Fred Hohman

Data science + visualization researcher

I'm a Ph.D. student studying Computational Science and Engineering at Georgia Tech advised by Polo Chau and Alex Endert.

My research applies a human-centered approach to designing and developing interactive interfaces that help people understand and explain **machine learning models**. I also write, design, and build explorable explanations, dynamic expositions, and **interactive data visualizations** that illustrate complex ideas simply and tangibly.

I have worked at Apple, Microsoft Research, NASA Jet Propulsion Lab, and Pacific Northwest National Lab.

In 2018 I received the NASA Space Technology Research Fellowship.

fredhohman.com

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CV PDF

y @fredhohman

github.com/fredhohman

Google Scholar

Education

Present — Ph.D. in Computational Science & Engineering

Aug. 2015 Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, GA

Advisor: Duen Horng (Polo) Chau, Co-advisor: Alex Endert

Overall GPA: 4.00/4.00

May 2018 M.S. in Computational Science & Engineering

Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, GA

May 2015 — B.S. in Mathematics, B.S. in Physics

Aug. 2011 University of Georgia, Athens, GA

Thesis: "3D Printing the Trefoil Knot and its Pages"

Overall GPA: 3.84/4.00, Magna Cum Laude, Area of Emphasis in Applied Mathematics

Industry Research Experience

Summer 2019 Apple, Seattle, WA

Research Intern, Turi (HCI + ML) Group

Mentor: Kanit Wongsuphasawat, Kayur Patel

Designing and developing interactive tools at the intersection of human-computer interaction and machine learning.

Summer 2018 Microsoft Research, Redmond, WA

Research Intern, Human-Computer Interaction Group

Mentor: Steven Drucker

Exploring how visual analytics can help users explain and interpret machine learning models.

Summer 2017 NASA Jet Propulsion Lab, Pasadena, CA

Creative Computer Scientist, Human Interfaces Group

Mentor: Scott Davidoff, Arun Viswanathan

Joint work between NASA JPL, Caltech, and Art Center creating interactive data visualizations for current scientific research.

Summer 2016 Pacific Northwest National Lab, Richland, WA

National Security Ph.D. Intern, Data Sciences & Analytics Group

Mentor: Nathan Hodas

Built interactive visualization tools that generate images from deep neural networks to explain classifier's learned semantics.

Academic Research Experience

Present — Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, GA

Aug. 2016 Graduate Research Assistant, School of Computational Science and Engineering

Advisor: Duen Horng (Polo) Chau, Alex Endert

Member of the Polo Club of Data Science where we bridge and innovate at the intersection of data mining and human-computer interaction to synthesize scalable, interactive, and interpretable tools that amplify human's ability to understand and interact with big data.

May 2016 — Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, GA

Aug. 2015 Graduate Research Assistant, School of Computational Science and Engineering

Mentor: Surya Kalidindi

Conducted research in physical data science and material informatics by creating property-structure linkages using machine learning to predict material properties. Contributed to direction and code of PyMKS: Materials Knowledge Systems in Python.

May 2015 — University of Georgia, Athens, GA

Jan. 2013 Undergraduate Research Assistant, Department of Mathematics

Advisor: David Gay

Explored 3D printing and mathematical exposition in topology. Programmed, designed, and 3D printed 34-piece, color-coordinated, and magnetized 3D puzzle of the trefoil knot fibration. Led 3D printing research and education in mathematics department.

Summer 2014 REU in Mathematics and Computational Science, Fairfield, CT

Fairfield University, Department of Mathematics

Mentor: Shanon Reckinger

Directly compared numerical solutions derived from the Navier-Stokes equations to designed experiments performed at the lab-scale to model specific ocean phoneme. Configured MIT General Circulation Model on a linux computer cluster to run parallel computational fluid dynamics simulations.

Honors and Awards

2019 Best Paper at ACM CHI Conference

For "Managing Messes in Computational Notebooks"

2018 Best Paper, Honorable Mention at VISxAl Workshop at IEEE VIS

For "The Beginner's Guide to Dimensionality Reduction"

2018 — 2021 NASA Space Technology Research Fellowship

For my Ph.D. work on "Understanding Deep Neural Networks Through Attribution and Interactive Experimentation"

2018 Audience Appreciation Award, Runner Up at ACM SIGKDD Conference

For "Shield: Fast, Practical Defense and Vaccination for Deep Learning using JPEG Compression"

2017 — 2018 Microsoft Azure for Research Award: Al for Earth

For our work on "Deep Learning for Fine-scale Population Maps"

2017 Best Demo, Honorable Mention at ACM SIGMOD/PODS Conference

For "Visual Graph Query Construction and Refinement"

2015 — 2019 President's Fellowship at Georgia Institute of Technology

Select number of 1st year doctoral students who bring exemplary levels of scholarship and innovation to their academic departments

2015 Outstanding Poster at JMM Undergraduate Poster Session in Computational Math

For "Experimental and Numerical Comparison of Oceanic Overflow"

2015 UGA CURO Research Graduation Distinction

Awarded to undergraduates who write a thesis, present at the CURO Symposium, and complete 9 research credit hours

2014 UGA CURO Research Assistantship

Stipend awarded to outstanding undergraduates that actively participate in faculty-mentored research

2013 Presidential Scholar

Achieved a 4.0 GPA during a semester with minimum 14 credit hours

2011 — 2015 Dean's List Achieved at least a 3.5 GPA during a semester with minimum 14 credit hours 2011 — 2015 Georgia HOPE Scholarship Merit-based award to Georgia residents providing tuition assistance for their undergraduate degree Mission of Blessed Trinity: Artistic Sensibility 2011 One of two students to receive the Mission Statement award upon high-school graduation 2009 **Eagle Scout Award** Highest achievement attainable in the Boy Scouts of America, only 4% of scouts granted this rank **Publications** Gamut: A Design Probe to Understand How Data Scientists Understand Machine Learning Models Fred Hohman, Andrew Head, Rich Caruana, Robert DeLine, Steven Drucker ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI). Glasgow, UK, 2019. **Managing Messes in Computational Notebooks** Andrew Head, Fred Hohman, Titus Barik, Steven Drucker, Robert DeLine ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI). Glasgow, UK, 2019. 🔗 Project 🚨 PDF 🖽 Video 🍑 Preview 🔚 Slides 🕩 Code 🗐 BibTeX 🏆 Best Paper Summit: Scaling Deep Learning Interpretability by Visualizing Activation and Attribution Summarizations Fred Hohman, Haekyu Park, Caleb Robinson, Duen Horng (Polo) Chau arXiv:1904.02323. 2019. Project Demo PDF III Video Code BibTeX FairVis: Visual Analytics for Discovering Intersectional Bias in Machine Learning Angel Cabrera, Will Epperson, Fred Hohman, Minsuk Kahng, Jamie Morgenstern, Duen Horng (Polo) Chau arXiv:1904.05419. 2019. Discovery of Intersectional Bias in Machine Learning Using Automatic Subgroup Generation Angel Cabrera, Minsuk Kahng, Fred Hohman, Jamie Morgenstern, Duen Horng (Polo) Chau Debugging Machine Learning Models Workshop at ICLR (Debug ML). New Orleans, Louisiana, USA, 2019. Neural Divergence: Exploring and Understanding Neural Networks by Comparing Activation Distributions Haekyu Park, Fred Hohman, Duen Horng (Polo) Chau Poster, IEEE Pacific Visualization Symposium (PacificVis). Bangkok, Thailand, 2019. Atlas: Local Graph Exploration in a Global Context James Abello*, Fred Hohman*, Varun Bezzam, Duen Horng (Polo) Chau ACM Conference on Intelligent User Interfaces (IUI). Los Angeles, CA, USA, 2019. Ø Project ☑ PDF ⊞ Video ■ Talk ■ Slides
 ✓ Code ■ BibTeX * Authors contributed equally Scalable K-Core Decomposition for Static Graphs Using a Dynamic Graph Data Structure Alok Tripathy, Fred Hohman, Duen Horng (Polo) Chau, Oded Green IEEE International Conference on Big Data (Big Data). Seattle, WA, USA, 2018.

𝚱 Project 🚨 PDF 🗏 BibTeX

Visual Analytics in Deep Learning: An Interrogative Survey for the Next Frontiers

Fred Hohman, Minsuk Kahng, Robert Pienta, Duen Horng (Polo) Chau *IEEE Transactions on Visualization and Computer Graphics (TVCG). Berlin, Germany, 2018.*

Ø Project ☐ PDF ☐ Blog ☐ Video ☐ Slides ✓ Code ☐ BibTeX

The Beginner's Guide to Dimensionality Reduction

Matthew Conlen, Fred Hohman

Visual Graph Query Construction and Refinement

Robert Pienta, Fred Hohman, Acar Tamersoy, Alex Endert, Shamkant Navathe, Hanghang Tong, Duen Horng (Polo) Chau Demo, ACM International Conference on Management of Data (SIGMOD/PODS). Chicago, IL, USA, 2017.

3D Printing The Trefoil Knot And Its Pages

UGA Center for Undergraduate Research Symposium, included hands-on demo Mar. 2015

Experimental and Numerical Studies of Oceanic Overflow

June 2015	AMS Conference on Atmospheric and Oceanic Fluid Dynamics
Jan. 2015	Joint Mathematics Meeting

Nov. 2014 APS Division of Fluid Dynamics

Invited and presented on behalf at Brown University, Los Alamos National Lab Aug. 2014

Northeast REU Mini-Conference at Yale University July 2014

July 2014 University of Rhode Island Bay Campus

3D Printing in Topology

Mar. 2014 UGA Center for Undergraduate Research Symposium, included hands-on demo

Press

May 2019	"The Secret Life of a JPEG", Fast Company
Dec. 2018	"'Human Rights' May Help Shape Artificial Intelligence in 2019", Georgia Tech, College of Computing

"Designers, Programmers, and Researchers Join Forces to Create a New Kind of Digital Magazine Called the Dec. 2018 Parametric Press", Georgia Tech, College of Computing

"Georgia Tech Teams up with Intel to Protect Artificial Intelligence from Malicious Attacks Using SHIELD", Georgia June 2018 Tech, College of Computing

"CSE Ph.D. Students Claim Three Prestigious Fellowships", Georgia Tech, College of Computing Apr. 2018

"Georgia Tech Team To Use Microsoft Grant to Study Human Migration Dynamics", Georgia Tech, College of Dec. 2017 Computing

"Georgia Tech PhD Student Puts Finishing Touches on 3D Printed Trumpety Trefoil", 3dprint.com Sept. 2015

"Student Profile: Fred Hohman", 2015 UGA Mathematics Department Newsletter Spring 2015

"Falling Water", MITgcm.org Feb. 2015

Dec. 2014 "Mathematics/Physics Student Creates 3D Printed Puzzle of Trefoil Knot, Catches Mathematical Community's

Interest", 3dprint.com

"Day 311 - Trefoil Trumpet", Makerhome.com July 2014

"Mathematics with 3D Printing", Sketches of Topology Apr. 2014

Teaching

Graduate Teaching Assistant Spring 2019

Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, GA

Information Visualization (CS 4460), Instructor: Alex Endert

Designed homeworks, held weekly office hours, and mentored student team projects for Information Visualization (CS 4460), an undergraduate course with 134 students enrolled.

Graduate Teaching Assistant Spring 2017

Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, GA

Data and Visual Analytics (CSE 6242 / CX 4242), Instructor: Duen Horng (Polo) Chau

Designed homeworks, held weekly office hours, and mentored student team projects for Data and Visual Analytics (CSE 6242 / CX 4242), a graduate course with 214 students enrolled.

2014 — 2015 Student Notetaker

University of Georgia, Athens, GA

Generated notes for undergraduate mathematics and physics courses for students with disabilities.

Tutor 2012

University of Georgia, Athens, GA

Specialized in tutoring calculus to undergraduates.

Mentoring

Present — Will Epperson

Spring 2019 B.S. in Computer Science, Georgia Institute of Technology

Visualization for machine learning fairness

♀ Stamps President's Scholar

Spring 2019 — Angel Alexander Cabrera

Spring 2018 B.S. in Computer Science, Georgia Institute of Technology

Visualization for machine learning fairness, interactive classification for deep learning

- ♠ National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship Program (NSF GRFP)
- Love Family Foundation Scholarship (most outstanding graduating senior), Georgia Institute of Technology
- ♀ Stamps President's Scholar

Now: PhD Student (HCI) at Carnegie Mellon University

Spring 2018 — Dezhi Fang

Fall 2016 B.S. in Computer Science, Georgia Institute of Technology

Visual motif discovery

- Q Outstanding Undergraduate Researcher, College of Computing, Georgia Institute of Technology
- ♀ Faculty Materials, Supplies, and Travel Grants for Undergraduate Research
- Awarded President's Undergraduate Research Travel Award

Now: Software Development Engineer at Airbnb

Spring 2018 — Prasenjeet Biswal

Fall 2017 M.S. in Computer Science, Georgia Institute of Technology

Deep learning attribution

Now: Software Development Engineer at Oath

Grants and Funding

2018 - 2021 Understanding Deep Neural Networks Through Attribution and Interactive Experimentation

NSTRF: NASA Space Technology Research Fellowship

Co-Pls: Duen Horng (Polo) Chau

Funded \$75,000/year

2017 — 2018 Deep Learning for Fine-scale Population Maps

Microsoft Azure for Research Award: Al for Earth

Co-PIs: Caleb Robinson, Bistra Dilkina

Funded \$15,000

Fall 2014 3D Printing the Trefoil Knot and its Pages

UGA CURO Research Assistantship

Co-Pls: David Gay Funded \$1,000

Explorable Explanations

Present — Parametric Press

Matthew Conlen, Fred Hohman, Sara Stalla, Victoria Uren, Andrew Sass

An experimental, born-digital magazine dedicated to showcasing the expository power that's possible when the audio, visual, and interactive capabilities of dynamic media are effectively combined

May 2019 The Myth of the Impartial Machine on Parametric Press

Alice Feng, Shuyan Wu, Fred Hohman, Matthew Conlen, Victoria Uren

Wide-ranging applications of data science bring utopian proposals of a world free from bias, but in reality, machine learning models reproduce the inequalities that shape the data they're fed. Can programmers free their models from prejudice?, * Top of Hacker News

May 2019 On Particle Physics on Parametric Press

Riccardo Maria Bianchi, Fred Hohman, Matthew Conlen

A CERN particle physicist walks through the history and science of particle physics, and why you should care about it—even outside of the laboratory

May 2019 **Data Science for Fair Housing** on Parametric Press

Alyson Powell Key, Fred Hohman, Matthew Conlen, Sara Stalla

Cities across America covertly exclude racial minorities from majority-white residential neighborhoods, while gentrification drives people of color out of their homes. In Atlanta, a new nonprofit seeks to resist displacement by supporting the city's most vulnerable residents—but how effective is their project?

Nov. 2018 Blueberry Pancakes

Caleb Robinson, Fred Hohman

A toy algorithms problem

July 2018 The Beginner's Guide to Dimensionality Reduction

Matthew Conlen, Fred Hohman

Explore the methods data scientists use to visualize high-dimensional data, 🛊 VISxAl Best Paper, Honorable Mention

June 2018 The Math of Card Shuffling

Fred Hohman

Riffling from factory order to complete randomness, * Top of Hacker News

Oct. 2017 A Viz of Ice and Fire

Fred Hohman, Sandeep Soni, Ian Stewart, John Stasko

Exploring and visualizing Game of Thrones using color and dialogue

Design

2017 – 2018 IDEA Workshop Proceedings Cover (2017, 2018)

ACM SIGKDD Workshop on Interactive Data Exploration and Analytics (IDEA)

Designed workshop poster and conference proceedings cover

2017 Brad Myers Advisee Tree

ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI), Denver, USA

Designed and implemented an interactive visualization of Brad Myers's advisee tree shown during his CHI 2017 Lifetime Research Award talk; designed accompanying ribbon worn by attendees at the conference

Aug. 2014 3D Printed Cube Decomposition Trophy

University of Georgia Mathematics Department, Athens, USA

Designed, modeled, and 3D printed cube decomposition trophy for annual UGA High School Math Tournament that was given to the top scoring teams and participants

Aug. 2014 3D Printed UGA Keychain

University of Georgia Lamar Dodd School of Art, Athens, USA"

Created 3D printed UGA keychain and presentation notes given at Experience UGA: a interdisciplinary event that exposes middle-school and high-school students to hands-on learning activities

Technology Skills

OS: Mac OS X, Ubuntu, Unix Command Line, Windows

Programming: Python, Matlab, Mathematica, C

Web and Writing: HTML, CSS, JavaScript, D3, SQL, Bootstrap, LaTeX, Markdown, Jekyll, Git

Graphics: Affinity Designer, Pixelmator, Matplotlib, Blender, Keynote, Meshlab, MakerBot Desktop

HCI: Contextual Inquiry, Think-Alouds, User Personas, Rapid Paper Prototyping, Affinity Diagraming

Service

Program Commitee

Debugging Machine Learning Models Workshop (DebugML) at ICLR 2019

ACM International Conference on Intelligent User Interfaces (IUI) 2019

Symposium on Visualization in Data Science (VDS) at IEEE VIS 2018

Workshop on Visualization for AI Explainability (VISXAI) at IEEE VIS 2018

Workshop on Interactive Data Exploration and Analytics (IDEA) at KDD 2018

Reviewer

ACM Conference on Computer Supported Cooperative Work and Social Computing (CSCW) 2019

ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI) 2019, 2018, 2017

Human-Centered Machine Learning Perspectives Workshop (HCMLP) 2019

IEEE Visual Analytics Science and Technology (VAST) 2017, 2018

1st Deep Learning and Security Workshop (DLS) at IEEE SP 2018

Symposium on Visualization in Data Science (VDS) at IEEE VIS 2017

ACM SIGKDD Conference on Knowledge Discovery and Data Mining (KDD) 2019, 2017

IEEE International Conference on Distributed Computing Systems (ICDCS) 2017

SIAM International Conference on Data Mining (SDM) 2017

Member

2016 — Association for Computing Machinery (**ACM**)

2016 — Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (**IEEE**)

2012 — 2015 UGA Mathematics Club

2012 — 2013 Society of Physics Students, UGA Chapter (SPS)

2011 — 2015 National Society of Collegiate Scholars (**NSCS**)

References

Dr. Polo Chau, Associate Professor School of Computational Science and Engineering Georgia Institute of Technology Atlanta, GA, USA cc.gatech.edu/~dchau/

Dr. Alex Endert, Assistant Professor School of Interactive Computing Georgia Institute of Technology Atlanta, GA, USA va.gatech.edu/endert

Dr. Scott Davidoff, Manager Human Interfaces Group NASA Jet Propulsion Lab Pasadena, CA, USA scottdavidoff.com

Dr. Steven Drucker, Principal Researcher Visualization and Interactive Data Analysis Group Microsoft Research Redmond, WA, USA microsoft.com/en-us/research/people/sdrucker

Dr. Nathan Hodas, Senior Research Scientist Data Sciences and Analytics Group Pacific Northwest National Laboratory Richland, WA, USA signatures.pnnl.gov/bios/nathan-hodas

Contact

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