

Jacob Ford

Senior Data Scientist and Tech Lead

(724) 681-3467 — jake.ford927@gmail.com — jake-ford.github.io
github.com/Jake-Ford — linkedin.com/in/jacob-ford-80775662

SUMMARY

Senior data scientist and technical lead with 8+ years across energy, machine learning, and applied AI. Lead a team of 10 at FlexGen building production LLM, agentic, and ML systems for battery energy storage operations, including agentic developer tooling that raised engineering efficiency 40% in 6 months. Partner with operations, engineering, and product teams to scope, evaluate, and ship AI systems, with a focus on rigorous LLM evaluation and measurable business impact.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Languages	Python, SQL, R, Bash, Go
AI & LLMs	LLM applications, RAG, Agentic systems, MCPs open and custom, Prompt engineering
AI Evaluation	LLM evaluation, LLM-as-judge, Golden datasets, Eval harnesses, Bias and fairness analysis
ML & MLOps	Model design and development, PyTorch, Drift detection, Docker, AWS (Bedrock AgentCore, SageMaker, Lambda), Snowflake, Databricks
Leadership	Technical project leadership, Cross-functional delivery, AI product management

EXPERIENCE

Senior Data Scientist and Tech Lead, *FlexGen* May 2025 – Present — New York, NY

- Lead a team of 10 data scientists and engineers building ML and AI systems for battery-storage operations.
- Designed and shipped ROC Assistant, an agentic fault analysis, clearance, and preventive system built on AWS AgentCore Bedrock that leads to a 40% reduction in operator time and the adoption of proactive maintenance.
- Built the harness for an org-wide agentic tooling platform where teams plug in custom or open-source tools, now hosting 20+ agent skills and 10 MCP servers, backed by standards, contribution guidelines, and PR review.

Senior Data Scientist, *Solstice* March 2022 – May 2025 — Cambridge, MA

- Secured \$1M from Google to develop EnergyScore, an ML-based green-financing qualification tool, leading technical project management across data collection, model design, and MLOps strategy.
- Designed a custom churn-prediction model that segmented customers into risk clusters, driving a 39% decrease in churn among high-risk customers.
- Built and deployed a PyTorch document-classification model via AWS SageMaker, ECR, and Lambda (Docker-based serving), cutting manual review of LMI documents by 70%.

Transportation Modeler, *Triangle West TPO* February 2020 – March 2022 — Durham, NC

- Maintained a transportation model predicting multimodal travel volume across highway, transit, and pedestrian networks.
- Applied iterative proportional fitting, neural networks, and decision trees to estimate trip counts and purposes.

Program Evaluator, *North Carolina General Assembly* July 2018 – February 2020 — Raleigh, NC

- Conducted state policy evaluations and recommended programmatic solutions within the legislature's in-house watchdog agency.
- Identified \$3.7M in unnecessary state spending stemming from an errant matching mechanism for hurricane relief funding.

EDUCATION

Master of Public Policy, Georgetown University

May 2018

Editor-in-chief, Georgetown Public Policy Review; Baker Innovation Scholar; Research Fellow, CROCUS

Bachelor of Science in Mathematics, Allegheny College

May 2014

PUBLICATIONS

- Zoie T. Diana, Madeleine Milne, **Jacob Ford**, Ron Rubinovitz, Andrew Turner, Chelsea M. Rochman, “A Paint Library Of Plastic Particles (PLOPP): Fourier transform infrared spectral analysis of paint microplastics.” *Microplastics and Nanoplastics*, September 2026.
- **Jacob Ford**, “Fairness in Focus: Insights into Bias Within Machine Learning Risk Evaluations and Established Credit Models.” *Management System Engineering*, 2025.
- Zahra Thani, Winslow Lewis, Liz Neyens, **Jacob Ford**, “Priorities’ Role in Community Solar: Survey-Based Study and Payment Performance Analysis.” *Proceedings of the 52nd ASES National Solar Conference 2023*, Springer Proceedings in Energy, Springer, Cham, August 2023.
- Allison LaFave, Emily Kelly, **Jacob Ford**, “Reasons High School Students Change Their Educational Setting.” *National Center for Education Statistics (NCES)*, NCES 2019-119, November 2018.
- Allison LaFave, Emily Kelly, **Jacob Ford**, “Factors that Influence Student College Choice.” *National Center for Education Statistics (NCES)*, NCES 2018-119, June 2018.