

Benjamin D. Horne

School of Information Sciences
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Research Focus

Media ecosystems, mis/dis/malinformation, alt-tech, trust, computational social science

I study various facets of media, the humans who consume that media, and interventions in between

Education

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute Troy, NY 2014 – 2020

- Ph.D. in Computer Science
Dissertation: Robust News Veracity Detection - **Robert McNaughton Prize**
Committee: Sibel Adalı, Lirong Xia, Stacy Patterson, Dorit Nevo, & Tamar Gordon

Union University Jackson, TN 2010 – 2014

- B.S. in Computer Science, Minor in Mathematics - **Academic Excellence Medal**
- B.S. in Business Administration, Concentration in Management

Vanguard-Sentinel Career & Technology Center Fremont, OH 2008 – 2010

- Information Technology Fundamentals (Vocational Training)

Academic Appointments

University of Tennessee, Knoxville Knoxville, TN 2020 – Present

- CCI Board of Visitors Junior Professor, School of Information Sciences
2024 – Present
- Assistant Professor (Joint), Data Science and Engineering, The Bredesen Center
2023 – Present
- Assistant Professor, School of Information Sciences
2020 – 2024
- Senior Fellow, Information Integrity Institute, College of Communications and Information
2025 – Present
- Member, Center for the Dynamics of Social Complexity, College of Arts and Sciences
2024 – Present
- Affiliate, Center for National Security and Foreign Affairs, The Baker School of Public Policy
2023 – Present
- Founding Fellow, Information Integrity Institute, College of Communications and Information
2023 – 2025

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute Troy, NY 2014 – 2020

- Graduate Research Assistant, Computer Science, *Supervisor:* Sibel Adalı
2014, 2017 – 2020
- NSF GK-12 Teaching Fellow, Science and Technology Studies, *Supervisor:* Ron Eglash
2015 – 2016
- Graduate Teaching Assistant, Computer Science, *Supervisor:* Mukkai Krishnamoorthy
2015

Cornell University Ithaca, NY 2013

- NSF Undergraduate Researcher, Information Sciences, *Supervisor*: Stephen Wicker
Summer 2013

Texas Tech University Lubbock, TX 2012

- NSF Undergraduate Researcher, Computer Science, *Supervisor*: Joseph Urban
Summer 2012

Relevant Industry/Government Experience

U.S. Army Research Laboratory Adelphi, MD 2017

- Visiting Graduate Researcher, Network Science Research Laboratory
Summer 2017

Steele Martin Jones and Company Jackson, TN 2011 – 2014

- I.T. Administrator
2011 – 2014

Home Medical Products, Inc. Jackson, TN 2011

- I.T. Technician
2011

Publications

Total citations (Google Scholar June 2025): 2283

H-Index (Google Scholar June 2025): 18

Notes: I publish across multiple disciplines, each with different practices in terms of author order and venue importance. Across my publications, both journals and computing conferences are the most important. Conference proceedings are considered top-tier publication venues for computing. These conferences are heavily refereed and highly selective venues for top archival research, often exceeding many journals in their selectivity, visibility, and impact. Hence, I note the count of both journal and computing conference publications for each year at the top of each year block. Each output's venue type is also noted in a box by the venue name. All venues are peer-reviewed at some level with exception of *Technical Report* and *Other*.

I also provide other context indicators of venue impact and the type of co-authors for each paper. These include: * indicates student authors; † indicates postdoc authors; **IF** indicates Impact Factor of journal at the time of acceptance, if known; **ICORE** indicates a conference rating (A*, A, B, C) from Computing Research and Education, if available; **AR** indicates acceptance rate of conference or journal, if known; **ABDC** indicates a rating (A*, A, B, C) from Australian Business Deans Council, if applicable; **AJG** indicates a rating (4*, 4, 3, 2, 1) from the Academic Journal Guide by Chartered Association of Business Schools, if applicable; **JCR** indicates Journal Citation Reports ranking within Subject Field, if applicable.

Lastly, there are superscripts next to each output's title which indicate the broad research theme they fall under.

Venue Types: (shown in box)

<i>Journal</i>	<i>Computing Conference</i>	<i>Conference</i>	<i>Workshop</i>	<i>Dataset</i>	<i>Technical Report</i>	<i>Other</i>
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Paper Themes: (shown in superscript)

I: Information Interventions, M: Media Ecosystems, P: People and Public Opinion

2025 (Journal: 5, Computing Conference: 2)

13. **People Adhere to Content Warning Labels Even When They are Wrong Due to Ecologically Rational Adaptations**^I
Scientific Reports *Journal* (IF: 3.9)
Benjamin D. Horne and Dorit Nevo
12. **Media Usage and Attitudes Toward Russia vs. the EU: Collective Consciousness of Russian-Speaking Belarusians and Ukrainians pre-Russia-Ukraine War**^{P M}
International Communication Gazette *Journal* (IF: 1.3)
Catherine Luther, Brandon Prins, R. Alexander Bentley, Joshua Borycz, and Benjamin D. Horne
11. **“A Growing Sense of Alienation”: Spirals of Silence and Suppression of Structural Circumstances of Suicide in News**^M
19th International Conference on Web and Social Media (ICWSM) *Computing Conference* (ICORE: A, AR: 34%)
Jasmine C. Foriest*, Mini Jain*, Benjamin D. Horne, and Munmun De Choudhury
10. **Does the Source of a Warning Matter? Examining the Effectiveness of Veracity Warning Labels Across Warners**^I
19th International Conference on Web and Social Media (ICWSM) *Computing Conference* (ICORE: A, AR: 34%)
Benjamin D. Horne
9. **Supply and Demand on Alt-Tech Social Media: A Case Study of BitChute**^M
Computational Communication Research *Journal*
Benjamin D. Horne, Myles Bowman*, Milo Z. Trujillo, Maurício Gruppi, and Cody Buntain
8. **Perceptible Climate Warming Amplifies How Education Increases Climate Concern in the US**^P
npj Climate Action *Journal*
R. Alexander Bentley and Benjamin D. Horne
Media Coverage: Covered by 13 outlets including Yahoo News, Idaho Press, Seattle Post-Intelligencer
7. **Response to Collective Threat: Russian Invasion Unifies Ukrainians Across Ethnic, Linguistic, Religious, and Geographic Lines**^P
Royal Society Open Science *Journal* (IF: 2.9)
Joshua Borycz, Benjamin D. Horne, Catherine Luther, Garriy Shteynberg, Suzie Allard, Brandon Prins, and R. Alexander Bentley
Media Coverage: Covered by 12 outlets including The Houston Chronicle, MSN, Yahoo News
6. **Russia’s Invasion United Different Parts of Ukraine Against a Common Enemy – 3 Years On, That Unanimity Still Holds**^P
The Conversation *Other*
Benjamin D. Horne, Catherine Luther, and R. Alexander Bentley
5. **Partisan Media Consumption and Trust in the United States in 2025: Differences across Mediums and Platforms**^{P M}
CCI Information Integrity Institute White Paper *Technical Report*
Namrita Varier* and Benjamin D. Horne
4. **Despite Meta Ending Its Third-Party Fact-Checking Program, Most People Still Want Fact Checkers on Social Media**^{P M}

CCI Information Integrity Institute White Paper *Technical Report*
Benjamin D. Horne and Matthew J.A. Craig

3. **Georgia: Frontier Between Russia and the West** ^P
CCI Information Integrity Institute White Paper *Technical Report*
Benjamin D. Horne, Damian Ruck, Catherine Luther, C. Kuular, Joshua Borycz, Garriy Shteynberg, Brandon Prins, and R. Alexander Bentley
2. **Russia or the EU? Examining the Geopolitical Perceptions in Georgia and Moldova** ^P
American Political Science Association (ASPA) Annual Meeting *Conference Abstract*
Catherine Luther, Damian Ruck, C. Kuular, Benjamin D. Horne, Joshua Borycz, Garriy Shteynberg, Suzie Allard, Brandon Prins, and R. Alexander Bentley
1. **Experience of Warming Increases Education's Effect on Climate Concern in the U.S.** ^P
Seventeenth International Conference on Climate Change: Impacts & Responses *Conference Abstract*
R. Alexander Bentley and Benjamin D. Horne

2024 (Journal: 2, Computing Conference: 1)

6. **Perceived Social Influence on Vaccination Decisions: A COVID-19 Case Study** ^P
Springer Nature Social Sciences (SNSS) *Journal*
Denise Yewell*, R. Alexander Bentley, and Benjamin D. Horne
5. **News Media and Violence Against Women: Understanding Framings of Stigma** ^M
18th International Conference on Web and Social Media (ICWSM) *Computing Conference* (ICORE: A, AR: 35%)
Shravika Mittal*, Jasmine C. Foriest*, Benjamin D. Horne, and Munmun De Choudhury
4. **NELA-PS: A Dataset of Pink Slime News Articles for the Study of Local News Ecosystems**
18th International Conference on Web and Social Media (ICWSM) *Dataset* (AR: 46%)
Benjamin D. Horne and Mauricio Gruppi
3. **Russia Public Diplomacy Efforts to Influence Neighbors: Media Messaging Supports Hard Power Projection** ^M
International Journal of Communication (IJoC) *Journal* (IF: 1.8)
Maureen Taylor, Natalie M. Rice, Oleg Manaev, Catherine A. Luther, Suzie L. Allard, R. Alexander Bentley, Joshua Borycz, Benjamin D. Horne, and Brandon C. Prins
2. **Media Trust and Opinions Regarding Russia's 2022 Invasion of Ukraine Amongst Russian-speaking Populations in Belarus and Ukraine - Pre and Post Invasion** ^{P M}
10th Annual Conference of the International Journal of Press/Politics *Conference*
Catherine Luther, Joshua Borycz, Benjamin D. Horne, Garriy Shteynberg, Suzie Allard, Brandon Prins, and R. Alexander Bentley
1. **Embedding Elites: Examining the Use of Tweets Embedded in Online News Articles across Reliable and Fringe Outlets** ^M
MeLa Lab Preliminary Findings Report *Technical Report*
<http://arxiv.org/abs/2401.16572>
Benjamin D. Horne, Summer Phillips*, and Nelia Koontz*

2023 (Journal: 5, Computing Conference: 0)

10. **Ethical and Safety Considerations in Automated Fake News Detection** ^I
Behaviour & Information Technology (BIT) *Journal* (ABDC: A, AJG: 2, JCR: 38, IF: 3.7)
Benjamin D. Horne, Dorit Nevo, and Susan L. Smith
Media Coverage: Covered by 4 outlets including TiiSys Japan, TechExplore, NewsWise

9. **Cultural Evolution, Disinformation and Social Division** ^{P M}
 Adaptive Behavior Journal (IF: 1.6)
 R. Alexander Bentley, Benjamin D. Horne, Joshua Borycz, Simon Carrignon, Garriy Shteynberg, Blai Vidiella, Sergi Valverde, Michael J. O'Brien

8. **Is Disruption Decreasing, or Is It Accelerating?**
 Advances in Complex Systems (ACS) Journal (IF: 0.7, AR: 17%)
 R. Alexander Bentley, Sergi Valverde, Joshua Borycz, Blai Vidiella, Benjamin D. Horne, Salva Duran-Nebreda, Michael J. O'Brien
Media Coverage: Covered by 4 outlets including ScienMag, Phys.org, Swift Telecast

7. **Climate Complacency Reflects Cultural Values of Nations** ^P
 Current Research in Ecological and Social Psychology (CRESP) Journal (IF: 2.50)
 R. Alexander Bentley, Joshua Borycz, and Benjamin D. Horne
Media Coverage: Covered by Daily Kos

6. **Generational Effects of Culture and Digital Media in Former Soviet Republics** ^{P M}
 Humanities and Social Sciences Communications (HSSCOMMS) Journal (IF: 3.5)
 Benjamin D. Horne, Natalie Rice, Catherine Luther, Damian Ruck, Joshua Borycz, Suzie L. Allard, Michael Fitzgerald, Oleg Manaev, Brandon C. Prins, Maureen Taylor, R. Alexander Bentley
Media Coverage: Covered by UTK Research News

5. **War in Ukraine: Russian Propaganda and Geopolitical Attitudes in FSU** ^{P M}
 American Political Science Association (ASPA) Annual Meeting Conference Abstract
 Natalie Rice, Oleg Manaev, Catherine Luther, Suzanne Allard, R. Alexander Bentley, Benjamin D. Horne, Damian Ruck, Joshua Borycz, Maureen Taylor, Michael Fitzgerald, Brandon Prins

4. **CrisisFACTS 2023 – Overview Paper**
 Proceedings of the 32nd Text Retrieval Conference (TREC) Technical Report
https://trec.nist.gov/pubs/trec32/papers/Overview_crisis.pdf
 Cody Buntain, Benjamin D Horne, Amanda Hughes, Muhammad Imran, Richard McCreadie, Hemant Purohit

3. **Examining the Production of Co-active Channels on YouTube and BitChute** ^M
 MeLa Lab Preliminary Findings Report Technical Report
<https://arxiv.org/abs/2303.07861>
 Matthew C. Childs* and Benjamin D. Horne

2. **NELA-GT-2022: A Large Multi-Labelled News Dataset for the Study of Misinformation in News Articles**
 Dataset Update Technical Report
 Mauricio Gruppi, Benjamin D. Horne, and Sibel Adalı

1. **Is Automated Content Moderation Going to Solve Our Misinformation Problems?** ^I
 Information Matters Vol. 3 Issue 1 Other
 Benjamin D. Horne

2022 (Journal: 4, Computing Conference: 2)

13. **Local News Online and COVID in the U.S.: Relationships among Coverage, Cases, Deaths, & Audience** ^M
 16th International Conference on Web and Social Media (ICWSM) Computing Conference (ICORE: A, AR: 21%)
 Kenneth Joseph, Benjamin D. Horne, Jon Green, John P. Wihbey

12. **The MeLa BitChute Dataset**
16th International Conference on Web and Social Media (ICWSM) Dataset (AR: 64%)
Milo Trujillo, Mauricio Gruppi, Cody Buntain, and Benjamin D. Horne
11. **NELA-Local: A Dataset of U.S. Local News Articles for the Study of County-level News Ecosystems**
The 16th International Conference on Web and Social Media (ICWSM) Dataset (AR: 64%)
Benjamin D. Horne, Mauricio Gruppi, Kenneth Joseph, Jon Green, John P. Wihbey, and Sibel Adalı
10. **Characterizing YouTube and BitChute Content and Mobilizers During U.S. Election Fraud Discussions on Twitter** ^M
14th ACM Web Science Conference (WebSci) Computing Conference (AR: 32%)
Matthew C. Childs*, Milo Trujillo, Cody Buntain, and Benjamin D. Horne
Media Coverage: Covered by Reuters Special Report
9. **Forking Paths of Cultural Complexity: A Case Study of Research Paradigms**
Advances in Complex Systems (ACS) Journal (IF: 0.7, AR: 17%)
Joshua Borycz, Benjamin D. Horne, and R. Alexander Bentley
Media Coverage: Covered by Promarket of the Chicago Booth School of Business
#1 Most Read ACS Paper Between 2019 and 2022
8. **Monitoring Event-driven Dynamics on Twitter: A Case Study in Belarus** ^M
Springer Nature Social Sciences (SNSS) Journal
Natalie M. Rice, Benjamin D. Horne, Catherine Luther, Joshua Borycz, Suzie L. Allard, Damian J. Ruck, Michael Fitzgerald, Oleg Manaev, Brandon C. Prins, Maureen Taylor, and R. Alexander Bentley
7. **The Reasoning Behind Fake News Assessments: A Linguistic Analysis** ^I
AIS Transactions on Human-Computer Interaction (THCI) Journal (ABDC: A, AJG: 2)
Lydia Manikonda, Dorit Nevo, Benjamin D. Horne, Clare Arrington, and Sibel Adalı
6. **How Topic Novelty Impacts the Effectiveness of News Veracity Interventions** ^I
Communications of the ACM (CACM) Journal (ABDC: A, AJG: 2, JCR: 4, IF: 4.65)
Dorit Nevo and Benjamin D. Horne
5. **Automated Parsing of Personal Identity Facets for a Collection of Visual Images**
International Conference on Dublin Core and Metadata Applications (DC) Conference
Brian Dobreski, Melissa Resnick, and Benjamin D. Horne
4. **Russia Public Diplomacy Efforts to Influence Neighbors: Media Messaging Supports Hard Power Projection** ^M
72nd Annual International Communication Association Conference (ICA) Conference (AR: 43%)
Maureen Taylor, Natalie Rice, Oleg Manaev, Catherine Luther, Suzie Allard, Michael Fitzgerald, Brandon Prins, Joshua Borycz, R. Alexander Bentley, and Benjamin D. Horne
3. **Traditional and Social Media Usage and Pro-Russian versus Anti-Russian Attitudes in Belarus and Ukraine** ^{P M}
72nd Annual International Communication Association Conference (ICA) Conference (AR: 43%)
Catherine Luther, Brandon Prins, Oleg Manaev, Natalie Rice, Maureen Taylor, Suzie Allard, Michael Fitzgerald, Benjamin D. Horne, R. Alexander Bentley, and Joshua Borycz
2. **A Psycho-linguistic Analysis of BitChute: A Metadata Supplement to The MeLa BitChute Dataset**
Dataset Update Technical Report
Benjamin D. Horne
1. **NELA-GT-2021: A Large Multi-Labelled News Dataset for the Study of Misinformation in News Articles**

Dataset Update [Technical Report](#)
Mauricio Gruppi, [Benjamin D. Horne](#), and Sibel Adah

2021 (Journal: 1, Computing Conference: 0)

5. **Partisanship over security: Public narratives via Twitter on Foreign Interferences in the 2016 and 2020 U.S. Presidential Elections** ^{M P}
First Monday [Journal](#) (ABDC: B, IF: 1.19)
Catherine Luther, [Benjamin D. Horne](#), and Xu Zhang*
4. **Tell Me Who Your Friends Are: Using Content Sharing Behavior for News Source Veracity Detection** ^I
MEDIATE Workshop at ICWSM [Workshop](#)
Mauricio Gruppi, [Benjamin D. Horne](#), and Sibel Adah
3. **From Tweeting About News to Creating News Around Tweets: Characterizing Tweets Embedded in News Articles** ^M
MEDIATE Workshop at ICWSM [Workshop](#)
Mauricio Gruppi, Sibel Adah, Matthew Salemi, and [Benjamin D. Horne](#)
2. **Role of Social Affinity on News Coverage of Disasters: Implications for Disaster Donations** ^M
Decision Sciences Institute (DSI) Annual Conference [Conference Abstract](#)
Trilce Encarnacion, Jose Holguin-Veras, and [Benjamin D. Horne](#)
1. **NELA-GT-2020: A Large Multi-Labelled News Dataset for the Study of Misinformation in News Articles**
Dataset Update [Technical Report](#)
Mauricio Gruppi, [Benjamin D. Horne](#), and Sibel Adah

2020 (Journal: 2, Computing Conference: 1)

7. **Tailoring Heuristics and Timing AI Interventions for Supporting News Veracity Assessments** ^I
Computers in Human Behavior Reports (CHB Reports) [Journal](#) (ABDC: A, AJG: 3, JCR: 11, IF: 6.83)
[Benjamin D. Horne](#), Dorit Nevo, Sibel Adah, Lydia Manikonda, Clare Arrington
Media Coverage: Covered by 9 outlets including IEEE Spectrum, ACM TechNews, Scienmag
6. **What is BitChute? Characterizing the "Free Speech" Alternative to YouTube** ^M
31st ACM Conference on Hypertext and Social Media [Computing Conference](#) (AR: 29%)
Milo Trujillo, Mauricio Gruppi, Cody Buntain, and [Benjamin D. Horne](#)
Media Coverage: Covered by 4 outlets including Mashable, Business Insider, YLE, Reuters Special Report
Other: Cited on Wikipedia pages for Bitchute and WebTorrent (01/2021)
5. **Fake News Starts with the Title** ^M
Chapter 9. "Language That Manipulates: Politics, Advertising, and Doublespeak" in Language Awareness: Readings for College Writers. 13th Edition by Eschholz, Rosa, Clark. Macmillan Learning [Book Chapter](#)
[Benjamin D. Horne](#)
4. **Effects of Priming Messages to Decrease Negativity in Online Learning Environments** ^I
APA Scholarship of Teaching and Learning in Psychology [Journal](#)
Hung-Tao Chen, [Benjamin D. Horne](#), Dan Florrel, Megan Thomas
3. **Do All Good Actors Look The Same? Exploring News Veracity Detection Across The U.S. and The U.K.** ^I
ICWSM Data Challenge on Safety [Workshop](#)
[Benjamin D. Horne](#), Mauricio Gruppi, and Sibel Adah

2. **Hateful YouTube: Characterizing the Social Video-hosting Platform BitChute**^M
6th International Conference on Computational Social Science (IC2S2) Conference Abstract
Milo Trujillo, Mauricio Gruppi, Cody Buntain, and Benjamin D. Horne
1. **NELA-GT-2019: A Large Multi-Labelled News Dataset for the Study of Misinformation in News Articles**
Dataset Update Technical Report
Mauricio Gruppi, Benjamin D. Horne, and Sibel Adalı

2019 (Journal: 2, Computing Conference: 3)

6. **Trustworthy Misinformation Mitigation with Soft Information Nudging**^I
IEEE Conference on Trust, Privacy & Security in Intelligent Systems (TPS) Computing Conference
Benjamin D. Horne, Mauricio Gruppi, and Sibel Adalı
5. **Different Spirals of Sameness: A Study of Content Sharing in Mainstream and Alternative Media**^M
13th International Conference on Web and Social Media (ICWSM) Computing Conference (ICORE: A, AR: 21%)
Benjamin D. Horne, Jeppe Nørregaard, and Sibel Adalı
Other: Cited on Wikipedia pages for The Gateway Pundit and PoliticusUSA (01/2025)
4. **Rating Reliability and Bias in News Articles: Does AI Assistance Help Everyone?**^I
13th International Conference on Web and Social Media (ICWSM) Computing Conference (ICORE: A, AR: 21%)
Benjamin D. Horne, Dorit Nevo, John O'Donovan, Jin-Hee Cho, and Sibel Adalı
3. **NELA-GT-2018: A Large Multi-Labelled News Dataset for the Study of Misinformation in News Articles**
The 13th International Conference on Web and Social Media (ICWSM) Dataset (AR: 52%)
Jeppe Nørregaard, Benjamin D. Horne, and Sibel Adalı
2. **Robust Fake News Detection Over Time and Attack**^I
ACM Transactions on Intelligent Systems and Technology (TIST) Journal (IF: 4.65)
Benjamin D. Horne, Jeppe Nørregaard, and Sibel Adalı
1. **Uncertainty-based False Information Propagation in Social Networks**^M
ACM Transactions of Social Computing (TSC) Journal (IF: 1.60)
Jin-Hee Cho, Scott Rager, John O'Donovan, Sibel Adalı, and Benjamin D. Horne

2018 (Journal: 1, Computing Conference: 0)

8. **Recognizing Experts on Social Media: A Heuristics Based Approach**^I
The Data Base for Advances in Information Systems Journal (ABDC: A, AJG: 2, JCR: 53)
Benjamin D. Horne, Dorit Nevo, and Sibel Adalı
7. **An Exploration of Verbatim Content Republishing by News Producers**^M
The International Workshop on News and Public Opinion (NECO) at ICWSM Workshop
Benjamin D. Horne and Sibel Adalı
6. **An Exploration of Misinformation Classification in Brazil and The U.S.**^I
The International Workshop on News and Public Opinion (NECO) at ICWSM Workshop
Mauricio Gruppi, Benjamin D. Horne, and Sibel Adalı
5. **Sampling the News Producers: A Large News and Feature Data Set for the Study of the Complex Media Landscape**
The 12th International Conference on Web and Social Media (ICWSM) Dataset (AR: 55%)
Benjamin D. Horne, Sara Khedr, and Sibel Adalı

4. **Assessing the News Landscape: A Multi-Module Toolkit for Evaluating the Credibility of News** ^I
 27th International Web Conference (WWW) Demo Track Demo (ICORE: A*)
 Benjamin D. Horne, Will Dron, Sara Khedr, and Sibel Adalı
Other: Cited on Wikipedia page for Occupy Democrats (01/2023), Cited by Patent Application
 EP-4195072-A1 (06/2023)
3. **Effects of Priming on Online Discussion Behavior** ^I
 The Human Factors and Ergonomics Society (HFES) International Annual Meeting Conference Abstract
 Hung-Tao Chen and Benjamin D. Horne
2. **Models for Predicting Community-Specific Interest in News Articles** ^M
 The 37th Military Communications Conference (MILCOM) Conference
 Benjamin D. Horne, William Dron, and Sibel Adalı
1. **The Multi-Domain Integration and Correlation Engine** ^I
 The 37th Military Communications Conference (MILCOM) Conference
 Willaim Dron, Andrew Hunter, Ali Sydney, Siddharth Pal, John Hancock, Lisa Scott, Tarek Abdelzaher,
 Jiawei Han, Sibel Adalı, and Benjamin D. Horne

2017 (Journal: 0, Computing Conference: 2)

5. **This Just In: Fake News Packs a Lot in Title, Uses Similar, Repetitive Content in Text Body, More Similar to Satire than Real News** ^{I M}
 The International Workshop on News and Public Opinion (NECO) at ICWSM Workshop
 Benjamin D. Horne and Sibel Adalı
Media Coverage: Covered by Science News
4. **The Impact of Crowds on News Engagement: A Reddit Case Study** ^M
 The International Workshop on News and Public Opinion (NECO) at ICWSM Workshop
 Benjamin D. Horne and Sibel Adalı
3. **Identifying the Social Signals that Drive Online Discussions: A Case Study of Reddit Communities** ^M
 International Conference on Computer Communications and Networks (ICCCN)
Computing Conference (AR: 30%)
 Benjamin D. Horne, Sibel Adalı, and Sujoy Sikdar
2. **From Sports to Science: Using Basketball Analytics to Broaden the Appeal of Math and Science Among Youth**
 MIT Sloan Sports Analytics Conference (SSAC) Computing Conference
 John F. Drazan, Amy K. Loya, Benjamin D. Horne, and Ron Eglash
Media Coverage: Covered by 6 outlets including NBA Enrichment Program, Denver Stiffs Podcast, SB Nation, Vice Sports, Harvard Sports Analytics Blog
Best Research Paper Award (\$10,000 prize)
1. **Fake News Starts with the Title** ^{M I}
 Medium Post 2017 - Views: 3,500 Reads: 1,000 Other
 Benjamin D. Horne

2016 and prior (Journal: 0, Computing Conference: 2)

3. **Impact of message sorting on access to novel information in networks** ^M
 2016 IEEE/ACM Conference on Advances in Social Networks Analysis and Mining (ASONAM)
Computing Conference (AR: 21%)
 Benjamin D. Horne, Sibel Adalı, and Kevin Chan

2. **Expertise in social networks: how do experts differ from other users?** ¹
 10th International Conference on Web and Social Media (ICWSM) 2016 Computing Conference
 (ICORE: A, AR: 17%)
Benjamin D. Horne, Dorit Nevo, Jesse Freitas, Heng Ji, and Sibel Adali
1. **Exploring the Creative Destruction of 3D Printing Through an Analysis of Intellectual Property Issues**
 2013 Emerging Researcher National (ERN) Conference Workshop
 Stephanie M. Santoso, Benjamin D. Horne, and Stephen B. Wicker

Funding

Note: Co-PIs at UTK unless stated otherwise

Internal Funding:

1. CCI Faculty Research and Innovation Fund (FRIF)
Title: Measuring the Efficacy of Content Warning Labels in Extremist Populations
PI: Benjamin D. Horne
Funding: \$4,000
Duration: 2024 – 2025

External Funding:

2. Minerva Defense Education and Civilian University Research Partnership, United States Department of Defense, Office of Naval Research
Title: Identifying Patterns of Russia's Malign Influence Operations in Online Spaces and Their Influences on Russian-Speaking Populations and Russian Diasporas
PI: Catherine Luther
Co-PI: Benjamin D. Horne, Suzie Allard, R. Alexander Bentley, Garriy Shteynberg, Jahara Matisek (U.S. Naval War College), Olga Chiriac (University of Bucharest)
Funding: \$850,000
Duration: 2024 - 2026
1. Minerva Research Initiative, United States Department of Defense, Office of Naval Research
Title: Monitoring the Content and Measuring the Effectiveness of Russian Disinformation and Propaganda Campaigns in Selected Former Soviet Union States
PI: Catherine Luther
Co-PI: Benjamin D. Horne, Suzie Allard, R. Alexander Bentley, Michael Fitzgerald, Brandon Prins, Maureen Taylor (University of Technology Sydney), Garriy Shteynberg (added in 2024)
Funding: \$2.6 Million
Duration: 2019 - 2026 (added as a Co-PI in 2021)

Awards

- **CCI Board of Visitors (BOV) Professorship (\$27,000)** 2024 – 2027
 Endowed Professorship made possible by CCI's Board of Visitors (3-year term)
- **ICWSM Best Reviewer Award** 2025
 Award for for being a high quality paper reviewer.
- **2x Bonnie Carroll and Roy Cooper Faculty Enrichment Award (\$5,000)** 2023, 2025
 Annual award recognizes outstanding researchers in UTK's School of Information Sciences
- **Robert McNaughton Prize** 2020
 Outstanding Ph.D. graduate in Computer Science at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

- **Best Research Paper Award (\$10,000)** 2017
MIT Sloan Sports Analytics Conference
- **Outstanding Research Poster Award** 2017
RPI Graduate Research Symposium
- **Academic Excellence Medal in Computer Science** 2014
Highest GPA at graduation in Union University's Computer Science Department
- **Dr. Joe Tucker Scholarship** 2013
Scholarship within Union University's Math and Computer Science Departments

Invited Talks, Panels, and Guest Lectures (not including conference paper presentations)

- Invited Speaker
Title: Disinformation, Information Operations, and Today's Media Ecosystem
The Rotary Club of McMinnville Tennessee, on behalf of CCI Information Integrity Institute, 2025
- Guest Lecture
Title: Information Interventions: How Effective are They? Should We Automate Them? What Could Go Wrong?
CSCI 4970/6970 Sensemaking and Computation, RPI Department of Computer Science, 2024
- Panelist
Title: Finding Your Research Focus
CCI 620 Communication and Information Professional Development Seminar, 2024
- Co-speaker with Catherine Luther, Maria Hoy, Mike Kotowski, and Martin Riedl
Title: AI, Deep Fakes, Online Influencers & Political Communication
Truth and Consequences Symposium with Knox County Public Library 2024
Media Coverage: WBIR-TV Channel 10 Knoxville
- Co-speaker with Catherine Luther
Title: Monitoring the Content and Measuring the Effectiveness of Russian Disinformation and Propaganda Campaigns in Selected Former Soviet Union States
Minerva Meeting 2024
- Speaker
Title: Should We Let AI Tell Us What Is True?
UT Mic/Nite Spring 2024
- Speaker
Title: Does the Source of Warning Matter?
46th Annual CCI Research Symposium, Information Integrity Institute Session, 2024
- Panelist
Title: A Multi-modal Research Agenda
Images in Online Political Communication (PhoMemes) Workshop at ICWSM 2023
- Invited Speaker
Title: Learning News Outlet Veracity using Relationship Graphs + My thoughts on Future Directions
Disinformation Countermeasures and Machine Learning (DisCoML) Workshop at ICML 2022
- Invited Speaker
Title: What is Machine Learning?
The UTK Pre-College Programs & Southern Appalachian Science and Engineering Fair, 2022

8. Invited Co-speaker with Catherine Luther
Title: Exploring the Impact of Russian Propaganda and Disinformation on Russian-speaking populations in post-Soviet States
 U.S. DoD Basic Research Forum, 2021
7. Invited Speaker
Title: Tailoring Heuristics and Timing AI Interventions for Supporting News Veracity Assessments
 iDRAMA Lab Seminar Series, 2021
6. Invited Speaker
Title: AI for Misinformation
 IDEA Institute for Artificial Intelligence, 2021
5. Invited Co-speaker with Catherine Luther
Title: Exploring the Impact of Russian Propaganda and Disinformation on Russian-speaking populations in post-Soviet States
 U.S. Technology Leadership Council (USTLC), 2021
4. Co-Guest Lecture with Guy Harrison
Title: Advice on the Academic Job Hunt
 CCI 620 Communication and Information Professional Development Seminar, 2021
3. Panel Moderator
Title: The Rise of Extremist Movements on Social Media with Jeremy Blackburn (Binghamton), Cody Buntain (Maryland), and Joan Donovan (Harvard)
 UTK CCI Social Media Week, 2021
2. Guest Lecture
Title: Robust News Veracity Detection With Some Adversarial Attacks
 ECE 692 Adversarial Learning, UTK Tickle College of Engineering, 2021
1. Panelist
Title: Power of Information: Information Science Graduate Programs
 iSchool's Inc. Information Science Graduate Programs Fair, 2020

Selected Media Interviews, Quotes, and Coverage

13. Southern Standard - Warren Co, TN., 2025
Title: Your feelings are up for sale - so what's your price?
12. WCPI 91.3 FM McMinnville, 2025
Title: Disinformation, Information Operations, and Today's Media Ecosystem
11. WBIR-TV Channel 10 Knoxville, 2024
Title: 'There will be a huge increase in deep fakes in politics' | Knox Co. Public Library to host event series on AI and politics
10. WBIR-TV Channel 10 Knoxville, 2023
Title: 2023 Winter Weather Outlook: Social-Media-ologists
9. Reuters Special Report, 2022
Title: SkewTube: New breed of video sites thrive on misinformation and hate
Related Publications: 2022 #10, 2022 #2, 2020 #6
8. Tech Monitor, 2021
Title: AI vs misinformation: Fighting lies with machines
Related Publications: 2020 #7

7. Yleisradio Oy (YLE), 2021
Title: Conspiracies and the Bible: Youtube offers conspiracy theories and Bible interpretations for Finns seeking information about coronary vaccines. (English Translation)
Related Publications: 2020 #6
6. IEEE Spectrum, 2021
Title: Can AI Stop People From Believing Fake News?
Related Publications: 2020 #7
5. Business Insider, 2021
Title: Following Trump's YouTube ban, it is feared his supporters are migrating to a 'Wild West' of video-sharing, mingling with far-right and neo-Nazi terror groups
Related Publications: 2020 #6
4. Mashable, 2020
Title: BitChute welcomes the dangerous hate speech that YouTube bans
Related Publications: 2020 #6
3. Science News, 2018
Title: People are bad at spotting fake news. Can computer programs do better?
Related Publications: 2017 #5
2. Vice Sports, 2017
Title: At The Sloan Sports Analytics Conference The Jocks are Becoming the Nerds
Related Publications: 2017 #2
1. Harvard Sports Analytics Blog, 2017
Title: Review of The 2017 Sloan Sports Analytics Conference
Related Publications: 2017 #2

Teaching

University of Tennessee Knoxville:

- **INSC 201 Foundations of Information Sciences**
 Taught 5 times between 2020 – 2022
- **INSC 260 (formerly 360) Programming for Information Applications (Newly Created)**
 Taught 8 times between 2021 – 2024
- **INSC 484 Database Applications (Newly Created)**
 Taught 4 times between 2021 – 2024
- **INSC 590/395 Introduction to Network Science (Newly Created)**
 Taught 1 time in 2025
- **INSC 493 Independent Project/Research**
 Taught 10 times between 2022 – 2025
- **INSC 591 Independent Project/Research**
 Taught 6 times between 2020 – 2024
- **INSC 594 Graduate Research Participation**
 Taught 5 times between 2021 – 2023
- **CCI 697 Communication & Information Independent Study**
 Taught 2 time between 2023 – 2024

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute:

- **CSCI 2300 Introduction to Algorithms**
 Spring 2015 as a Graduate Teaching Assistant

Student Mentoring

PhD Advisor:

Brian Stevens, PhD Communications and Information, UTK (2025 – present)
Namrita Varier, PhD Communications and Information, UTK (2022 – present)

PhD Committee Member:

Rohit Gunti, PhD Communications and Information, UTK (A. Rorissa, Chair) (2023 – 2025)
Katie Knight, PhD Communications and Information, UTK (S. Allard, Chair) (2021 – 2024) - **Continued job: Oak Ridge National Laboratory**

Masters Research Mentor:

Myles Bowman, MSIS, UTK (2023) - **First job: University of Tennessee Libraries**
Jeremy Horner, MSIS, UTK (2022) - - **Continued job: U.S. Air Force**
Matt Childs, MSIS, UTK (2021 – 2022) - **First job: Booz Allen Hamilton**
Denise Yewell, MSIS, UTK (2022) - **First job: Somerville Fayette County Library**
Rohit Srivastava, MSIS, UTK (2021) - **First job: Oak Ridge National Laboratory**
Nelia Koontz, MSIS, UTK (2021) - **First job: University of Wyoming Libraries**
Summer Phillips, MSIS, UTK (2020 – 2022) - **First job: Carnegie Mellon University Libraries**

Undergraduate Research Mentor:

Annette Farah, Information Sciences, UTK (2025)
Holly Sarah Liban, Information Sciences, UTK (2023 – 2024) **First job: Shelton Group**
Caleb Ellis, Haslam Scholars Program, Information Sciences, UTK (2023 – 2024) - **First job: Edgewater Federal Solutions, Inc.**
Sawyer Smith, Information Sciences, UTK (2023 – 2024) - **First job: UTK MSIS student**
Diego Lourenco, College Scholars Program, Data Science, UTK (2021 – 2023)- **First job: Ignite Reading**
Taylor Rogers, Computer Science, UTK (2022) - **First job: MLB's Texas Rangers Baseball Club (R&D)**

Service

Information Integrity Institute (I^3) Public Outreach:

Invited Talk at The Rotary Club of McMinnville Tennessee (2025)
Girl Scouts Digital Leadership Workshop (2024)
Truth and Consequences Symposium with Knox County Public Library (2024)

UTK Minerva Research Group:

Chair, Postdoc Search Committee (2024)

University of Tennessee Knoxville (UTK) Service:

Member, Computational Social Science Interdisciplinary Program Curriculum Committee (2025 – 2026)
Member, Center for Dynamics of Social Complexity (DySoc) Steering Committee (2024 – 2026)
Member, UTK Intercollegiate Data Science Program Curriculum Committee (2021 – 2024)
Member, UTK Proposal for Chancellor's Cluster Hiring Initiative: Data-Driven Society Team (2022)

UTK College of Communication and Information (CCI) Service:

Member, CCI Summer Working Group on AI (2025)
Member, CCI I3 Postdoc Search Committee (2024)
Proxy Member, UTK Undergraduate Council Curriculum Meetings (2023)
Member, CCI Social Media Week Ad-Hoc Committee (2021)

UTK School of Information Sciences (SIS) Service:

Member, Undergraduate Program Committee (2020 – 2023, 2025 – 2026)
Member, Tenure-track Faculty Search Committee, PHE Cluster (2024 – 2025)
Member, Faculty and Doctoral Student Affairs Committee (2022 – 2025)
Member, Adhoc iLab Construction Group (2023)
Faculty Participant, College Connect Event (2023)
Member, Professor of Practice Search Committee (2020)

Academic Community Service:

Chair/Organizer: ICWSM Posters, Demos, and Dataset Track Co-chair (2024), NIST Text Retrieval Conference (TREC) CrisisFACTS Track (2023)
Fellowship/Grant External Reviewer: Center for Advanced Internet Studies (CAIS) Fellowship (2025)
Journal Reviewer: Nature Human Behavior (2025), Scientific Reports (2022 – 2024), EPJ Data Science (2023 – 2024), Behaviour & Information Technology (BIT) (2023), European Journal of Information Systems (EJIS) (2023), Scientific Data (2023), Digital Journalism (2022 – 2023), Information Processing and Management (IPM) (2021), Harvard Kennedy School Misinformation Review (2020), International Journal of Communication (IJoC) (2019 – 2020), ACM Transactions on Internet Technology (TOIT) (2017)
Conference Senior Program Committee Member/Associate Editor: ICWSM Posters, Demos, and Dataset Track (2025)
Conference Program Committee Member/External Reviewer: ICWSM (2019 – 2026), ACM WebSci (2020 – 2025), ACM FAccT (2025), CSCW (2025), ICIS (2021, 2025), CIKM (2023), ICA (2021), AMCIS (2017 – 2020), ASONAM (2019)
Workshop Program Committee Member: MEDiate Workshop at ICWSM (2022), NECO Workshop at ICWSM (2017, 2018, 2020), MIS2 Workshop at WSDM (2018)