Alexander C. Michels

RESE	EARCH INTERESTS	
– CyberG	rfrastructure & HPC IS & GIScience Geography - Network Science - Spatial Analysis & Statistics - Spatial Accessibility	
EDUCATION		
Ph.D.	University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, Urbana, IL. 2024 (expected) Informatics, Spatial concentration Advisor: Dr. Shaowen Wang	
M.S.	University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, Urbana, IL. 2024 (expected) Geography and Geographic Information Science	
B.S.	Westminster College, New Wilmington, PA. 2019 Mathematics and Financial Economics	
PUBLICATIONS		

JOURNAL ARTICLES

- [1] J. Park, A. Michels, F. Lyu, S. Y. Han, and S. Wang. "Daily Changes in Spatial Accessibility to ICU Beds and Their Relationship with the Case-Fatality Ratio of COVID-19 in the State of Texas, USA". In: *Applied Geography* (Mar. 2023). ISSN: 0143-6228. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1016/j.apgeog.2023.102929.
- [2] J.-Y. Kang, B. F. Farkhad, M.-p. S. Chan, **A. Michels**, D. Albarracin, and S. Wang. "Spatial Accessibility to HIV Testing, Treatment, and Prevention Services in Illinois and Chicago, USA". In: *PLOS ONE* 17.7 (July 2022), e0270404. ISSN: 1932-6203. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0270404.
- [3] A. Michels, J.-Y. Kang, and S. Wang. "Particle Swarm Optimization for Calibration in Spatially Explicit Agent-Based Modeling". In: *Journal of Artificial Societies and Social Simulation* 25.2 (Mar. 2022), p. 8. URL: https://doi.org/10.18564/jasss.4796.
- [4] J.-Y. Kang, A. Michels, A. Crooks, J. Aldstadt, and S. Wang. "An integrated framework of global sensitivity analysis and calibration for spatially explicit agent-based models". In: *Transactions in GIS* 26.1 (Sept. 2021), pp. 100–128. URL: https://doi.org/10.1111/tgis.12837.

[5] J.-Y. Kang, A. Michels, F. Lyu, S. Wang, N. Agbodo, V. L. Freeman, and S. Wang. "Rapidly Measuring Spatial Accessibility of COVID-19 Healthcare Resources: A Case Study of Illinois, USA". In: *International Journal of Health Geographics* (2020). URL: https://doi.org/10.1186/s12942-020-00229-x.

PEER-REVIEWED CONFERENCE PAPERS

- [6] F. Baig, A. Michels, Z. Xiao, S. Y. Han, A. Padmanabhan, Z. Li, and S. Wang. "CyberGIS-Cloud: A Unified Middleware Framework for Cloud-Based Geospatial Research and Education". In: *Practice and Experience in Advanced Research Computing.* PEARC '22. Boston, MA, USA: Association for Computing Machinery, 2022. ISBN: 9781450391610. DOI: 10.1145/3491418.3535148. URL: https://doi.org/10.1145/3491418.3535148.
- [7] Michels, A., J.-Y. Kang, and S. Wang. "An Exploration of the Effect of Buyer Preference and Market Composition on the Rent Gradient Using the ALMA Framework". In: *Proceedings of the 3rd ACM SIGSPATIAL International Workshop on GeoSpatial Simulation*. GeoSim '20. Seattle, Washington: ACM, 2020, pp. 48–51. ISBN: 9781450381611. URL: https://doi.org/10.1145/3423335.3428167.
- [8] J.-Y. Kang, J. Aldstadt, A. Michels, R. Vandewalle, and S. Wang. "CyberGIS-Jupyter for Spatially Explicit Agent-based Modeling: A Case Study on Influenza Transmission". In: GeoSim '19: Proceedings of the 2nd ACM SIGSPATIAL International Workshop on GeoSpatial Simulation. Chicago, Illinois: ACM, 2019, pp. 32–35. ISBN: 978-1-4503-6956-5. URL: https://doi.org/10.1145/3356470.3365531.

PEER-REVIEWED CONFERENCE EXTENDED ABSTRACTS

- [9] Z. Li, A. Michels, A. Padmanabhan, A. Nassar, D. G. Tarboton, and S. Wang. "CyberGIS-Jupyter for Water An Open Geospatial Computing Platform for Collaborative Water Research". In: *AGU Fall Meeting Abstracts*. Vol. 2022. Dec. 2022. URL: https://ui.adsabs.harvard.edu/abs/2022AGUFMIN32A..05L.
- [10] A. Padmanabhan, Z. Xiao, R. Vandewalle, F. Baig, A. Michels, Z. Li, and S. Wang. "CyberGIS-Compute for Enabling Computationally Intensive Geospatial Research". In: SpatialAPI'21: Proceedings of the 3rd ACM SIGSPATIAL International Workshop on APIs and Libraries for Geospatial Data Science. Nov. 2021. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1145/3486189.3490017.
- [11] Michels, A., A. Padmanabhan, Z. Li, and S. Wang. "Towards Reproducible Research on CyberGISX with Lmod and Easybuild". In: *Gateways 2021*. Oct. 2021. URL: https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.5569659.
- [12] A. Padmanabhan, Z. Xiao, R. Vandewalle, A. Michels, and S. Wang. "Enabling Computationally Intensive Geospatial Research on CyberGIS-Jupyter with CyberGIS-Compute". In: *Gateways 2021*. Zenodo, Oct. 2021. URL: https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.5570056.

RESEARCH GRANTS		
2023	PI (Co-PI: Dr. Shaowen Wang), 400,000 credits Advanced Cyberinfrastructure Coordination Ecosystem: Services & Support (ACCESS) ACCESS Explore Allocation for "SPACTS: a spatial partitioning algorithm for computing travel-time zones at scale" (CIS230031)	
AWARDS		
2023	Student of the Year 2022 CyberGIS Center	
2022	SESYNC Graduate Research Fellow National Socio-Environmental Synthesis Center (SESYNC)	
2020	Third Place, UIUC GIS Day Virtual Student Poster Competition UIUC Department of Geography & Geographic Information Systems	
2020	Computational Research Techniques Fellowship Texas Advanced Computing Center (TACC)	
2020	First Place, Robert Raskin Student Competition Cyberinfrastructure Group, American Association of Geographers (AAG)	
2019	UCGIS Prize for Advances in Geospatial Problem Solving Ammerican Association of Geographers (AAG) / University Consortium for Geographic Information Science (UCGIS)	
SELECTED PRESENTATIONS		
INVITED TALKS		
2022	"CyberGIS-Compute: Enabling Simplified Access to High Performance Computing for your Geospatial Computation" with Dr. Anand Padmanabhan. NSF Institute for Geospatial Understanding through an Integrative Discovery Environment (I-GUIDE) - Virtual Consulting Office. Virtual. Nov. 2, 2022	
2022	"CyberGIS-Compute: Geospatial Middleware for Simplifying Access to High-	

GUIDE) - Virtual Consulting Office. Virtual. July 27, 2022.

2018

Performance Computing" with Dr. Anand Padmanabhan. NSF Institute for Geospatial Understanding through an Integrative Discovery Environment (I-

"Information Extraction and Aggregation for Business Profiling". Institute

for Pure and Applied Mathematics, Los Angeles, CA. August 24, 2018

CONFERENCE TALKS

2022	"SCAMEL: Spatial Accessibility Analysis at Scale". American Association of Geographers (AAG) Annual Meeting, Virtual, February 28, 2022
2021	"Towards Reproducible Research on CyberGISX with Lmod and Easybuild". $\it Gateways,$ Virtual. Oct 21, 2022
2020	"An Exploration of the Effect of Buyer Preference and Market Composition on the Rent Gradient using the ALMA Framework". 3rd ACM SIGSPATIAL International Workshop on GeoSpatial Simulation, Virtual. November 3, 2020
2020	"Particle Swarm Optimization for Calibration in Spatially Explicit ABMs". American Association of Geographers (AAG) Annual Meeting, Virtual. April 10, 2020
2019	"Capturing the Predictive Power of Cortical Learning Algorithms". <i>National Conference on Undergraduate Research</i> , Atlanta, GA. April 12, 2019
2019	"Computational Fact-Checking through Knowledge Graphs". AMS Contributed Paper Session at 2019 Joint Mathematics Meeting, Baltimore, MD. January 18, 2019
2017	"Repeated Play Games". Mathematics Association of America (MAA), Allegheny Mountain Section Meeting, Pittsburgh, PA. April 7, 2017
2017	"Optimizing Throughput, Cost, and Safety in Toll Booth Plazas". <i>Pi Mu Epsilon Regional Conference</i> , Youngstown, OH. April 2017

POSTER PRESENTATIONS

2021	"Scalable Access: Travel-Time Polygons for Accessibility at Scale". $U\!IUC~G\!IS~Day,$ Champaign, IL. November 17, 2021
2021	"Rapidly Measuring Spatial Accessibility of COVID-19 Healthcare Resources: A Case Study of Illinois, USA". <i>UIUC SESE Research Review</i> , Champaign, IL. April 23, 2021
2020	"Effect of Buyer Preference and Market Composition on the Rent Gradient". $UIUC\ GIS\ Day,$ Champaign, IL. November 18, 2020
2020	"Particle Swarm Optimization for Calibration in Spatially Explicit ABMs". UIUC SESE Research Review, Champaign, IL. February 14, 2020
2019	"CyberGIS-Jupyter for Spatially Explicit Agent-based Modeling". $\it UIUC~GIS~Day,$ Champaign, IL. November 13, 2020
2018	"Computational Fact-Checking through Knowledge Graphs". <i>Undergraduate Research Poster Session at 2019 Joint Mathematics Meeting</i> , Baltimore, MD. January 19, 2019

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE _

2019-Present Research Assistant

CyberGIS Center & Geospatial Information Laboratory (CIGI)

2020-2022 SESYNC Graduate Research Fellow

National Socio-Environmental Synthesis Center (SESYNC)

2018 Informatics Researcher

Institute for Pure and Applied Mathematics at UCLA / Praedicat, Inc.

INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE

2018-2019 Systems Administrator and Software Engineer

Titan Radio and WCN 24/7, New Wilmington, PA

2018 Data Scientist

Treloar & Heisel, New Castle, PA

2018 Data Scientist

Institute for Pure and Applied Mathematics at UCLA / Praedicat, Inc., Los

Angeles, CA

____ TEACHING AND MENTORING _____

Courses Taught as Instructor of Record

Spring 2023 Business Location Decisions (GGIS/BADM 205)

Department of Geography and Geographic Information Science, UIUC

Research Mentor

Champaign, IL

University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign/CyberGIS Center

Jan 2020 - Present

- Supervised six undergraduate research assistants for the CyberGIS Center/I-GUIDE.
- Conducted job searches and interviews to select candidates.

Teaching Assistant and Tutor

New Wilmington, PA

Westminster College

Aug 2015 - Dec 2018

- Assisted professors in grading and working with students individually for classes covering coursework in Math, Computer Science, and Operations Research.

Math Tutor

New Wilmington, PA

Independent Contractor

Aug 2016 - May 2018

- Worked with middle and high-school aged students to expand their Math skills.

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

American Association of Geographers (AAG)

Specialty Groups:

- Applied Geography
- Cyberinfrastructure
- GIScience & GIS

- Health and Medical Geography
- Spatial Analysis and Modeling
- Transportation Geography

Association for Computing Machinery (ACM)

Special Interest Groups:

- SIGSPATIAL (Spatial Information)

____ SERVICE ____

CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS

2022 **Symposium Program Co-Chair**, AAG 2023 Symposium on Harnessing the Geospatial Data Revolution for Sustainability Solutions

2022 Session Chair, "Data-intensive and Computational Geography," AAG 2023 Symposium on Harnessing the Geospatial Data Revolution for Sustainability Solutions

2022 Session Organizer, "Computation and Uncertainty of Spatial Accessibility," AAG 2022 Symposium on Data-Intensive Geospatial Understanding in the Era of CyberGIS

JOURNAL REVIEWER.

- Geocarto International, Taylor & Francis

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

2022-Present Director, AAG CyberInfrastructure Specialty Group (CISG)

2021-2022 Student Director, AAG CyberInfrastructure Specialty Group

DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE

2022 **Program Ambassador**, UIUC Informatics Program, Hosted Q&A sessions for prospective and incoming Informatics students