Tinashe Michael **Tapera**

PHD STUDENT IN PERSONAL HEALTH INFORMATICS

Northeastern University, Boston, MA

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I'm a PhD Student at Northeastern University, co-mentored by Varun Mishra and Stephen Intille. I study how to detect and intervene on mental health crises from personal devices like mobile phones and smart watches.

Education

Northeastern University
Boston, MA

PHD PERSONAL HEALTH INFORMATICS — *Sep 2022 — Jun 2027*

- Advisors: Varun Mishra, Stephen Intille

Drexel University
Philadelphia, PA

ACCELERATED MSC. PSYCHOLOGY (DATA ANALYSIS TRACK) — *Sep 2017 — Jun 2018*

- Thesis: Advanced Data Mining Methods for Psychological & Behavioral Research
- GPA: 3.70 (cum laude)

Drexel University
Philadelphia, PA

BSC. PSYCHOLOGY — *Sep 2013 — Jun 2017*

- GPA: 3.52
- A.J. Drexel Scholarship
- Dean's List

Professional Experience

UbiWell Lab
Boston, MA

GRADUATE RESEARCHER — *Sep 2022 — Present*

- Interdisciplinary research at the intersection of mobile/wearable sensing, data science, human-centered computing, and behavioral science.

Penn Lifespan Informatics & Neuroimaging Center
Philadelphia, PA

SENIOR NEUROIMAGING DATA ANALYST — *Oct 2018 — Aug 2022*

- Developed data pipelines for ETL and analysis of large-scale neuroimaging data sets between data warehouses in Python, R, and Bash
- Preprocessed and analysed neuroimaging data using cutting-edge software (fMRIPrep, XCPEngine, QSIPrep, ASLPrep)
- Maintained and supported multiple data curation software packages in Python and R

Salesforce
San Francisco, CA

DATA SCIENCE INTERN — *May 2017 — Oct 2017*

- Focused on discovery of organizational insight using internal human resources data sets
- Developed a semi-supervised learning algorithm to track employee performance by matching topic models of continuous feedback and goal-setting data
- Investigated comorbidity of employees' insurance claims data to dynamically classify claim types and employee phenotypes

Arzoo LLC
Philadelphia, PA

PRIVATE EQUITY INTERN — *Oct 2015 — Apr 2016*

- Developed data munging pipelines in Excel for scraping business profile data

Research Experience

UbiWell Lab (Varun Mishra, PhD)
Northeastern University

"STRESSFREE: ASSESSING THE SCALABILITY & FEASIBILITY OF DIGITALLY PHENOTYPING STRESS" — *2022*

- Aim: Developing tools and software to identify moments of heightened stress in Northeastern undergraduate students, with the long term goal of delivering just-in-time interventions to relieve stress with mobile-CBT approaches

Quantitative Psychology & Statistics Lab (Fengqing Zhang, PhD)
Drexel University

"MOMENTARY CHANGES IN HEART RATE VARIABILITY CAN DETECT RISK FOR EMOTIONAL EATING EPISODES." — *2015 — 2019*

- Aim: predicting emotional eating episodes in disorded eating patients using a combination of heart rate variability data and self-report
- Outcome: Paper published in Appetite (2019)

Quantitative Psychology & Statistics Lab (Fengqing Zhang, PhD) *Drexel University*

"Application of Advanced Data Mining Models to Identify Dietary Patterns Associated with Risk of Cardiovascular Disease."

2015 — 2019

- Aim: compare the performance of unsupervised feature selection (PCA/FA) against regularization (L1/L2) in predicting cardiovascular disease biomarkers from high-dimensional food and behaviour survey responses
- Outcome: Master's thesis topic (2018)

Quantitative Psychology & Statistics Lab (Fengqing Zhang, PhD) *Drexel University*

"Improved Modelling of Smartphone-based Ecological Momentary Assessment Data for Dietary Lapse Prediction."

2015 — 2019

- Aim: predicting dietary adherence lapses in participants using self-reported EMA
- Outcome: Neighbourhood-Based Balancing — A Novel Semi-Supervised Classification Algorithm for Imbalanced Data ("5-Minute Thesis", themed talk at the Well Center Symposium 2018)

Quantitative Psychology & Statistics Lab (Fengqing Zhang, PhD) *Drexel University*

"Identifying Autism Diagnostic Interview: Revised Algorithm Items that Significantly Distinguish Autism Spectrum Disorder and Down Syndrome."

2015 — 2019

- Aim: Identify phenotypic differences between children with autism spectrum disorder, down syndrome, and comorbid diagnoses using the Autism Diagnostic Interview-Revised (ADI-R)
- Outcome: Paper published in Research in Developmental Disabilities (2019)

Quantitative Psychology & Statistics Lab (Fengqing Zhang, PhD) *Drexel University*

"Modeling Zero-Inflated MVPA Bouts Using a Hierarchical Linear Modeling Framework" *2015 — 2019*

- Aim: predict participants' moderate-to-vigorous physical activity (MVPA) bouts at timepoint 3 from previous timepoints using a zero-inflated Tweedie Poisson regression model in a growth curve modeling context
- Outcome: Final paper submitted in CFTP758 — Dyadic Analysis and Longitudinal Causal Modeling

Statistical and Applied Mathematical Sciences Institute (SAMSI) *NC State University*

"Predicting multiple sclerosis (MS)" *2016*

- Aim: classify participant diagnosis (MS patient vs. control) using lesion count along the corpus callosum in a diffusion dataset
- Outcome: Successfully predicted MS diagnosis using 3 different logistic regression segmentation approaches with 81% classification accuracy

Laboratory for Innovations in Health-Related Behavior Change (Evan Forman, PhD) *Drexel University*

"A Companion Smartphone App to Enhance Dietary Adherence through Predictive Machine Learning" *2015*

- Aim: Data collection, cleaning, and summarization with Excel and SPSS

Publications

First-author

FlywheelTools: Data Curation and Manipulation on the Flywheel Platform *Frontiers in neuroinformatics*

TM Tapera, M Cieslak, M Bertolero, A Adebimpe, GK Aguirre, ER Butler, ... *2021*

DOES ECOLOGICAL MOMENTARY ASSESSMENT DATA REFLECT BASELINE SELF-REPORT IN WEIGHT LOSS TREATMENT? *ANNALS OF BEHAVIORAL MEDICINE*

TM Tapera, S Goldstein, BC Evans, E Forman *2016*

Middle-author

Mobile footprinting: linking individual distinctiveness in mobility patterns to mood, sleep, and brain functional connectivity *Neuropsychopharmacology*

CH Xia, I Barnett, TM Tapera, A Adebimpe, JT Baker, DS Bassett, ... *2022*

Developmental coupling of cerebral blood flow and fMRI fluctuations in youth *Cell Reports*

EB Baller, AM Valcarcel, A Adebimpe, A Alexander-Bloch, Z Cui, RC Gur, ... *2022*

Development of top-down cortical propagations in youth *BioRxiv*

AR Pines, AS Keller, B Larsen, M Bertolero, A Ashourvan, DS Bassett, ... *2022*

Curation of BIDS (CuBIDS): A workflow and software package for streamlining reproducible curation of large BIDS datasets *NeuroImage*

S Covitz, TM Tapera, A Adebimpe, AF Alexander-Bloch, MA Bertolero, ... *2022*

ASLPrep: a platform for processing of arterial spin labeled MRI and quantification of regional brain perfusion *Nature Methods*

A Adebimpe, M Bertolero, S Dolui, M Cieslak, K Murtha, EB Baller, ... *2022*

Diffusion MRI Head Motion Correction Methods are Highly Accurate but Impacted by Denoising and Sampling Scheme

M Cieslak, PA Cook, TM Tapera, H Radhakrishnan, MA Elliott, DR Roalf, ...

BioRxiv

2022

Spatially-enhanced clusterwise inference for testing and localizing intermodal correspondence

SM Weinstein, SN Vandekar, EB Baller, D Tu, A Adebimpe, TM Tapera, ...

NeuroImage

2022

ModelArray: a memory-efficient R package for statistical analysis of fixel data

C Zhao, TM Tapera, J Bagautdinova, J Bourque, S Covitz, RE Gur, ...

BioRxiv

2022

QSIPrep: an integrative platform for preprocessing and reconstructing diffusion MRI data

M Cieslak, PA Cook, X He, FC Yeh, T Dhollander, A Adebimpe, ...

Nature methods

2021

A simple permutation-based test of intermodal correspondence

SM Weinstein, SN Vandekar, A Adebimpe, TM Tapera, ...

Human brain mapping

2021

ASLPrep: A Generalizable Platform for Processing of Arterial Spin Labeled MRI and Quantification of Regional Brain Perfusion

A Adebimpe, M Bertolero, S Dolui, M Cieslak, K Murtha, EB Baller, ...

BioRxiv

2021

Developmental coupling of cerebral blood flow and fMRI fluctuations in youth

EB Baller, AM Valcarcel, A Adebimpe, A Alexander-Bloch, Z Cui, RC Gur, ...

BioRxiv

2021

Mapping Physiology-Function Coupling in Youth

E Baller, A Adebimpe, A Valcarel, A Alexander-Bloch, Z Cui, J Detre, ...

Biological Psychiatry

2021

Momentary changes in heart rate variability can detect risk for emotional eating episodes

AS Juarascio, RJ Crochiere, TM Tapera, M Palermo, F Zhang

Appetite

2020

Autism spectrum disorder (ASD) symptom profiles of children with comorbid Down syndrome (DS) and ASD: A comparison with children with DS-only and ASD-only

M Godfrey, S Hepburn, DJ Fidler, T Tapera, F Zhang, CR Rosenberg, ...

Research in Developmental Disabilities

2019

Application of a new dietary pattern analysis method in nutritional epidemiology

F Zhang, TM Tapera, J Gou

BMC medical research methodology

2018

A PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATION OF A PERSONALIZED RISK ALERT SYSTEM FOR WEIGHT CONTROL LAPSES

E Forman, S Goldstein, B Evans, S Manasse, A Juarascio, M Butryn, ...

ANNALS OF BEHAVIORAL MEDICINE

2016

IS PROMPTING PROBLEMATIC?: CONSIDERATIONS FOR LONG-TERM ECOLOGICAL MOMENTARY ASSESSMENT

SP Goldstein, BC Evans, TM Tapera, E Forman, S Manasse, A Juarascio, ...

ANNALS OF BEHAVIORAL MEDICINE

2016

Software & Project Contributions

FlywheelTools

10.5281/zenodo.4752798

A suite of software tools for curating your neuroimaging data into BIDS on Flywheel

2021

- R, Python, MongoDB, RMarkdown Reports, Docker

PC Dashboard

10.5281/zenodo.5721127

An interactive analytics dashboard for the Drexel University Peer Counseling Helpline

2017

- R, Shiny, Qualtrics API

Teaching Experience

Teaching Assistant

2018   MSc. Psychology — Statistics I & II

Drexel University

Service

2022 to present	Member, Mentor	*R 4 Data Science Community (R4DS.io)*
2013 to 2021	Member, Alumni Mentor	*Drexel University Gospel Choir*
2013 to 2018	Peer Counselor, VP of Scheduling & Communications	*Drexel University Peer Counseling Helpline*

Skills

Analytical

Data Science, Statistical Modelling, Reproducible Research, Parameterized & Interactive Reports, Plotting & Visualisation, Object-Oriented Programming

Programming languages

R, Python, Bash

Packages

Tidyverse, RMarkdown/Quarto, ggplot2, Tidymodels, Github Pages, nilearn

Tools

Git, Docker, Singularity, RStudio, VSCode, Jupyter Notebooks, CircleCI