Benjamin D. Horne

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ACADEMIC/RESEARCH APPOINTMENTS

The University of Tennessee Knoxville, School of Information Sciences, Fall 2020 - present
 Assistant Professor of Information Sciences

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Computer Science, Fall 2014, Spring 2017 - Spring 2020
Graduate Research Assistant

U.S. Army Research Laboratory, Network Science Research Laboratory, Summer 2017
Visiting Graduate Researcher

Cornell University, Information Sciences, Summer 2013
NSF Undergraduate Researcher

Texas Tech University, Computer Science, Summer 2012
NSF Undergraduate Researcher

EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Computer Science, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, 2014 - 2020
DISSERTATION: Robust News Veracity Detection
COMMITTEE: Sibel Adali (CS, RPI; Chair), Lirong Xia (CS, RPI), Stacy Patterson (CS, RPI), Dorit Nevo (Business, RPI), and Tamar Gordon (Communications, RPI)

B.S. in Computer Science, Union University, 2010 - 2014

B.S. in Business Administration, Union University, 2010 - 2014

PUBLICATIONS

Number of peer-reviewed, archived publications: 36 (13 since joining UTK)
Total citations (Google Scholar July 2022): 1046
H-Index (Google Scholar July 2022): 15

Book Chapters:

1. **Fake News Starts with the Title**
   Chapter 9. "Language That Manipulates: Politics, Advertising, and Doublespeak" in Language Awareness: Readings for College Writers. 13th Edition by P. Eschholz, A. Rosa, and V. Clark. Macmillan Learning. 2020
   Benjamin D. Horne

Journals:

1. **Forking Paths of Cultural Complexity: A Case Study of Research Paradigms**
   Advances in Complex Systems (ACS) 2022
   Joshua Borycz, <u>Benjamin D. Horne</u>, and R. Alexander Bentley
2. **Monitoring event-driven dynamics on Twitter: A case study in Belarus**
   Springer Nature Social Sciences (SNSS) 2022
   Natalie M. Rice, <u>Benjamin D. Horne</u>, Catherine Luther, Joshua Borycz, Suzie L. Allard,
   Damian J. Ruck, Michael Fitzgerald, Oleg Manaev, Brandon C. Prins, Maureen Taylor, and
   R. Alexander Bentley
3. **The Reasoning Behind Fake News Assessments: A Linguistic Analysis**
   AIS Transactions on Human-Computer Interaction (THCI) 2022
   Lydia Manikonda, Dorit Nevo, <u>Benjamin D. Horne</u>, Clare Arrington, and Sibel Adali
4. **How Topic Novelty Impacts the Effectiveness of News Veracity Interventions**
   Communications of the ACM (CACM) 2022
   Dorit Nevo and <u>Benjamin D. Horne</u>
5. **Partisanship over security: Public narratives via Twitter on Foreign Interferences in the
   2016 and 2020 U.S. Presidential Elections**
   First Monday 2021
   Catherine A. Luther, <u>Benjamin D. Horne</u>, and Xu Zhang
6. **Tailoring Heuristics and Timing AI Interventions for Supporting News Veracity
   Assessments**
   Computers in Human Behavior Reports (CHB Reports) 2020
   <u>Benjamin D. Horne</u>, Dorit Nevo, Sibel Adali, Lydia Manikonda, Clare Arrignton
   Media Coverage: IEEE Spectrum, RPI News, ACM TechNews, Electronics360, Tech Xplore,
   Scienmag, Newswise, The Next Web, Tech Monitor
7. **Effects of Priming Messages to Decrease Negativity in Online Learning Environments**
   APA Scholarship of Teaching and Learning in Psychology 2020
   Hung-Tao Chen, <u>Benjamin D. Horne</u>, Dan Florrel, Megan Thomas
8. **Robust Fake News Detection Over Time and Attack**
   ACM Transactions on Intelligent Systems and Technology (TIST) 2019
   <u>Benjamin D. Horne</u>, Jeppe Norregaard, and Sibel Adali
9. **Uncertainty-based False Information Propagation in Social Networks**
   ACM Transactions of Social Computing (TSC) 2019
   Jin-Hee Cho, Scott Rager, John O'Donovan, Sibel Adali, and <u>Benjamin D. Horne</u>
10. **Recognizing Experts on Social Media: A Heuristics Based Approach**
    ACM SIGMIS: The DATABASE for Advances in Information Systems (DATABASE) 2018
    <u>Benjamin D. Horne</u>, Dorit Nevo, and Sibel Adali

Conferences (Archived Proceedings):

1. **Automated Parsing of Personal Identity Facets for a Collection of Visual Images**
   International Conference on Dublin Core and Metadata Applications (DC) 2022
   Brian Dobreski, Melissa Resnick, and <u>Benjamin D. Horne</u>
2. **Characterizing YouTube and BitChute Content and Mobilizers During U.S. Election
   Fraud Discussions on Twitter**
   14th ACM Web Science Conference (WebSci) 2022
   Matthew C. Childs, Milo Trujillo, Cody Buntain, and <u>Benjamin D. Horne</u>
3. **Local News Online and COVID in the U.S.: Relationships among Coverage, Cases,
   Deaths, and Audience**

The 16th International Conference on Web and Social Media (ICWSM) 2022
Kenneth Joseph, <u>Benjamin D. Horne</u>, Jon Green, John P. Wihbey

4. **What is BitChute? Characterizing the "Free Speech" Alternative to YouTube**
   31st ACM Conference on Hypertext and Social Media (HT'20) 2020
   Milo Trujillo, Mauricio Gruppi, Cody Buntain, and <u>Benjamin D. Horne</u>
   Media Coverage: Mashable, Business Insider, YLE
   Other: Cited on Wikipedia pages for Bitchute and WebTorrent (01/2021)

5. **Trustworthy Misinformation Mitigation with Soft Information Nudging**
   The First IEEE Conference on Trust, Privacy and Security in Intelligent Systems (TPS) 2019
   <u>Benjamin D. Horne</u>, Mauricio Gruppi, and Sibel Adali

6. **Different Spirals of Sameness: A Study of Content Sharing in Mainstream and Alternative Media**
   The 13th International Conference on Web and Social Media (ICWSM) 2019
   <u>Benjamin D. Horne</u>, Jeppe Norregaard, and Sibel Adali

7. **Rating Reliability and Bias in News Articles: Does AI Assistance Help Everyone?**
   The 13th International Conference on Web and Social Media (ICWSM) 2019
   <u>Benjamin D. Horne</u>, Dorit Nevo, John O'Donovan, Jin-Hee Cho, and Sibel Adali

8. **Models for Predicting Community-Specific Interest in News Articles**
   The 37th Military Communications Conference (MILCOM) 2018
   <u>Benjamin D. Horne</u>, William Dron, and Sibel Adali

9. **The Multi-Domain Integration and Correlation Engine**
   The 37th Military Communications Conference (MILCOM) 2018
   W. Dron, A. Sydney, J. Hancock, L. Scott, T. Abdelzaher, J. Han, S. Adali, <u>B.D. Horne</u>

10. **Assessing the News Landscape: A Multi-Module Toolkit for Evaluating the Credibility of News**
    The 27th ACM International Web Conference (WWW) 2018
    <u>Benjamin D. Horne</u>, Will Dron, Sara Khedr, and Sibel Adali

11. **Identifying the Social Signals that Drive Online Discussions: A Case Study of Reddit Communities**
    International Conference on Computer Communications and Networks (ICCCN) 2017
    <u>Benjamin D. Horne</u>, Sibel Adali, and Sujoy Sikdar

12. **From Sports to Science: Using Basketball Analytics to Broaden the Appeal of Math and Science Among Youth**
    MIT Sloan Sports Analytics Conference (MIT SSAC) 2017 - **Best Research Paper Award**
    John F. Drazan, Amy K. Loya, <u>Benjamin D. Horne</u>, and Ron Eglash
    Media Coverage: NBA Enrichment Program, Denver Stiffs Podcast, RPI News, Fansided, SB Nation, Vice Sports, Harvard Sports Analytics Blog

13. **Impact of message sorting on access to novel information in networks**
    Conference on Advances in Social Networks Analysis and Mining (ASONAM) 2016
    <u>Benjamin D. Horne</u>, Sibel Adali, and Kevin Chan

14. **Expertise in social networks: how do experts differ from other users?**
    The International Conference on Web and Social Media (ICWSM) 2016
    <u>Benjamin D. Horne</u>, Dorit Nevo, Jesse Freitas, Heng Ji, and Sibel Adali

<u>Peer-Reviewed Workshops (Archived Proceedings):</u>

1. **Tell Me Who Your Friends Are: Using Content Sharing Behavior for News Source Veracity Detection**
   MEDIATE Workshop at ICWSM 2021
   Mauricio Gruppi, <u>Benjamin D. Horne</u>, and Sibel Adali

2. **From Tweeting About News to Creating News Around Tweets: Characterizing Tweets Embedded in News Articles**
   MEDIATE Workshop at ICWSM 2021
   Mauricio Gruppi, Sibel Adali, Matthew Salemi, and Benjamin D. Horne

3. **Do All Good Actors Look The Same? Exploring News Veracity Detection Across The U.S. and The U.K.**
   ICWSM Data Challenge on Safety 2020
   Benjamin D. Horne, Mauricio Gruppi, and Sibel Adali

4. **An Exploration of Verbatim Content Republishing by News Producers**
   The International Workshop on News and Public Opinion (NECO) at ICWSM 2018
   Benjamin D. Horne and Sibel Adali

5. **An Exploration of Misinformation Classification in Brazil and The U.S.**
   The International Workshop on News and Public Opinion (NECO) at ICWSM 2018
   Mauricio Gruppi, Benjamin D. Horne, and Sibel Adali

6. **This Just In: Fake News Packs a Lot in Title, Uses Similar, Repetitive Content in Text Body, More Similar to Satire than Real News**
   The International Workshop on News and Public Opinion (NECO) at ICWSM 2017
   Benjamin D. Horne and Sibel Adali
   Media Coverage: Science News

7. **The Impact of Crowds on News Engagement: A Reddit Case Study**
   The International Workshop on News and Public Opinion (NECO) at ICWSM 2017
   Benjamin D. Horne and Sibel Adali

8. **Exploring the Creative Destruction of 3D Printing Through an Analysis of Intellectual Property Issues**
   Emerging Researcher National (ERN) Conference 2013
   Stephanie M. Santoso, Benjamin D. Horne, and Stephen B. Wicker

Published Datasets:

1. **A Psycho-linguistic Analysis of BitChute: A Metadata Supplement to The MeLa BitChute Dataset**
   Technical Report 2022
   https://doi.org/10.7910/DVN/KRD1VS
   Benjamin D. Horne

2. **The MeLa BitChute Dataset**
   The 16th International Conference on Web and Social Media (ICWSM) 2022
   https://doi.org/10.7910/DVN/KRD1VS
   Milo Z. Trujillo, Mauricio Gruppi, Cody Buntain, and Benjamin D. Horne

3. **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) 2022
   https://doi.org/10.7910/DVN/GFE66K
   Benjamin D. Horne, Mauricio Gruppi, Kenneth Joseph, Jon Green, John P. Wihbey, and Sibel Adali

4. **NELA-GT-2021: A Large Multi-Labelled News Dataset for the Study of Misinformation in News Articles**
   Technical Report 2022
   https://doi.org/10.7910/DVN/RBKVBM
   Mauricio Gruppi, Benjamin D. Horne, and Sibel Adali

5. **NELA-GT-2020: A Large Multi-Labelled News Dataset for the Study of Misinformation in News Articles**
Technical Report 2021
https://doi.org/10.7910/DVN/CHMUYZ
Mauricio Gruppi, <u>Benjamin D. Horne</u>, and Sibel Adali

6. **NELA-GT-2019: A Large Multi-Labelled News Dataset for the Study of Misinformation in News Articles**
Technical Report 2020
https://doi.org/10.7910/DVN/O7FWPO
Mauricio Gruppi, <u>Benjamin D. Horne</u>, and Sibel Adali

7. **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) 2019
https://doi.org/10.7910/DVN/ULHLCB
Jeppe Norregaard, <u>Benjamin D. Horne</u>, and Sibel Adali

8. **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) 2018
https://doi.org/10.7910/DVN/ZCXSKG
<u>Benjamin D. Horne</u>, Sara Khedr, and Sibel Adali

<u>Peer-Reviewed Conferences, Workshops, and Abstracts (Non-Archival):</u>

1. **Russia Public Diplomacy Efforts to Influence Neighbors: Media Messaging Supports Hard Power Projection**
72nd Annual International Communication Association Conference (ICA) 2022
Maureen Taylor, Natalie Rice, Oleg Manaev, Catherine Luther, Suzie Allard, Michael Fitzgerald, Brandon Prins, Joshua Borycz,, R. Alexander Bentley, and <u>Benjamin D. Horne</u>

2. **Traditional and Social Media Usage and Pro-Russian versus Anti-Russian Attitudes in Belarus and Ukraine**
72nd Annual International Communication Association Conference (ICA) 2022
Catherine Luther, Brandon Prins, Oleg Manaev, Natalie Rice, Maureen Taylor, Suzie Allard, Michael Fitzgerald, <u>Benjamin D. Horne</u>, R. Alexander Bentley, and Joshua Borycz

3. **Role of Social Affinity on News Coverage of Disasters: Implications for Disaster Donations** (Abstract)
Decision Sciences Institute (DSI) Annual Conference 2021
Trilce Encarnacion, Jose Holguin-Veras, and <u>Benjamin D. Horne</u>

4. **Hateful YouTube: Characterizing the Social Video-hosting Platform BitChute** (Abstract)
6th International Conference on Computational Social Science (IC2S2) 2020
Milo Trujillo, Mauricio Gruppi, Cody Buntain, and <u>Benjamin D. Horne</u>

5. **Effects of Priming on Online Discussion Behavior** (Abstract)
The Human Factors and Ergonomics Society (HFES) International Annual Meeting 2018
Hung-Tao Chen and <u>Benjamin D. Horne</u>

FUNDING

1. **Co-PI** - "Monitoring the Content and Measuring the Effectiveness of Russian Disinformation and Propaganda Campaigns in Selected Former Soviet Union States"**, Minerva Grant, United States Department of Defense** ($1.6 Million) 2021 - 2023

AWARDS

1. **Robert McNaughton Prize** for outstanding Ph.D. graduate in Computer Science 2020
2. MIT Sloan Sports Analytics Conference **Best Research Paper Award** ($10,000) 2017
3. RPI **Outstanding Research Poster Award** 2017
4. Union University **Academic Excellence Medal** in Computer Science (Highest GPA) 2014
5. Union University **Dr. Joe Tucker Scholarship** 2013

INVITED TALKS, PANELS, and GUEST LECTURES

1. Invited Speaker, Disinformation Countermeasures and Machine Learning (DisCoML) Workshop at ICML, 2022
2. Invited Speaker, The UTK Pre-College Programs & Southern Appalachian Science and Engineering Fair, Virtual Science Club, 2022
3. Invited Co-speaker with Dr. Catherine Luther, U.S. DoD Basic Research Forum, 2021
4. Invited Speaker, iDRAMA Lab Seminar Series, 2021
5. Invited Speaker, IDEA Institute for Artificial Intelligence, 2021
6. Invited Co-speaker with Dr. Catherine Luther, U.S. Technology Leadership Council (USTLC), 2021
7. Co-Guest Lecture with Dr. Guy Harrison, CCI 620, Advice on the Academic Job Hunt, UTK, 2021
8. Moderator, The Rise of Extremist Movements on Social Media, UTK CCI Social Media Week, 2021
9. Guest Lecture, ECE 692 Adversarial Learning, UTK Tickle College of Engineering, 2021
10. Panelist, Power of Information: Information Science Graduate Programs Fair, iSchool's Inc. 2020

TEACHING

University of Tennessee Knoxville:

1. INSC 201 Foundations of Information Sciences (5 times between 2020 - 2022)
2. INSC 360 Programming for Info. Apps. (2 times between 2021 - 2022) - **Newly Created**
3. INSC 484 Database Applications (2 times between 2021 - 2022) - **Newly Created**
4. INSC 591 Indep Project/Research (4 times between 2020 - 2022)
5. INSC 594 Graduate Research Participation (2 times between 2021 - 2022)
6. INSC 493 Indep Project/Research (2 times between 2022-2023)

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute:

1. CSCI 2300 Introduction to Algorithms - *Teaching Assistant* (Spring 2015)

SERVICE

University Service
Committees:

UTK Data Science Faculty Committee (Intercollegiate Data Science Program) (2021 - 2023)

Initiatives:

UTK Proposal for Chancellor's Cluster Hiring Initiative: *Data Driven Society* Team (2022)

School and College Service
Committees:

SIS Undergraduate Program Committee (2020 - 2023)

SIS Faculty and Doctoral Student Affairs Committee (2022 - 2023)

CCI Social Media Week Ad-Hoc Committee (2021)

SIS Professor of Practice Search Committee (2020)

Community Service

Program Committee Member or Reviewer:

Journals:

- Digital Journalism (2022)
- Information Processing and Management (2021)
- Harvard Kennedy School Misinformation Review (2020)
- International Journal of Communications (IJoC) (2019, 2020)
- ACM Transactions on Internet Technology (TOIT) (2017)

Conferences:

- ICWSM (2019 - 2023)
- ACM WebSci (2020 - 2022)
- ICA Conference (2021)
- ICIS (2021)
- AMCIS (2017 - 2020)
- ASONAM (2019)

Workshops:

- MEDIATE Workshop at ICWSM (2022)
- NECO Workshop at ICWSM (2017, 2018, 2020)
- MIS2 Workshop at WSDM (2018)

OTHER TEACHING AND INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE

National Science Foundation GK-12, Teaching Fellow, Summer 2015 - Fall 2016

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Computer Science Teaching Assistant, Spring 2015

Steele Martin Jones and Company, I.T. Administrator, Spring 2011 - Spring 2014

Home Medical Products Inc., I.T. Technician, Spring 2011 - Summer 2011