
Benjamin D. Horne

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

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

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

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. How Topic Novelty Impacts the Effectiveness of News Veracity Interventions

Communications of the ACM (CACM) 2021

Dorit Nevo and [Benjamin D. Horne](#)

2. Tailoring Heuristics and Timing AI Interventions for Supporting News Veracity Assessments

Computers in Human Behavior Reports (CHB Reports) 2020

[Benjamin D. Horne](#), Dorit Nevo, Sibel Adali, Lydia Manikonda, Clare Arrington

Media Coverage: IEEE Spectrum, RPI News, ACM TechNews, Electronics360, Tech Xplore, Scienmag, Newswise, The Next Web, Tech Monitor

3. Effects of Priming Messages to Decrease Negativity in Online Learning Environments

APA Scholarship of Teaching and Learning in Psychology 2020

Hung-Tao Chen, [Benjamin D. Horne](#), Dan Florrel, Megan Thomas

4. Robust Fake News Detection Over Time and Attack

ACM Transactions on Intelligent Systems and Technology (TIST) 2019

[Benjamin D. Horne](#), Jeppe Norregaard, and Sibel Adali

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5. **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 [Benjamin D. Horne](#)
 6. **Recognizing Experts on Social Media: A Heuristics Based Approach**
ACM SIGMIS: The DATABASE for Advances in Information Systems (DATABASE) 2018
[Benjamin D. Horne](#), Dorit Nevo, and Sibel Adali

Conferences:

1. **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 [Benjamin D. Horne](#)
Media Coverage: Mashable, Business Insider, YLE
Other: Cited on Wikipedia pages for Bitchute and WebTorrent (01/2021)
2. **Trustworthy Misinformation Mitigation with Soft Information Nudging**
The First IEEE Conference on Trust, Privacy and Security in Intelligent Systems (TPS) 2019
[Benjamin D. Horne](#), Mauricio Gruppi, and Sibel Adali
3. **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
[Benjamin D. Horne](#), Jeppe Norregaard, and Sibel Adali
4. **Rating Reliability and Bias in News Articles: Does AI Assistance Help Everyone?**
The 13th International Conference on Web and Social Media (ICWSM) 2019
[Benjamin D. Horne](#), Dorit Nevo, John O'Donovan, Jin-Hee Cho, and Sibel Adali
5. **Models for Predicting Community-Specific Interest in News Articles**
The 37th Military Communications Conference (MILCOM) 2018
[Benjamin D. Horne](#), William Dron, and Sibel Adali
6. **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, [B.D. Horne](#)
7. **Assessing the News Landscape: A Multi-Module Toolkit for Evaluating the Credibility of News**
The 27th International Web Conference (WWW) 2018
[Benjamin D. Horne](#), Will Dron, Sara Khedr, and Sibel Adali
8. **Identifying the Social Signals that Drive Online Discussions: A Case Study of Reddit Communities**
International Conference on Computer Communications and Networks (ICCCN) 2017
[Benjamin D. Horne](#), Sibel Adali, and Sujoy Sikdar
9. **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, [Benjamin D. Horne](#), and Ron Eglash
Media Coverage: NBA Enrichment Program, Denver Stiffs Podcast, RPI News, Fansided, SB Nation, Vice Sports, Harvard Sports Analytics Blog
10. **Impact of message sorting on access to novel information in networks**
Conference on Advances in Social Networks Analysis and Mining (ASONAM) 2016
[Benjamin D. Horne](#), Sibel Adali, and Kevin Chan
11. **Expertise in social networks: how do experts differ from other users?**
The International Conference on Web and Social Media (ICWSM) 2016
[Benjamin D. Horne](#), Dorit Nevo, Jesse Freitas, Heng Ji, and Sibel Adali

Peer-Reviewed Workshops and Extended Abstracts:

1. **Tell Me Who Your Friends Are: Using Content Sharing Behavior for News Source Veracity Detection**
MEDIATE Workshop at ICWSM 2021
Mauricio Gruppi, [Benjamin D. Horne](#), 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. **Hateful YouTube: Characterizing the Social Video-hosting Platform BitChute**
6th International Conference on Computational Social Science (IC2S2) 2020
Milo Trujillo, Mauricio Gruppi, Cody Buntain, and [Benjamin D. Horne](#)
5. **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
6. **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
7. **Effects of Priming on Online Discussion Behavior**
The Human Factors and Ergonomics Society (HFES) International Annual Meeting 2018
Hung-Tao Chen and [Benjamin D. Horne](#)
8. **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
9. **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
10. **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. **NELA-GT-2020: A Large Multi-Labelled News Dataset for the Study of Misinformation in News Articles**
Self-published 2021
Mauricio Gruppi, [Benjamin D. Horne](#), and Sibel Adali
2. **NELA-GT-2019: A Large Multi-Labelled News Dataset for the Study of Misinformation in News Articles**

Self-published 2020

Mauricio Gruppi, [Benjamin D. Horne](#), and Sibel Adali

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) 2019

Jeppe Norregaard, [Benjamin D. Horne](#), and Sibel Adali

4. 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

[Benjamin D. Horne](#), Sara Khedr, and Sibel Adali

AWARDS and FUNDING

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

Robert McNaughton Prize for outstanding graduate in Computer Science 2020

MIT Sloan Sports Analytics Conference **Best Research Paper Award** (\$10,000) 2017

RPI **Outstanding Research Poster Award** 2017

Union University **Academic Excellence Medal** in Computer Science 2014

Union University **Dr. Joe Tucker Scholarship** 2013

INVITED TALKS, PANELS, and GUEST LECTURES

Invited Speaker, iDRAMA Lab Seminar Series, 2021

Invited Speaker, IDEA Institute for Artificial Intelligence, 2021

Invited Co-speaker with Dr. Catherine Luther, U.S. Technology Leadership Council (USTLC), 2021

Guest Lecture, CCI 620, Advice on the Academic Job Hunt, UTK CCI, 2021

Moderator, The Rise of Extremist Movements on Social Media, UTK CCI Social Media Week, 2021

Guest Lecture, ECE 692 Adversarial Learning, UTK Tickle College of Engineering, 2021

Panelist, Power of Information: Information Science Graduate Programs Fair, iSchool's Inc. 2020

TEACHING

University of Tennessee Knoxville:

INSC 201 Foundations of Information Sciences (Fall 2020, Spring 2021, Fall 2021, Spring 2022)

INSC 360 Programming for Information Applications (Spring 2021, Spring 2022)

INSC 484 Database Applications (Fall 2021)

INSC 591 Indep Project/Research (Fall 2020, Spring 2021)

INSC 594 Graduate Research Participation (Spring 2021, Summer 2021)

SERVICE

PC Member or Invited Reviewer:

Conferences:

ICWSM (2019, 2020, 2021, 2022)

ACM WebSci (2020, 2021)

ICIS (2021)

AMCIS (2017, 2018, 2019, 2020)

ASONAM (2019)

Journals:

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)

Workshops:

NECO Workshop at ICWSM (2017, 2018, 2020)

MIS2 Workshop at WSDM (2018)

UTK SIS Committees:

Social Media Week Ad-Hoc Committee (2021)

Undergraduate Program Committee (2020)

Professor of Practice Search Committee (2020)

Society Memberships:

Association for the Advancement of Artificial Intelligence (AAAI)

Association for Information Systems (AIS)

Association for Computer Machinery (ACM)

OTHER RESEARCH, TEACHING, AND INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE

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

Army Research Labs, Visiting Researcher, Summer 2017

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

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Computer Science Teaching Assistant, Spring 2015

Cornell University, Information Science Undergraduate Researcher, Summer 2013

Texas Tech University, Computer Science Undergraduate Researcher, Summer 2012

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

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