Felix Lennert, Ph.D.

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SUMMARY

Recent graduate with a Ph.D. in Sociology (ENSAE, Institut Polytechnique de Paris) and hands-on experience applying predictive modeling, machine learning, and statistical analysis to drive commercial strategy decisions. Track record of delivering end-to-end analytical engagements for clients across industries – from building lead generation pipelines and predictive models to designing dashboards that informed pricing and product strategy. Combines deep quantitative expertise with strong communication and mentoring skills, and a social scientist's understanding of customer behavior and market dynamics.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Languages & Tools: Python (pandas, scikit-learn, transformers, numpy), SQL, R (tidyverse, ggplot2, RShiny), MS Excel, Git

Machine Learning & AI: Text classification, logistic regression, tree-based models (random forest, XGBoost), clustering, NLP (SpaCy, transformers), local LLMs (Ollama), topic modeling, predictive modeling

Statistical Methods: Causal inference (DiD, synthetic control, PSM), A/B testing, regression analysis, hypothesis testing

Visualization & Communication: Dashboarding (RShiny, Looker), data storytelling, client presentations, technical writing

EXPERIENCE

Freelance Data Science Consultant Oct 2024 – Present

End-to-end analytical engagements for clients in academia, statistics education, and industrial manufacturing. Scope, build, and deliver data products and analyses that drive commercial and research decisions.

- Built an autonomous lead generation pipeline using local LLMs (Ollama) and web scraping for an industrial manufacturing client, delivering ~2,000 qualified leads with minimal manual intervention and directly supporting commercial outreach for a new product launch.
- Identified fragmented customer and marketing data as a barrier to pricing and product decisions; designed and delivered interactive RShiny dashboards that enabled client leadership to optimize product mix and pricing strategy.
- Developed supervised text classification models (local LLMs) achieving 0.93 macro F1 on multilingual survey data, accelerating insight delivery from weeks to hours.
- Built and deployed NLP pipelines in Python to classify 3,000+ open-ended survey responses across 3 languages, reducing manual analysis effort by ~90%.
- Analyzed social media and audience engagement data to evaluate potential media partnerships; applied structured scoring criteria to identify high-value opportunities, improving marketing reach and targeting efficiency.
- Assessed market demand for analytics and AI training topics using competitive analysis; designed 5 new course offerings that shaped a client's commercial growth strategy.

Lecturer, Computational Methods — *Leipzig University* Oct 2021 – Dec 2025

Taught applied data science to social science students; mentored teams through end-to-end analytical projects.

- Designed and delivered curriculum on NLP, web scraping, OCR, and predictive modeling – equipping students to work independently with unstructured, real-world data.
- Developed a dedicated course website and RAG-based chat bot (R package) to facilitate student engagement with course materials.
- Mentored and coached 40+ student teams through analytical projects from problem definition through deliverable, emphasizing structured problem-solving, clean data pipelines, and reproducibility in Python and R.

Graduate Research Assistant — *Linköping University* Feb 2020 – Jun 2021

Computational social science research group; large-scale text analysis and behavioral pattern identification.

- Engineered ML-based text classification pipelines analyzing 40,000+ documents using tree-based models and logistic regression to identify large-scale behavioral patterns.
- Built scalable data collection infrastructure extracting 80M+ records, supporting downstream predictive analytics and model training.
- Contributed statistical analysis to cross-functional research teams, co-authoring peer-reviewed publications.

EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Sociology — *ENSAE, Institut Polytechnique de Paris* 2021 – 2026
Applied machine learning, causal inference, and predictive modeling to large-scale behavioral and survey data.

M.Sc. in Computational Social Science — *Linköping University* 2019 – 2021
Experimental design, causal inference, statistical modeling, discrete choice analysis.

B.A. in Political Science — *University of Regensburg* 2014 – 2019

ADDITIONAL

Work Authorization: U.S. Permanent resident (Green Card); EU work permit (German citizen)

Languages: English (fluent), German (native)