

James Somers

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EMPLOYMENT **BookTour.com**, San Francisco, California **July 2007 - Present**
Lead developer and CTO

Write and maintain our codebase. Drive new product and feature development—highlights include media contact database, tour planning tool, geocoding and event search, author pages, and embeddable widgets. [Ruby, Rails, and JavaScript (jQuery)]

Worked three months on location at the Amazon.com offices in Seattle as part of our ongoing partnership. Built the “Events” tab into their Author Central dashboard and wrote scripts to synchronize data between Amazon and BookTour. [Java, Perl, Mason, and Ruby]

Manage day-to-day technical operations including bug fixes and server maintenance. Successfully closed thousands of customer support tickets.

PHOTON Consulting, Boston, Massachusetts **March 2010 - June 2010**
In-house developer

Built a custom application for one of PHOTON’s senior analysts to replace an Excel sheet used to track thin-film photovoltaic cell producers. The application supports data collection, analysis, modeling, integrity checks, and reporting. [Ruby, Rails, jQuery, VBA, and XML]

Verba Software, Cambridge, Massachusetts **Summer 2009**
Code monkey

Implemented a fast course scheduling algorithm for Verba’s Semesterly.com; integrated with Facebook using Connect API; hacked on miscellaneous frontend and backend projects. [Ruby, Rails, jQuery]

RESEARCH **Complex Systems Group**, University of Michigan **May 2008 - January 2009**

For the Google Summer of Code 2008, wrote software to help researchers merge, explore, visualize, and analyze data generated by agent-based computational models of complex adaptive systems. [Python, R]

Parsed and processed the full text of every case heard by the Supreme Court to build a network of citations among justices. Applied methods from computational linguistics to evaluate the semantic relatedness of cases over time. [Python, R]

EDUCATION **University of Michigan**, Ann Arbor, Michigan

B.S., Economics (May 2009).

400-level coursework in microeconomics, econometrics, complex adaptive systems, algebra, analysis, history, computational linguistics, algorithms, first-order logic, differential geometry, philosophy of mind, english, and postmodern critical theory.

The Pingry School, Martinsville, New Jersey

Cum Laude society. 1500 SAT (750 M 750 V). Golf team captain. Senior class president.

MISCELLANEOUS Personal website at jsomers.net. Solved 140 mathematics-related programming problems at projecteuler.net (ranked 1,185th of more than 100,000 users) [Python, Ruby]. Squash, golf, tennis, basketball.