OMB No. 0925-0001 and 0925-0002 (Rev. 09/17 Approved Through 03/31/2020)

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Provide the following information for the Senior/key personnel and other significant contributors.  
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NAME: Ross Jacobucci

eRA COMMONS USER NAME (credential, e.g., agency login): JACOBUCC

POSITION TITLE: Assistant Professor of Psychology

EDUCATION/TRAINING (Begin with baccalaureate or other initial professional education, such as nursing, include postdoctoral training and residency training if applicable. Add/delete rows as necessary.)

| INSTITUTION AND LOCATION | DEGREE  (if applicable) | Completion Date  MM/YYYY | FIELD OF STUDY |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Luther College, Decorah, IA  University of Northern Iowa | BA  MA (ABT) | 6/2010  2011-2013 | Psychology (Honors)  Psychology (Individualized Study) |
| University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA | MA | 12/2015 | Psychology  (Quantitative Methods) |
| University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA | PHD | 07/2017 | Psychology  (Quantitative Methods) |

**A. Personal Statement**

I have the expertise, leadership, training, expertise and motivation necessary to successfully carry out the proposed research project. I have a broad background in psychology, with specific training in clinical research, and an expertise in the application of quantitative methodology in the area of big data.

**B. Positions and Honors**

**Positions and Employment**

**2011 - 2013 Teaching and Research Assistant, University of Northern Iowa**

**2013 - 2014 Research Assistant, University of Southern California**

**2015 - 2017 Predoctoral Trainee in Gerontology at University of Southern California**

**2015 -** Instructor, various workshops on exploratory data mining and structural equation modelling.

2017 - Assistant Professor of Psychology (Quantitative), University of Notre Dame

**Honors**

2014 APA Science Directorate Travel Award

2014, 2015 Society of Multivariate Experimental Psychology Travel Award

2015 International Society for Intelligence Research Travel Award

2016 USC Psychology Department Travel Grant Award

2015 – 2017 Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award

## Other Experience and Professional Memberships

2017- Member, Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies

2017- Member, Association for Psychological Science

2016- Member, Psychometric Society

2015- Member, Gerontological Society of America

**C. Contributions to Science**

**1.** Traditional forms of estimation in structural equation modeling is not particularly well equipped to test large models, both in the number of participants and variables. A large portion of my research has focused on the development and expansion of a method I have termed regularized structural equation modeling (RegSEM). RegSEM, implemented as the regsem package (Jacobucci, 2016) in R, provides researchers with the ability to penalize any parameter in a structural equation model. This allows researchers to estimate extremely large models and perform variable selection within the latent variable model framework. More specific applications of RegSEM include mediation models (Serang, Jacobucci, Brimhall, & Grimm, in revision) resulting in a method we termed exploratory mediation analysis via regularization, Bayesian modelling (Jacobucci & Grimm, 2017a), and in longitudinal models (Jacobucci & Grimm, 2017b).

1. Serang, S., Jacobucci, R., Brimhall, K. C., & Grimm, K. J. (in press). Exploratory mediation analysis via regularization. *Structural Equation Modeling*.
2. Jacobucci, R. (2017). regsem: Performs Regularization on Structural Equation Models (version 0.8.1) [Software]. Available from https://cran.r-project.org/web/packages/index.html
3. Grimm, K. J., Jacobucci, R., McArdle, J. J. (January, 2017). Big data methods and psychological science. *Psychological Science Agenda*.
4. Jacobucci, R., Grimm, K. J., & McArdle, J. J. (2016). Regularized structural equation modeling, *Structural Equation Modeling*, *23*, 555-566.

2. A second area of research is the development and evaluation of data mining in psychological research. This has mainly focused on the use of Decision Trees (DTs) and their extensions (e.g. random forests). My dissertation evaluated the use of DTs, particularly in the generalizeability of the resultant tree structures. This work culminated in an R package (Jacobucci, 2017) that makes the application and evaluation easier for applied researchers. This work has further been extended to the creation of the longRPart2 that allows for the identification of clinically meaningful subgroups using DTs with mixed effects models for longitudinal data. Finally, in applying a data mining framework to longitudinal data, we showed how the use of decision trees and random forests to create sample weights improves the estimation of models while accounting for attrition in large surveys (Hayes, Usami, Jacobucci, McArdle, 2015).

1. Jacobucci, R., Stewart, S., Abdolell, M., Serang, S., & Stegmann, G. (2017). longRPart2: Recursive Partitioning of Longitudinal Data (version 0.0.1) [Software]. Available from https://cran.r-project.org/web/packages/longRPart2/index.html
2. Jacobucci, R. (2017). dtree: Decision Trees (version 0.2.3) [Software]. Available from https://cran.r-project.org/web/packages/dtree/index.html
3. Jacobucci, R., Grimm, K. J., & McArdle, J. J. (2017). A comparison of methods for uncovering sample heterogeneity: Structural equation model trees and finite mixture models*. Structural Equation Modeling,* 24. 270-282.
4. Hayes, T., Usami, S., Jacobucci, R., & McArdle, J. J. (2015). Using classi\_cation and regression trees (CART) and random forests to analyze attrition in longitudinal data: Results from two simulation studies, Psychology and Aging, 30 , 911-929.

3. My final focus of research has been the application of data mining for clinical psychology research, specifically suicide and non-suicidal self-injury. For example, I used conditional inference trees to derive age cutoffs for assessing the severity of non-suicidal self-injury and suicidality (Ammerman, Jacobucci, Kleiman, Uyeji, & McCloskey, in press). In a similar vein, I applied both lasso regression and random forests to perform subset selection and quantify variable importance in predicting the non-suicidal self-injury age of onset (Ammerman, Jacobucci, & McCloskey, in press). This application validated the findings across methods, and increased the confidence in our findings. Furthermore, as a multivariate generalization of decision trees, I used structural equation model trees to identify cutoffs for DSM-5 criteria for non-suicidal self-injury (Ammerman, Jacobucci, Kleiman, Muehlenkamp, & McCloskey, 2016). This was the first study of its kind, and allowed for us to search for optimal cutoffs in relationship to a meaningful multivariate outcome (one-factor model).

1. Ammerman, B. A., Jacobucci, R. , & McCloskey, M. S. (in press). Using exploratory data mining to identify important predictors of non-suicidal self-injury frequency. Psychology of Violence.
2. Ammerman, B. A., Jacobucci, R., Kleiman, E. M., Uyeji, L., & McCloskey, M. S. (in press). The relationship between nonsuicidal self-injury age of onset and severity of self-harm. *Suicide and Life Threatening Behavior*.
3. Ammerman, B. A., Jacobucci, R., Kleiman, E. M., Muehlenkamp, J. J., & McCloskey, M. S. (2016). Development and validation of empirically derived frequency criteria for NSSI disorder using exploratory data mining, *Psychological Assessment.*

**D. Additional Information: Research Support and/or Scholastic Performance**

## Completed Research Support

T32 AG000037-38 Crimmins (PI) 01/01/15-07/31/17

Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award

Predoctoral trainee on the Multidisciplinary Research Training in Gerontology Grant at USC. Examined and developed methods for identifying heterogeneity and changes in trajectories for both cognitive ability and health.

Role: Trainee

Supervisors: John J. McArdle & Elizabeth Zelinski