

Adam Lechowicz

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Education

University of Massachusetts Amherst

B.S. Computer Science & Political Science, Commonwealth Honors College

Phi Beta Kappa, GPA: 4.0 / 4

Honors Thesis (Advisor: Cameron Musco): Edge Dynamics and Opinion Polarization in Social Networks

Selected Coursework: Artificial Intelligence, Algorithms, Machine Learning, Networks, Systems Principles, Computation, Linear Algebra, Multivariate Calculus, Psychology, Political Economy

Amherst, Mass.

Jan. 2019 – May 2022

University of Massachusetts Lowell

Computer Science, Honors College

Lowell, Mass.

Sep. 2018 – Dec. 2019

Research Interests

I want to study applications of computing that serve the public good. In the context of societal and technological change, I'm particularly interested in studying methods to build robust automated systems in the public domain which improve the conditions of humanity, while exploring structures for decentralized ownership and collective accessibility. Designing society's future infrastructure to proactively incorporate equity and fairness could help dismantle structural inequalities.

Relevant Experience

REU Summer Intern, Undergraduate Research Assistant

Laboratory for Advanced System Software, College of Information and Computer Sciences

- Assisting with two research projects that jointly examine the design and deployment of distributed sensing systems to optimize indoor air quality and circulation
- *FlowSense* is a distributed system that feeds smartphone microphone signals through classification and regression models to sense the presence and magnitude of airflow.
- In a related and ongoing project, we use ground truth air quality and occupancy sensors to study indoor ventilation dynamics, with the goal of being able to optimize HVAC systems for comfort, energy efficiency, and health, using low-cost distributed sensors.

Amherst, Mass.

Jun. 2021 – ongoing

Undergraduate Honors Thesis Research

Advisor: Cameron Musco – Manning College of Information and Computer Sciences

- Building on the work of former graduate student Nikita Bhalla, exploring the effects of varied local edge dynamics on synthetic and real-world social networks.
- Using an opinion dynamics model, we particularly focus on how these edge dynamics can drive opinion polarization, and seek to answer open questions concerning which combination of edge dynamics and network topologies correspond with the emergence of polarization.

Amherst, Mass.

Mar. 2021 – ongoing

Academic Papers

Bhawana Chhagiani, Camellia Zakaria, Adam Lechowicz, Prashant Shenoy, and Jeremy Gummeson

FlowSense: A Privacy-preserving microphone-based airflow sensing system

In submission, November 2021.

Nikita Bhalla, Adam Lechowicz, and Cameron Musco

Local Edge Dynamics and Opinion Polarization

In submission, October 2021. ([arXiv](https://arxiv.org/abs/2110.00000))

Honors and Awards

UMass Amherst: Inducted into Phi Beta Kappa & Phi Kappa Phi Honor Societies

Spring 2021

UMass Amherst: David C. Knapp Scholarship

Spring 2020

UMass Lowell & UMass Amherst: Dean's List (seven-time recipient)

2018 – 2021

Massachusetts Department of Higher Education: John and Abigail Adams Scholarship

Fall 2018

Presentations

Machine Learning for Absolute Beginners – Mathematical Foundations of ML
Workshop @ HackUMass IX (Slides)

Nov. 2021

Other Professional Experience

Peer Advisor – *Manning College of Information and Computer Sciences*

Amherst, Mass.

Jan. 2021 – ongoing

- Advised students on courses fitting their respective interests during registration, offered guidance for struggling students, and worked with prospective CS applicants to create pathways for success.

Web Developer – *Public Higher Education Network of Massachusetts (PHENOM)*

Worcester, Mass.

Dec. 2020 – Nov. 2021

- Attended to the information and web needs of a non-profit working in the higher education sector, on as-needed basis. Created new user experiences, tools for recruitment, and completed migrations across hosting providers.

Summer Engineering Intern – *Bin1 ATE*

Ashland, Mass.

May. 2019 – Aug. 2019

- Intern at small firm building automated test equipment for semiconductor manufacturing
- Gained hands-on experience with precise instruments, hardware debugging, and deployment

Personal Side Projects

Backtrack – *iOS application, Swift & SwiftUI*

Summer 2021

A privacy-centric, open-source location logging solution that provides a history of location data for a personal device with minimal battery impact, leveraging deep system API integration.

Béton3 Macro Pad – *Hardware and firmware design, C, CAD, Arduino*

Summer 2020

Created an Arduino-based open-source macro pad (input device) design hosted on GitHub. Custom firmware, hardware, CAD chassis, and concrete cast volume knob.

UMass Campus Architecture & Campus Tour – *iOS, watchOS application, SwiftUI*

Summer 2020

Created an interactive guide to highlight the architecture of the UMass campus. Also explored the feasibility of a tour app for prospective students, in collaboration with University Relations.

Service, Extracurriculars, and Memberships

Committee Against Racism and for Equity – Structural Barriers to Academic Success
Manning College of Information and Computer Sciences

Sep. 2021 – ongoing

Flexible Learning Implementation Committee – *UMass Amherst*

Sep. 2021 – ongoing

Chancellor's Flexible Learning Task Force – *UMass Amherst*

Jan. 2021 – May 2021

Student Member – *Association for Computing Machinery*

Jan. 2021 – ongoing

UGRAD Research Program – *Manning College of Information and Computer Sciences*

Dec. 2020 – Jan. 2021

- Joined a small team mentored by PhD student Bhawana Chhagani to create an adaptive sampling algorithm for optimally mapping a 2D scalar field using a Gaussian process.

Founder & Editor-in-Chief – *UMass Index Yearbook*

Sep. 2020 – ongoing

- Leading an ongoing effort to revive the university's yearbook, dormant for 16 years.
- Over the span of 3 semesters, took the project from a conceptual stage to collecting thousands of dollars in preorder funds ahead of a tentative publication date in May 2022.

Peer Mentor – *Manning College of Information and Computer Sciences*

Sep. 2020 – Dec. 2020

Member – *UMass Racial Justice Coalition*

Jun. 2020 – ongoing

Organizing Co-director – *UMass CEPA Food Justice Campaign*

Sep. 2019 – May 2021

- Leadership role in a campaign focused on advocacy around food insecurity and sustainability

Senator, Secretary of Technology – *UMass Student Government Association*

Sep. 2019 – ongoing

Student Advisory Boards – *UMass Amherst*

Sep. 2019 – ongoing

- Have served on Information Technology, University Relations, Campus Planning, Administration & Finance, and Student Affairs Student Advisory Boards

Skills

Python; C/C++; Swift; Java; Kotlin; JavaScript; MATLAB; SQL; HTML/CSS
NumPy; SciPy; NetworkX; pandas; scikit-learn; PyTorch; Anaconda; Xcode; Arduino; SolidWorks