

Nabil Freij

RESEARCH SCIENTIST

✉ nfrej@seti.org & nabil.freij@gmail.com | 📍 nabobalis | 🌐 nabil-frej | 📞 0000-0002-6253-082X | 📄 Nabil Freij

Education

University of Sheffield

PHD - THE IDENTIFICATION AND ANALYSIS OF MHD WAVES IN LOCALISED SOLAR ATMOSPHERIC WAVE GUIDES

2011 - 2016

University of Warwick

MASTER OF PHYSICS (MPHYS)

2007 - 2011

Skills

Programming Languages

Python, Rust, C, IDL/SolarSoft, LaTeX, Bash, HTML & CSS

DevOps

Docker, PostgreSQL, Google Cloud Platform, Amazon Web Services, GitHub Actions, CircleCI

Packages

Web frameworks (Django & FastAPI), Scientific Python (numpy, pandas, xarray),

Machine Learning (PyTorch, scikit-learn)

Other

MS Office, Git, GitHub, JIRA, Confluence, Linux, macOS, Windows

Employment History

SETI Institute

RESEARCH SCIENTIST

October 2024 - Present

- Investigate how ML & AI techniques can be applied to understand the mechanisms for explosive and energetic events on the Sun
- Investigate how ML & AI techniques can be used to understand hyperspectral imaging data that will be obtained with MUSE
- Development of new research analysis and quicklook tools as well as tools for processing of scientific data
- Supporting scientific operations of NASA satellite instruments

Bay Area Environmental Research Institute (BAERI)

RESEARCH SOFTWARE ENGINEER

September 2021 - October 2024

- Created bespoke research software to enable the analysis of data by other scientists
- Published software techniques and scientific results
- Worked with NASA and other partners like ESA to develop new software
- Maintained existing pipelines for existing NASA missions
- Created simulations of an upcoming NASA mission
- Provided training to scientists on how to use scientific software

University of Reading - Institute for Environmental Analytics

DATA ANALYST

August 2019 - August 2021

- Created an asynchronous serverless API to serve datasets to a weather calibration and data segmentation framework
- Bolstered an existing live application focused on delivering crucial near real time weather data for commercial food suppliers
- Maintained cloud devices with live production software with rolling backups
- Created a new library to provide calibrated weather and historical climate data at any location, at any time within minutes

University of Leicester - Department of Health Sciences

RESEARCH SOFTWARE ENGINEER

March 2019 - June 2019

- Worked on a new fullstack solution for the management of enrolled participants within the EXCEED Study
- Using Django, a Python web framework, with JavaScript to create a fully functioning web application deployed on the local network
- Worked on migrating an MySQL database and verifying the original data using SQLAlchemy
- Led meetings to inform stakeholders about the progress of the project and to solicit feedback

Aperio Software

SOFTWARE ENGINEER

June 2018 - March 2019

- Used Python metaclasses and Abstract Base Classes to refactor the online data retrieval submodule for sunpy
- Created the foundation for a scientific time-series centric package within astropy
- Provided bug fixes, reviewed code and API design guidance to other developers and contributors to sunpy
- Lead weekly community developer meetings and interacted with the greater scientific Python ecosystem to facilitate cooperation on common objectives

University of the Balearic Islands

POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCHER

Apr 2016 - June 2018

- Utilized image and signal analysis techniques to analyze scientific data
- Published peer-reviewed papers in scientific journals
- Gave invited talks at international conferences
- Collaborated with international teams of scientists
- Administered servers and provided software and technical advice
- Reduced uncalibrated imaging data create science ready datasets
- Spent time at observatories collecting observational data

Sheffield International College & University of Sheffield

SEASONAL TUTOR

Jan 2012 - July 2015

- Lead groups of students in Physics laboratory classes and Mathematics booster classes
- Taught students how to use Word and Excel in order to write reports and create graph.
- Created and marked Physics exams
- Helped implement a new Python teaching module for University Mathematics students
- Led and assisted tutorial classes in Mathematics, Engineering, Physics and Computer Science
- Assisted in public outreach events
- Was part of the Postgraduate Research Committee ensuring that PhD students were happy with their projects

Honors and Awards

NASA Group Achievement Award

SUNPY DEVELOPMENT TEAM

2024

For developing and continually improving free and reliable open-source software that supports NASA missions and the analysis of NASA's vast archives of solar physics data

NASA RHG - Exceptional Achievement for Science

SOLAR DYNAMICS OBSERVATORY TEAM

2024

For extraordinary and sustained team efforts that have yielded important scientific results and supported the worldwide heliophysics research community

Voluntary Work

numFOCUS

INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE - SECRETARY

October 2023 - Present

- Create detailed notes for monthly meetings
- Work with numFOCUS backed open source projects to solve their infrastructure requests
- Interview potential technical contractors

SunPy Project

FORMER DEPUTY LEAD DEVELOPER, PROJECT CUSTODIAN

May 2016 - Present

- Develop new features, expand existing features and finish stale contributions
- Onboard new contributors and actively solve their problems
- Present at conferences on behalf of the SunPy Project
- Package and release the libraries under the SunPy Project
- Maintain the online infrastructure (website, documentation and continuous integration)
- Taught PhD students at summer schools

Google Summer of Code

PROJECT MENTOR & ORGANIZATION ADMIN

Feb 2014 - Present

- Guide prospective students through the process of contributing to open source software
- Review applications and interview prospective students
- Organize weekly meetings and set targets for students
- Provide support and code reviews with students
- Oversee activity of all mentors and students to ensure compliance with Google rules
- Ensure that all selected projects pass Google requirements