

Olivier Binette

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Summary

- 5 years of post-graduate experience in statistics research and data science with expertise in Bayesian inference, computational social science, survey methods, and entity resolution.
- Strong research background with publications in top journals and several awards.
- Advanced knowledge of modern data science and software development practices.

Education

Duke University <i>PhD Candidate, Statistical Science Department (3.9 GPA)</i>	2019 – present Durham, NC
Université du Québec à Montréal <i>BSc, Mathematics (3.97 GPA); MSc, Statistics (4.0 GPA)</i>	2014 – 2017 Montréal, QC

Data Science and Applied Research Experience

Data Scientist Intern <i>Intact Financial Corporation</i>	January 2022 – present
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Machine learning for pricing optimization within the Rating Revolution team. Developed uncertainty quantification and model-based optimization methods for improved decision-making.• Python package development with the AI engineering team. Addressed tooling issues through improved development practices.	
Open-Source Developer (part time) <i>Github Sponsors</i>	2022 - present
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Open-source Python and R package development on Github. Funded by G-Research and individual contributors.	
Research Coordinator (part time) <i>Duke Community Food Pantry</i>	May 2021 – present
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Developed research protocol (adopted by Duke University) to monitor food insecurity on campus.• Record linkage, survey design, and data analysis for program assessment.	
Project Assistant (part time) <i>Wilson Center for Law and Justice at Duke Law</i>	June 2021 – August 2021
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Wrote R bindings to C libraries for forensic fingerprint matching and data analysis.	
Data Science Project Manager (part time) <i>Information Initiative at Duke</i>	June 2021 – August 2021
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Led a team of students building a R Shiny data visualization dashboard for the UC Davis Perinatal Origins of Disparities Center.	
Data Science Project Lead <i>Duke Applied Machine Learning Group</i>	January 2021 – May 2021
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Led a team of students working on optical character recognition and article segmentation for historical newspaper archives.	
Data Science Project Manager (part time) <i>Information Initiative at Duke</i>	June 2020 – August 2020
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Led a team of students analyzing time series data and geospatial data in R for the Duke River Center.	

Peer-Reviewed Academic Research Experience

Research Assistant <i>Duke University, Statistical Science Department</i>	2019 – 2021
Publications:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Binette, O. and Steorts, R. C. (2021) On the Reliability of Multiple Systems Estimation for the Quantification of Modern Slavery. <i>Journal of the Royal Statistical Society Series A</i> (to appear; American Statistical Association best paper award)• Binette, O. and Steorts, R. C. (2021) Modern Bayesian Entity Resolution. <i>Wiley StatsRef</i> (to appear)• Binette, O. and Steorts, R. C. (2021) (Almost) All of Entity Resolution. <i>Science Advances</i> (to appear)	
Research Assistant <i>Université du Québec à Montréal</i>	2017 – 2019
Publications:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Binette, O. and Guillotte, S. (2021). Bayesian Nonparametrics for Directional Statistics. <i>Journal of Statistical Planning and Inference</i> 216 pp. 118-134	

- Binette, O. and Pati, D. and Dunson, D. B. (2020) Bayesian Closed Surface Fitting Through Tensor Products. *Journal of Machine Learning Research* 21 (119) pp. 1-26
- Binette, O. (2019). A Note on Reverse Pinsker Inequalities. *IEEE Transactions on Information Theory* 65 (7). pp.4094-4096

Leadership, Teaching, and Mentoring Experience

Webmaster (part time) <i>ASA Record Linkage Interest Group</i>	November 2021 - present
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Website and blog development for the organization (recordlinkageig.github.io). 	
Mentor (part time) <i>Twoples</i>	2020 – 2021
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mentored two college students in semester-long research projects. 	
Instructional Teaching Assistant <i>Duke University</i>	2020 – 2021
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lead weekly labs for <i>Bayesian and Modern Statistics</i>, <i>Entity Resolution</i>, and <i>Introduction to Data Science</i>. 	
Instructional Teaching Assistant <i>Université du Québec à Montréal</i>	2017 – 2019
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lead weekly labs for <i>Statistics I</i>, <i>Analysis I</i>, <i>Probability II</i>, <i>Complex Analysis</i>, <i>Analysis and algebra for the actuarial sciences</i>, <i>Analysis II</i>. 	

Awards

- G-Research PhD student Grant - Open Source Software for Big Data Integration (2000 £)
- American Statistical Association Best Paper Award (Section on Survey Methods)
- Canada Governor General's Academic Gold Medal
- Stanford University fully-funded PhD admission offer (2019)
- Faculty of Arts and Science Top doctoral award (University of Toronto, 2019)
- Alexander-Graham-Bell Canada Graduate Scholarship (2019; 105 000 \$)
- Fonds de Recherche du Québec - Nature et Technologies Doctoral Award (2019; 84 000 \$)
- Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada Masters Award (2017; 21 000 \$)
- Fonds de Recherche du Québec - Nature et Technologies Masters Award (2017; 21 000 \$)

Programming and Software Development Skills

Programming: R, Python, C/C++, Java, bash, git, Linux, Docker, DevOps basics

R packages on Github: dgaFast, MSETools, assert, cache, fingermatchR, TessTools

Python packages on Github: StringCompare