

# Christopher Kessler

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## DATA ANALYST / TECHNICIAN / IT ADVISOR

Technical Laboratory Administration, Database Design and Implementation  
Data Acquisition, Statistical Analysis, Concise Reporting, Web Development, IT Support

### PROFILE

Highly motivated lead technician and researcher with over 10 years experience analyzing data and organizing projects, administering duties, mentoring colleagues, implementing IT support, and writing troubleshooting articles.

- Eight years programming experience using Igor Pro, Python, BASH, Javascript, CSS, HTML, XML, some Objective-C, PHP, and MATLAB.
- Two years database development with Filemaker Pro, MySQL, and Sqlite3; interest in NoSQL (MongoDB).
- Deep technical ability with Mac OS X. Also capable with Windows and UNIX/Linux environments.
- Ability to quickly learn new programming languages, and data management and analysis tools.
- Expert at acquiring and analyzing data, and presenting results.
- Troubleshooting and calibration abilities for computers and technical hardware.
- Web development, and content maintenance on Apache-based servers.
- Open Directory domain administration, IP networking, and VPN experience.
- Supervising and teaching ability for non-technical colleagues and clientele.

### EXPERIENCE

#### **Senior Research Associate III**

2005-Present

Center for Neuroscience, UC Davis.

- Developed relational lab databases using FileMaker Pro and MySQL.
- Automated core analysis routines, reducing computation time from 30-40 minutes to 5-7 minutes.
- Developed programs for controlling microscopes, and transferring data from scientific equipment.
- Implemented statistical spreadsheet visualizations for cataloging data.
- Planned new custom laboratory facilities with UC Davis architects.
- Maintained technical computing and scientific equipment.
- Set up laboratory network domains, maintained database servers, and coded backup scripts.
- Built innovative recording equipment to record electrical impulses from the eye, revealing a unique phenomenon on which I first-authored a paper.
- Interacted with vendors to organize purchasing of supplies and repair of equipment.
- Presented research findings at professional conferences.
- Instructed graduate and undergraduate students on laboratory procedures and analysis techniques.

#### **Contributing Technical Writer (Contract)**

2014 - Present

MacWorld, Inc.

- Independently researched and wrote how-to and troubleshooting articles for OS X systems.

#### **Blog Author and Technical Writer**

2014 - Present

Macissues.com

- Personally established MacIssues.com.
- Achieved over 300,000 visitors per month within a year of inception.
- Active management of site: daily postings, and responses to reader inquiries.

## **Contributing Technical Writer (Contract)**

2008 - 2014

CNET, Inc.

- Independently researched and wrote over 2100 articles.
- Published articles at a rate of two per day.
- Engaged with readers, providing technical support and feedback.

## **Laboratory Assistant**

2002 - 2004

Dept. of Neurobiology, UC Davis.

- Transcribed C code to Matlab for data acquisition hardware.

## **EDUCATION**

### **Bachelor of Science**

2003

Neurobiology, Physiology, and Behavior  
University of California, Davis.

## **CONTINUING EDUCATION**

- Self-study in statistics and mathematics, programming, and database structures (MySQL, NoSQL, Hadoop).
- Troubleshooting and how-to documentation of modern computer systems.
- Applications of Python for data management, and data mining including MapReduce algorithms.

## **PUBLICATIONS**

Over 2700 technical articles published (troubleshooting, news, how-to, etc.):

- CNET, Inc. — <http://www.cnet.com>; author name: Topher Kessler (2187 articles)
- MacWorld, Inc. — <http://www.macworld.com>; author name: Topher Kessler (21 articles)
- MacIssues. — <http://www.macissues.com>; author name: Topher Kessler (504 articles)

**Kessler C**, Tillman M, Burns ME, Pugh EN Jr., “Rhodopsin in the rod surface membrane regenerates more rapidly than bulk rhodopsin in the disc membranes in vivo.” J Physiol. 2014 Jul 1;592(Pt 13):2785-97.

Fortenbach CR, **Kessler C**, Peinado Allina G, Burns ME., “Speeding rod recovery improves temporal resolution in the retina.” Vision Res. 2015 May;110(Pt A):57-67.

Gospe SM 3rd, Baker SA, **Kessler C**, Brucato MF, Winter JR, Burns ME, Arshavsky VY., “Membrane attachment is key to protecting transducin GTPase-activating complex from intracellular proteolysis in photoreceptors.” J Neurosci. 2011 Oct 12;31(41):14660-8.

Herrmann R, Lobanova ES, Hammond T, **Kessler C**, Burns ME, Frishman LJ, Arshavsky VY., “Phosducin regulates transmission at the photoreceptor-to-ON-bipolar cell synapse.” J Neurosci. 2010 Mar 3;30(9):3239-53.

Lobanova ES, Finkelstein S, Herrmann R, Chen YM, **Kessler C**, Michaud NA, Trieu LH, Strissel KJ, Burns ME, Arshavsky VY., “Transducin gamma-subunit sets expression levels of alpha- and beta-subunits and is crucial for rod viability.” J Neurosci. 2008 Mar 26;28(13):3510-20.

Cohen MX, Young J, Baek JM, **Kessler C**, Ranganath C., “Individual differences in extraversion and dopamine genetics predict neural reward responses.” Brain Res Cogn Brain Res. 2005 Dec;25(3):851-61.

## **WEBSITE**

**Personal Page:** <http://topher.macissues.com>

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