

Richard Morin

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My work history and independent research projects reflect a common interest: using computers to organize and present information. From my work as a scientific programmer, through my use of computers to mechanize document production (e.g., [Model-based Documentation](#)), this theme keeps appearing.

I prefer problems that require all of my skills: analysis, design, programming, editing, and writing. I am particularly interested in the intersection of programming and technical writing, as found in document generation systems, software-backed web sites, etc.

Professional Interests:

- Data flow analysis and data structure design
- Design and implementation of maintainable and robust systems
- Information management and presentation
- Knowledge engineering (e.g., metadata-driven and rule-based systems)
- Software quality and documentation
- User experience and ease of use

Skills & Qualifications:

Skilled at analysis, design, documentation, implementation, and troubleshooting. Expert in the selection and creation of data filters and analysis techniques. Substantial experience in software prototyping, development, testing, debugging, and maintenance.

Expert user of **Perl** and **Ruby**. Comfortable with many programming languages (e.g., **AWK**, **Bash**, **JavaScript**, **PHP**, **Python**). Familiar with many other programming and related languages, including **Assembler**, **Clojure**, **Cypher**, **Java**, **Lisp**, **SPARQL**, and **SQL**.

Skilled at technical writing, editing, and proofreading. Experienced in producing clear and complete documentation and reports, using both interactive and batch-mode processes and tools. Comfortable with a variety of document preparation tools (e.g., **BBEdit**, **Keynote**, **LaTeX**, **Markdown**, **MS Word**, **OmniGraffle**, **Pages**, **TextMate**, **Troff**, **TWiki**, and **vi**).

Comfortable with a large variety of document markup and data representation formats, including **D3**, **Dot**, **HTML**, **JSON**, **LaTeX**, **Markdown**, **PDF**, **POD**, **PostScript**, **Troff**, **Unicode**, **YAML**, and **XML**. Experienced in **web site** design, implementation, and maintenance, using **CSS**, **HTML**, **JavaScript**, **PHP**, **Ruby on Rails**, etc.

Extensive record of creating loosely-coupled, maintainable, robust, and well-documented systems. Experienced at creating structured procedural programs, using (as needed) complex data structures and other (e.g., object-oriented) programming techniques.

Experienced in the discovery, installation, and use of add-on (e.g., software development and documentation) tools. Knowledgeable about **Open Source** licensing issues, community practices, and resources. Very experienced with **Unix** and similar systems (e.g., **FreeBSD**, **GNU/Linux**, **Mac OS X**), including use, development, and administration.

Research Projects:

Most of my research projects are related to [Model-based Documentation](#), my approach to organizing documentation so that it matches the structure of the system being documented. See my [project notebooks](#) for more information.

Publications

Author of several books and numerous articles and columns in trade journals. See [Publications Detail](#).

Work History

Selected examples of companies and projects over time.

2000 - present

- **Institute for the Study of Learning and Expertise** (www.isle.org) — Senior Research Scientist — Analyzed, documented, and re-architected research software for Inductive Process Modeling.
- **Igloo Studios, Inc.** (igloostudios.com) — Ruby programmer — Programmed in and around SketchUp. Automated production and annotation of cabinet models using a variety of languages (e.g., AppleScript, JavaScript, Ruby). Developed plugins to add and extract product information from SketchUp components and materials.
- **Reactrix Systems, Inc.** — Web programmer — Developed and maintained internal applications, based on the Ruby on Rails framework.
- **Stanford Medical Informatics** (protege.stanford.edu) — Editor — Edited the Protégé 3 manual; created the Protégé 4 manual. Created a Ruby-based tool chain to produce HTML and PDF versions.
- **Apple** (www.apple.com) — Technical editor — Updated man pages to reflect conformance changes for UNIX03 certification.
- **Simply Hired** (www.simplyhired.com) — Perl programmer — Prototyped input filtering and email reporting software for data mining of web server logs.
- **GLAST Project** at SLAC (www.slac.stanford.edu) — Technical documenter — Created software to generate documentation for the Flight Software of the [Large Area Telescope](#) in the [Fermi Gamma-ray Space Telescope](#). Created and edited tutorials and other documents.

Education:

- B.A. Economics ([San Francisco State University](#))
- A.A. General Studies ([Santa Barbara City College](#))

Activities and Organizations:

- Served on the board of the [Independent Computer Consultants Association](#); founded the DC chapter of ICCA.
- Founding board member of the Sun User Group; edited some early SUGtapes.
- Active in various local technical groups (e.g., [San Francisco Perl Users Group](#)).