

# Colin Schimmelfing

[Personal Website](#) - [GitHub](#) - [LinkedIn](#) - [colinschimmelfing@gmail.com](mailto:colinschimmelfing@gmail.com) - Seattle, Washington

Colin Schimmelfing mixes technical and communications skills to solve real-world problems. He has just finished a master's in environmental science and management (think: "Climate MBA") after spending 10 years as a software engineer and software eng manager in Silicon Valley. He is looking forward to bringing these skills (and his positive energy) to the climate space. He is currently seeking opportunities as an engineering leader at a climate tech company.

## EDUCATION

### **Master of Environmental Science and Management (8/2020 - 6/2022)**

*Bren School of Environmental Science & Management – University of California, Santa Barbara (UCSB)*

**Specialization:** Energy and Climate, Economics and Politics of the Environment

**Thesis project:** Managed a team creating a [feasibility study](#) for floating solar arrays on a municipal reservoir

**Highlighted Coursework:** Energy Systems and Markets; Economics of Env. Management; Environmental Law; Financial Management; Natural Resources Law and Policy; Natural Resources Economics; Energy, Technology, and the Environment; Water Policy; Advanced GIS; Environmental Politics and Policy; International Env. Law

### **Double major in Astrophysics and Computer Science (B.A., 9/2006 - 6/2010)**

*Swarthmore College, Swarthmore, PA*

## WORK EXPERIENCE

### **Founder — [Takeoff Solar](#), Seattle, WA (6/2022 - 11/2022)**

- Founded a company dedicated to enabling solar on rented commercial and industrial solar sites
- Developed a risk-pooling monte-carlo simulator in Python to demonstrate profitability in various market conditions
- Pivoted to utility 'process efficiency' consulting to reduce interconnection queues using software and process changes

### **Finance Team Fellow — *Via the EDF Climate Corps, worked with Mission Energy, Denver, CO (6/2021 - 8/2021)***

- Built a configurable pro-forma excel financial model for solar development projects intended for tax-equity investors
- Designed a due-diligence process for prospective investment vetting, process was accepted by the internal investment team
- Created financial offering materials for potential investors, such as a 1-page investment summary and a pitch deck

### **Engineering Manager — *Flatiron Health, New York, NY (1/2019 - 8/2020)***

- Managed software engineers supporting both a medical billing SAAS product as well as a managed services (Billing-as-a-service) team
- Created a data platform to enable basic business metrics and operational insights for the Billing-as-a-service team, a \$10MM revenue business
- Guided and motivated a cross-functional team overseeing 4 engineers, 1 data investigator, and 2 engineering interns, setting direction and accountable for team progress and deadlines

### **CTO and COO — [Mask-Match.com](#), New York, NY (3/2020 - 7/2020)**

- Co-founded a volunteer non-profit fulfilling peer-to-peer donation of over 850,000 masks from 6,500 donors to 7,500 verified healthcare worker recipients. Acted as CTO and COO with shared duties with another co-founder
- Created the technical backend to support accurate workflows for 300 volunteers, utilizing Retool, Postgres, Google Sheets, Typeform, Zapier, Metabase, and Squarespace
- Represented Mask-Match on live TV personally via ABC's 'Good Morning Arizona' as well as local news outlets. Mask-Match itself received a good deal of [press](#), including as the 'ABC Nightly News' "[Person of the Week](#)"

### **Data Engineer (Onsite pro-bono work with paid staff) — *Texas Democrats, Austin, TX (10/2018 - 11/2018)***

- Created an ETL pipeline to feed in voting data from 254 counties with unique data formats
- Scaled analytics and automated Excel reports at different geographic scales for 25+ active campaigns across Texas
- Delivered the best results for Texas Democrats in decades as a team: we flipped 2 US House and 14 state seats

*Clever Inc., San Francisco, CA*

**Engineering Manager (3/2016 - 6/2018)**

- People-Managed and Product-Managed 5-person team overseeing Clever's analytics pipeline and dependent microservices and internal tools. These tools include internal power-user tools, business analytics tools, Salesforce, automated emails, and the marketing website
- Grew Customer Success efficiency 4x, keeping headcount static with 4x increase in revenue
- Rescued billing, quota, and financial reporting functions of Clever during a 6-month period where Clever had 3 Finance VPs and 5 Accountants, while completing an overhaul of the main company billing / quota metric
- Implemented CraftCMS-based clever.com, allowing Marketing users to create product pages, webinar landing pages, and new copy without engineering help
- Grew a diverse team that was oversubscribed with interest to join from other engineers

**Full-Stack Engineer (8th engineer, 14th employee) (3/2014 - 3/2016)**

- Moved core web application functionality from Node and Python monoliths to Golang microservices while helping implement product improvements that drove installed, paid subscribership by 1500%
- Designed and led a full analytics pipeline overhaul applying best-practice data management concepts like atomicity, idempotency, and operational visibility. Resulted in a 90% drop in reliability issues and a promotion
- Implemented Clever's integration with Salesforce, leading to massive growth in our core metrics
- Built customer-self-service tools working closely with the Customer Support team, eliminating top support requests

**Technical Co-Founder — Mr. Postman, LLC., San Francisco, CA (12/2013 - 5/2015)**

- Sole technical Co-Founder of an e-commerce startup selling a wide selection of gift cards via subscription

*Quantcast, San Francisco, CA*

**Senior Software Engineer, R&D Team (10/2012 - 3/2014)**

- Won the Quantcast company hackathon along with one partner (\$10,000 and options) with a real-time visualization tool
- Developed interactive mapping tools to allow customers to visualize their ad spend in 4 different countries
- Built an ETL pipeline and data-cube-like tools on top of Cassandra and Sawzall

**Production Operations and Data Engineer (3/2011 - 10/2012)**

- Ran operations (with a small 2-4 person team) for all analytics processing, including input to billing systems
- Productionized adserver integration, client reporting, data analytics, creatives(ad) management as needed

**Software Engineer — Detica Net Reveal, McLean, VA (6/2010 - 9/2011)**

- Coached other engineers in the U.S. office on Linux, Java, Javascript and web dev, Systems, Oracle, Perl, Tomcat and Bash
- Automated and deployed anti-fraud data systems at a company handling 100% of consumer checks in the US

**CS Researcher and Sysadmin — Swarthmore College, Swarthmore, PA (1/2008 - 6/2010)**

- Created a distributed filesystem residing on the RAM of idle network computers (full-time)
- Directed Swarthmore College Computing Society senior year, including acting as liaison to college administration
- Administered web streaming, podcasts, and Django web presence of campus radio station (part-time)

**SELECTED SKILLS**

---

- **Management:** Managed diverse, cross-functional teams. Includes project and product management responsibilities, and data reporting requirement responsibilities.
- **Technology:** Data engineering, backend engineering, full-stack web development. Fluent in AWS, Docker, CraftCMS, Git/Github, Retool, React, PostgreSQL, QGIS
- **Programming languages:** SQL, Python, R, Golang, Javascript, C#, HTML / CSS, Java, GeoJSON
- **Office:** Google Suite & Microsoft Office (Word / Excel / Powerpoint), Advanced Excel programming, Slack, Salesforce, Wordpress, Zendesk, Tableau, Chart.io

## Selected VOLUNTEERING and ACTIVISM (part-time)

---

### **Citizen Lobbying for SB100 in CA, 2018**

I joined the NRDC in Sacramento and met with lawmakers to support [SB100](#), a clean energy bill in CA. The bill passed!

### **Grassroots Organizing with FossilFreeCA, 2015 - 2018**

I've been involved with a Bay Area pro-divestment group called [FossilFreeCA](#) since 2015. Here's some [press](#) which includes me.

### **Campus Divestment Support (2013 - 2017)**

I am a big believer in divestment as a lever to reduce the social license of fossil fuel companies, and to move the Overton Window to where legislation and legal challenges have fertile ground to operate. I wrote a [few](#) (2015) [blog](#) (2014) posts as part of an alumni effort to convince Swarthmore to divest, in addition to specific donations.

### **Volunteer Computer Science Teacher with TEALS (2015)**

Co-taught AP Computer Science at a lower-income school in San Francisco before work 3x / week with [TEALS](#).

### **Technical Consultant with Earth Quaker Action Team (2014 - 2015)**

Maintained a donor and email list database, repaired the organization's Nationbuilder instance, and performed website upkeep for Earth Quaker Action Team (EQAT). [EQAT](#) is a group that protests mountain-top-removal coal mining in Southeastern PA.

### **Technical Consultant with OrganizeMO (2013)**

Created an interactive local resource map for [OrganizeMO](#), a BLM, Climate Justice, and local community group in St. Louis, MO.