François Michonneau

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Solution Engineer | Technical Product Manager | Team Lead | Educator

Experienced Leader, Engineer, and Educator with 7+ years in non-profit and startup environments. Ph.D. in Biology with 20+ years of R programming and data analysis expertise. Proven track record in:

- Managing global remote teams of 6+ engineers and UX/UI designers
- Developing data pipelines and interfaces to web APIs
- Product Education for OLAP database and Apache Arrow ecosystem
- Maintaining open-source R packages
- Teaching 25+ global workshops on data science and scientific computing

Specializes in empowering clients to maximize data value for informed decision-making. Proficient in Quarto, Shiny, PostgreSQL, DuckDB, AWS, and Docker. Seeks remote opportunities (based in France).

WORK EXPERIENCE

Voltron Data

Senior Training Engineer

04/2023 - Present

Remote

- Liaise with customers (pre-sales and post-sales) to gather their feedback and escalate issues with engineering team
- Crafted and delivered training presentations about our products to 100+ partners' account executives worldwide
- Wrote an online book in collaboration with Engineers and Marketing team, driving website traffic by 50%
- Developed vision and multi-year roadmap to pioneer Training program

Lead Training Engineer

08/2022 - 04/2023

Voltron Data

- Led the development and delivery of webinars (150+ attendees) for open source tools (Python library Ibis), amplifying community engagement
- Wrote and edited 10+ how-to articles, demos, tutorials, and social media posts to drive adoption of open source tools in the developer community

Senior Director Of Technology

03/2020 - 08/2022

The Carpentries

Remote

Remote

- Member of the Executive Team: managed day-to-day operations, led cross-team initiatives, developed strategic planning, oversaw hiring and onboarding, directly supervised 6 people
- Directed team of 3 engineers developing The Carpentries data management web app (Python/Django) to develop GDPR compliance features

- Led product and engineering for new curriculum infrastructure (R/RMarkdown + GItHub Actions), used across 100+ lessons with over 50k unique visitors/month
- Secured >\$400k in grant funding opportunities

Curriculum Development Lead

02/2018 - 02/2020

The Carpentries

Remote

- Managed technical infrastructure, including migrating to cloud services (AWS) and Docker
- Developed monitoring system, dashboards (Shiny), and automated reports to increase reliability (99.9% uptime) and scale up our operations (50% year-to-year increase in the number of workshops)
- Coordinated 60+ community maintainers and oversaw the development of 10+ lessons

Postdoctoral Researcher

01/2015 - 02/2018

University of Florida

- Synthesized marine biodiversity records for the United States: using R (tidyverse, ggplot2, geospatial tools) and PostgreSQL to reconcile 3+ million records from 5 public databases using web API and web scrapping to identify knowledge gaps
- Led collaborative development of R packages to access biodiversity data through web APIs (5000+ monthly downloads, 360+ scientific citations)
- Designed and organized workshops and hackathons for biodiversity data digitization and analysis

EDUCATION

Doctor of Philosophy - PhD in Biology, Zoology

University of Florida 01/2006 - 12/2014

Master's degree in Ecology, Biodiversity, Evolution

Pierre and Marie Curie University, Paris 01/2004 - 12/2005

Master's degree in Tropical Biology

Université de La Réunion 01/2003 - 12/2004

Bachelor of Science - BS in Population Biology

La Rochelle Université 01/2001 - 12/2003

CERTIFICATIONS

RStudio Certified Trainer (tidyverse)

04/2019 - Present

Posit PBC

VOLUNTEERING & LEADERSHIP

ROpenSci 01/2024 - Present

Mentor

Mentoring members of the R developer community who are interested in writing, maintaining, or contributing to an R package.

The Carpentries 09/2014 - Present

Instructor Trainer, Lesson Maintainer, Instructor

- ▶ Instructor (2014-present): 25 workshops taught in the US, Europe, and the Caribbean.
- ▶ Lesson Maintainer for Data Carpentry R Ecology lesson, https://datacarpentry.org/R-ecology-lesson (2014-2023): This is the most taught and accessed Carpentries lesson (30,000+ unique visitors a month). Wrote the lesson and evaluated community contributions.
- ▶ Instructor Trainer (2017-2022): I teach the pedagogical concepts that used in Carpentries workshops to future instructors and participate in overseeing their certification process.

SKILLS

Technical Skills: Apache Arrow, Data Science, Docker, DuckDB, Git, Github + GitHub Actions, Jekyll, Linux (Ubuntu), PostgreSQL, R, SQL, tidyverse

Leadership Skills: Developer Advocacy, Pedagogy, Product Education, Product Management, Project Management, Remote Team Management