Alexander C. Michels

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- CyberInfrastructure & HPC
- CyberGIS & GIScience
- Health Geography

- Network Science
- Spatial Analysis & Statistics
- Spatial Accessibility

_ EDUCATION _

Ph.D. University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, Urbana, IL. 2024 (expected)

Informatics, Spatial concentration

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] 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 (2022), p. 8. URL: https://doi.org/10.18564/jasss.4796.
- [2] 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 (2022), pp. 100–128. URL: https://doi.org/10.1111/tgis.12837.
- [3] 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

[4] 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.

- [5] 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.
- [6] 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

- [7] 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.
- [8] 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.
- [9] 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.

_ AWARDS _

| 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 Specialty 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) |
|------|--|
| 2017 | Paul E. Brown Memorial Scholarship Westminster College Mathematics Department |
| 2017 | COMAP International Math Modeling Competition Honorable Mention COMAP International Math Modeling Competition |

_ SELECTED PRESENTATIONS _____

INVITED TALKS

| 2018 | "Information Extraction and Aggregation for Business Profiling". Institute |
|------|---|
| | for Pure and Applied Mathematics, Los Angles, CA. August 24, 2018 |
| 2018 | "Information Extraction and Aggregation for Business Profiling". <i>Praedicat</i> , <i>Inc.</i> , Los Angles, CA. July 31, 2018 |

"SCAMEL: Spatial Accessibility Analysis at Scale". American Association of

CONFERENCE TALKS

2022

| | 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". National Conference on Undergraduate Research, 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". $Pi~Mu~Epsilon~Regional~Conference,$ 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". $\it UIUC~GIS~Day,$ 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

Angles, CA

TEACHING AND MENTORING

Research Mentor

Champaign, IL

University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign/CyberGIS Center

Jan 2020 - Present

- Supervised four undergraduate research assistants for the CyberGIS Center.
- Conducted job searches and interviews to select candidates.

Teaching Assistant and Tutor

Westminster College

New Wilmington, PA Aug 2015 - Dec 2018

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

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

American Association of Geographers (AAG)

Specialty Groups:

- Cyberinfrastructure

– Spatial Analysis and Modeling

- Economic Geography

- Transportation Geography
- Socialist and Critical Geography

Association for Computing Machinery (ACM)

Special Interest Groups:

- SIGSPATIAL (Spatial Information)

SERVICE

CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS

2022

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

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

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

2021-2022 Student Director, AAG CyberInfrastructure Specialty Group

DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE

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

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