

## ADWAY S. WADEKAR

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### Education:

#### Duke University (Aug. 2021—May 2025)

Bachelor of Science (majors: mathematics and statistical science; minor: economics)

*Relevant Coursework:* Linear Algebra and Applications (MATH 221); Probability (MATH 230); Vector Calculus (MATH 222); Statistical Inference (MATH 343); Mathematics of Regression (STA 211); Social Media and Political Polarization Research Seminar (SOCIOL 490S).

### Selected Professional Experience:

#### Huang Fellows Undergraduate Researcher, Dept. of Statistical Science, Duke University (May 2022—Aug. 2022)

Worked on a self-designed project, under the direction of Prof. Jerry Reiter, to understand survey weights in classification problems. The Huang Fellows program is a highly selective program that funds a summer research project for each Fellow after their first year at Duke, while simultaneously "[training] students to understand science in the context of and in service to society." Paper in progress; expected to be submitted by fall.

#### Undergraduate Researcher, Polarization Lab, Duke University (Nov. 2021—Present)

Invited to work as a collaborator with Duke professor Chris Bail and journalist Amanda Ripley to understand decency in the halls of congress because my dual interest/experience in journalism and computational social science. Used natural language processing techniques on transcripts from congressional hearings and social media posts from congresspeople. Invited to return to the Lab as a sophomore, working on experimental projects related to tone and intellectual humility.

#### Teaching Assistant/Grader, Duke University (Sept. 2021—Present)

Teaching assistant for various courses at Duke University, both within the Department of Mathematics and the Fuqua School of Business. TA for Data Analytics for Business at Fuqua (taught by Prof. Alex Belloni) and the introductory calculus sequences for the math department (MATH 105-122). Grader for MATH 112 and probability theory (MATH 230).

#### University News Editor (April 2022—Present); Staff Reporter (Oct. 2021—April 2022), Duke Chronicle

Pitch and write stories, leading coverage of campus news for Duke's independent student newspaper. Mentor to younger writers. Beat writer covering Duke's faculty governance and their decisions, spanning University operations, undergraduate curriculum and student affairs; the University's finances including the endowment, financial aid and salaries; and Duke's graduate and professional schools. Well-versed in copyediting articles, ensuring that they follow *Chronicle* and AP style.

#### Creative Intern/Data Analyst, Duke Men's Basketball (Sept. 2021—Present)

Analyze social media data from Duke Men's Basketball and other NCAA Division I programs. Suggest content, based on analysis of recent and historical basketball games, and with an eye towards recruiting and to improve the reach and engagement of Duke Basketball. Responsible for in-game content, requiring a commitment for each of the 30+ games.

#### Research Technician, Human Rights Institute, University of Connecticut (May 2021—Present)

Conducted social network mining and analysis to model and understand attacks on human rights defenders in Colombia, Guatemala, and Serbia. Pulled, cleaned, and labeled messages from Twitter and other platforms. Conducted analysis via computational techniques ranging from network analysis to interpretable classification models to identify hate speech.

### Selected Academic Publications:

1. Wadekar, A.S. and Reiter, J.P. (working paper). Truth or consequences: Using weights to improve the reliability of classification metrics with survey data.
2. Wadekar, A.S. (2020, March). Understanding Opioid Use Disorder using tree-based classifiers. *Drug and Alcohol Dependence*, 208, 107839. (IF: 4.492). doi: [10.1016/j.drugalcdep.2020.107839](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.drugalcdep.2020.107839)

### Selected Honors and Awards:

1. Huang Fellow in the Duke Initiative for Science and Society and Dept. of Statistical Science, Duke University (2022).
2. Regeneron Science Talent Search Scholar Award (2021).
3. New England High School Journalism Collaborative Summer Workshop Finalist (2020).
4. Intel International Science and Engineering Fair: Cert. of Honorable Mention, American Statistical Association (2019).

### Technical Skills:

R (advanced), Javascript (advanced), Python (intermediate), LaTeX, Photoshop.