990s and later earned a masters degree in computational finance and spent several years in the futures trading industry before coming to Northwestern in 2007. Before coming to Research Computing, he worked in the dean's office of the School of Education and Social Policy, where he built tools and administrative systems in collaboration with students, faculty, and staff. Matthew is passionate about learning to use technologies new and old. From the latest open source technologies and cloud services to computer manuals from the 1970s, he is constantly exploring and learning in order to find tools and methods that will help the Northwestern research community. He received a bachelors degree from Georgetown University and a masters from the Illinois Institute of Technology, and he holds a Solutions Architect certification from Amazon Web Services. Currently he is particularly interested in container technologies such as Docker and Singularity, next-generation workflow engines for genomics pipelines, and applying "serverless", event-driven technologies to research problems. If you have a research challenge or are simply interested in how new technologies might accelerate your research, please contact him at m-rich@northwestern.edu.

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Improvements and Updates
Globus AWS endpoints: The Globus transfer service can now be used by the Northwestern community for high speed, secure, fault-tolerant data transfer to and from Amazon's S3 cloud storage service. [Read More]

Did You Know?  
Computational Research Day Highlights

Poster Contest Winners:  
1st place: Nitin Hansoge, Mechanical Engineering; McCormick School of Engineering and Applied Science  
2nd Place: Michael Katz, Physics and Astronomy; WCAS  
3rd Place: Josh Fixelle, Physics and Astronomy; WCAS

Visualization Competition Winners:  
Still Image: Vikas Nandwana, Post Doctoral Fellow, Materials Science and Engineering; McCormick School of Engineering and Applied Science  
Animation: Alex Gurvich, graduate student, Physics & Astronomy; WCAS  
Interactive: Vicky Yang, graduate student, Engineering Sciences and Applied Mathematics; McCormick School of Engineering and Applied Science

Lightning Talk Winner:  
June Lee, Chemical and Biological Engineering; The Graduate School

Conference Proceedings  
Northwestern University Library has partnered with Northwestern IT Research Computing to publish conference proceedings. [Read More]

Upcoming Training

Evanston: Computational Skills for Informatics and Researcher's Toolkit
- Introduction to MPI and mpi4py for Distributed Computing on Quest: May 4, 10am
- Introduction to Julia: May 11, 10am
- Intro to Visualization: May 16, 3pm
- Research on the Go: Accessing Library Resources via Mobile Devices: May 30, 3pm

Chicago: Computational Skills for Informatics
- The Ensembl Genome Browser: May 3, 3pm
- BioMart - Ensembl's Data Extraction Web Interface: May 10, 3pm
- Introduction to Sequence Analysis on Quest - Part 1: May 17, 3pm
- Introduction to Sequence Analysis on Quest - Part 2: May 24, 3pm

Online
DataCamp: Access to DataCamp's online courses for R, Python, and SQL is available to researchers on a quarterly basis.

**Summer Workshops on Data Science and Programming**
Workshops covering introductory programming in Python, data analysis and visualization with R and Python, SQL and databases, the command line, and other computational topics will be held throughout the summer on both the Evanston and Chicago campuses. Half-day workshops are supplemented with practice sessions to help you put your new skills to use. The summer workshops are organized by Research Computing, the Data Science Initiative, SPIE Student Chapter, Northwestern University Postdoctoral Forum, Biomedical Informatics and Data Science group, and others. More information coming in May.

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