

Astrophysics Seminar

Monday, October 11, 2016



Star Formation to Making Stars: A Journey from Astronomy to Hollywood Data Science



Jonathan Foster

Legendary Entertainment (Boston)

I will describe my transition from professional astronomer to data scientist at Legendary Entertainment, a major Hollywood movie studio.

I will share my motivation and methods for making this transition and explain why I think training as an astronomer provides a solid foundation for analytics in many diverse industry jobs. For those wondering, "what does a data scientist do?", I will provide the single data point that is my job, and

explain why I have learned more in my first 15 months at Legendary than I did during any similar span of my astronomical career. Finally, I will offer some tips for students, post-docs, or faculty looking to make the transition from astronomy (or any physical science, really) to a job outside of academia in data science.

3:30pm in CAS 502. *Refreshments served at 3:15pm in CAS 500.*

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Next Week

Stella Kafka
AAVSO (Cambridge, MA)