

Laurent Valentin

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EDUCATION

University of Reading **Reading, United Kingdom**

BSc (Hons) Meteorology and Climate, First Class 2021 – 2024

Top Student in Cohort – Highest overall academic performance

Key Modules: Calculus (ODEs, PDEs, vector calculus), Statistics for Weather & Climate Science (probability, random variables, central limit theorem), Linear Algebra (matrices, eigenvalues/vectors)

Proactive Learning: Audited CS3AI18 Artificial Intelligence (final-year Computer Science module) – Topics included regression, classification, entropy, reinforcement learning, neural networks

AWARDS

BSc Undergraduate Prize for Academic Achievement, University of Reading (2024)

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

University of Reading

Supervisors: Dr. Ranjini Swaminathan & Dr. Tristan Quaipe

UROP Project: **Jun 2023 – Jul 2023**

Title: “Evaluating GPP in the UK Earth System Model Using Artificial Intelligence”

- Trained an ensemble of decision tree models on JASMIN supercomputer using SLURM job scheduling for global GPP sensitivity analysis in the UK Earth System Model
- Presented research methodology and findings to interdisciplinary academic audience at a showcase event, receiving feedback that informed dissertation development

Dissertation: **Oct 2023 – Mar 2024**

Title: “Machine Learning-Based Sensitivity Analysis for Vegetation in Earth System Models”

- Trained 396 AdaBoost ensemble models on both Earth System Model outputs and observational data, enabling direct comparison of modelled versus real-world vegetation sensitivity to radiation, temperature, and precipitation
- Applied explainable AI techniques (permutation importance, recursive feature elimination) to explain differences in climate sensitivity across 44 IPCC regions

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

H Savy Insurance Company Limited **Jan 2026 – Present**

Business Data Analyst (Lead Data Function)

- Strategic Infrastructure Development: Recruited to architect and execute the company’s data strategy, focusing on building automated pipelines for advanced analytics, including ML-based risk quantification and customer segmentation models.

Seychelles Breweries Limited **Jan 2025 – Dec 2025**

Commercial Data Analyst/Engineer

- Designed and deployed ETL pipeline from scratch, reducing data processing time by 99% and enabling near real-time analytics across multiple distributor systems.
- Engineered automated system to reconcile fragmented biometric clock-in/out records and calculate overtime using pattern-matching algorithms, enabling accurate monthly payroll processing of around SCR 500,000.
- Built maintainable, production-grade codebase from scratch with extensive documentation, automated testing, and version control, enabling system handoff and long-term maintenance.
- Architected data integration connecting automated pipeline to Power BI dashboards, enabling 20+ daily users across multiple departments to independently access insights.

KYMIRA

Data Science Intern

Reading, United Kingdom

Mar 2023 – Jun 2023

- Evaluated 500,000+ samples of motion capture data from experimental trials using Python, identifying signal consistency issues through statistical analysis and collaborating with embedded electronics engineers on sensor performance optimisation.

LEADERSHIP & ENGAGEMENT

OCEAN AI (NGO)

Dec 2025 – Present

Founder & Lead

- Launched Seychelles' first AI-focused, youth-led NGO to bridge the gap between global research and local economic challenges.
- Currently planning local workshops and hackathons in collaboration with stakeholders such as the the National Bureau of Statistics and Absa Bank to upskill the local workforce in data science and machine learning fundamentals.

University of Reading

2021 – 2024

Student Ambassador & Campus Tours Team Lead

- Appointed Team Lead for campus tours during 2024 open days, coordinating tour guides and managing visitor experience for prospective students and families.
- Represented university at UCAS fairs and school outreach events across the UK, working with Student Recruitment and Careers teams to support widening participation initiatives

Student Course Representative, Meteorology Department

- Lobbied department leadership on behalf of students regarding deadline structures, workload distribution, and mental health support, resulting in tangible improvements to module design.

Race Equity Group Member, School of Mathematical, Physical & Computational Sciences

- Advocated for ethnic minority and international students in school-wide diversity initiatives, providing insights for closing the attainment gap
- Presented "University Survival Guide" for international students covering financial management, burnout prevention, and academic success strategies

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Programming: Python (NumPy, pandas, polars, scikit-learn, matplotlib, uv, ruff), SQL, Git, LaTeX

Machine Learning: Ensemble methods (XGBoost, AdaBoost), explainable AI (permutation importance, feature elimination), hyperparameter tuning, model evaluation

Data Engineering: ETL pipeline design, data schemas, parallel processing

Computing Infrastructure: High-performance computing (JASMIN, SLURM), Linux/Unix, shell scripting