

Christopher Wayne Pillay

Data Scientist

United Nations University World Institute for Development Economics Research (UNU-WIDER)

Email: pillay@wider.unu.edu

SUMMARY

I am a computer science graduate currently working for UNU-WIDER as a Data Scientist based at the South African Revenue Service (SARS). I am also in the process of completing my master's degree in a part-time capacity. My interests lie in the practical application of artificial intelligence related methods to solve real world problems while improving my knowledge and skills through continuous learning.

SKILLS AND EXPERTISE

- Academic writing
- Report writing
- Data cleaning
- Data exploration
- Data analysis
- Data visualization
- Python (Programming)
- Java (Programming)
- Stata (Programming)
- SQL (Programming)
- C++ (Programming)
- PHP (Programming)
- Machine learning
- Computer vision
- Deep learning
- Jupyter Notebook & Spyder
- Microsoft Office & Latex
- Microsoft SQL Server Management Studio

EDUCATION

National Senior Certificate

2011-2015

Queens High School | South Africa

- Subjects: Mathematics, English, Afrikaans, Life Orientation, Physical Science, Life Science, Geography and Business Studies.
- Achievements and Awards: Academic Half Colours, Full Colours and Honours awards. Seven distinctions achieved in the matriculant exams.

Bachelor of Science

2016-2019

University of the Witwatersrand | South Africa

- Majors: Computer Science and Economics.
- Achievements and Awards: University Entrance Scholarship, Certificates of First Class for Computer Science, Economics and Mathematical subjects, Dean's List award for third year of study.

Bachelor of Science Honours (Cum Laude)

2020-2020

University of the Witwatersrand | South Africa

- Major: Computer Science.
- Achievements and Awards: Dean's List award for Honours.

Master of Science (In progress)

2021-2023

University of the Witwatersrand | South Africa

- Major: Computer Science.

EXPERIENCE

Data Consultant

08/2021 - 10/2022

UNU-WIDER – Based at SARS in Pretoria, South Africa

- Supported the Southern Africa - Towards Inclusive Economic Development programme ([SA-TIED](#)).
- Assisted with the administrative tax data extractions from SARS to the National Treasury (NT). This includes writing scripts to extract the data, anonymizing the data, performing quality assurance on the data, writing reports and assisting with related documentation, inter alia.
- Investigated data anomalies raised by SARS, the UNU-WIDER Pretoria data team, NT and associated researchers.
- Performed tasks for SARS relating to identification of tax non-compliance and data analysis to identify revenue opportunities.
- Transferred skills to the SARS team.

Data Scientist

11/2022 - Present

UNU-WIDER – Based at SARS in Pretoria, South Africa

- Currently supporting the [SA-TIED](#) programme and assisting with the extraction of administrative tax data from SARS to the NT.

REFERENCES

Marlies Piek

Research Associate

United Nations University - World Institute for Development Economics Research (UNU-WIDER)
Pretoria, South Africa.
Email: Piek@wider.unu.edu

Michael Kilumelume

Research Consultant

United Nations University - World Institute for Development Economics Research (UNU-WIDER)
Pretoria, South Africa.
Email: Kilumelume@wider.unu.edu

Pumla Bam

Senior Specialist: Data Analytics

South African Revenue Service (SARS) - National Revenue Management
Pretoria, South Africa.
Email: pbam@sars.gov.za