Nissim Lebovits

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LinkedIn | GitHub | Portfolio

Education

Master of City Planning, University of Pennsylvania — August 2022 - May 2024

Bachelor of Arts in History, Vanderbilt University — August 2016 - May 2020

Research and Professional Experience

Fulbright Research Fellow — March 2025 – Present

Universidad Nacional de La Plata — La Plata, Argentina

- Investing opportunities to integrate open-source satellite imagery into flood risk assessments for the greater La Plata region.

Founder and Project Lead — July 2023 – March 2025

Clean & Green Philly — Philadelphia, PA

- Founded an open source, nonprofit tech platform that promotes data-driven interventions in vacant properties to improve quality of life in Philadelphia.
- Led the creation of v1.0 of cleanandgreenphilly.org using NextJS and a Python geospatial ETL pipeline with Postgres, Docker, and Google Cloud Platform.
- Coordinated cross-functional teams of more than 200 Code for Philly volunteers, including software developers, UX researchers, data analysts, and vacant property experts.
- Ensured long-term viability by obtaining fiscal sponsorship, establishing a board, recruiting an executive director, and creating a three-year strategic plan, targeting sustainable growth through diversified funding streams.

Research Associate for Professor Allison Lassiter — March 2023 – March 2025

University of Pennsylvania — Philadelphia, PA

- Applied statistical clustering techniques to quantify the socioeconomic vulnerability and climate hazard exposure of more than 4,500 U.S. public drinking water suppliers.
- Began development of a multi-agent system model to simulate the impacts of saltwater intrusion on networks of public water suppliers in 3 U.S. coastal regions.
- Developed well-documented, reproducible workflows in Python, R, GDAL, ArcGIS, and QGIS.

Research Associate for Professor Matthijs Bouw — November 2023 – May 2024

University of Pennsylvania — Philadelphia, PA

- Developed scalable machine learning pipelines using Python, Google Earth Engine, and Google Cloud to assess national-scale flood exposure and land surface temperature using open-source remote sensing data.
- Integrated outputs with data on population vulnerability, biodiversity, and land cover change to inform a UN-Habitat initiative to help urban planners mitigate biodiversity loss due to urban and agricultural expansion.

Data and Evaluation VISTA July 2021 – July 2022

Office of Community Empowerment and Opportunity, City of Philadelphia Philadelphia, PA

- Developed novel data collection and distribution tools for the federally designated West Philadelphia Promise Zone, including interactive reports and dashboards aimed at a non-technical audience.
- Established regular data meetings with key stakeholders in other City agencies, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, and Drexel University.

Publications

Forthcoming, "Compounding vulnerability and climate hazard exposure creates widespread risk in United States community water supply systems," Allison Lassiter, Nissim Lebovits, Zoe Kerrich, Henry Feinstein, Evan Kodra, and Lauren Patterson.

October 22, 2024, "Clean and Green Philly Where It's Most Needed," *The Philadelphia Citizen*, Nissim Lebovits and Amanda Soskin.