# Alexander C. Michels

	RESEARCH INTERESTS	_
	CyberInfrastructure & HPC — Health Geography CyberGIS & GIScience — Spatial Analysis & Statistics	
	EDUCATION	_
Ph.D.	University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, Urbana, IL. 2025 (expected) Informatics, Spatial concentration, <b>Advisor:</b> 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 (Google Scholar, underline indicates student mentee)	

#### JOURNAL ARTICLES

- [1] A. Michels, A. Padmanabhan, Z. Xiao, M. Kotak, F. Baig, and S. Wang. "CyberGIS-Compute: Middleware for democratizing scalable geocomputation". *SoftwareX* 26 (2024). DOI: 10.1016/j.softx.2024.101691.
- [2] A. Michels, J. Park, J.-Y. Kang, and S. Wang. "SPASTC: A Spatial Partitioning Algorithm for Scalable Travel-time Computation". *International Journal of Geographical Information Science* 0.0 (2024). DOI: 10.1080/13658816.2024.2326445.
- [3] A. Michels, A. Padmanabhan, Z. Li, and S. Wang. "EasyScienceGateway: A new framework for providing reproducible user environments on science gateways". *Concurrency and Computation: Practice and Experience* 36.4 (Oct. 2023). DOI: 10.1002/cpe.7929.
- [4] 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". Applied Geography (Mar. 2023). DOI: 10.1016/j.apgeog.2023.102929.
- [5] 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". *PLOS ONE* 17.7 (July 2022). DOI: 10.1371/journal.pone.0270404.
- [6] A. Michels, J.-Y. Kang, and S. Wang. "Particle Swarm Optimization for Calibration in Spatially Explicit Agent-Based Modeling". *Journal of Artificial Societies and Social* Simulation 25.2 (Mar. 2022). DOI: 10.18564/jasss.4796.
- [7] 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".

  Transactions in GIS 26.1 (Sept. 2021). DOI: 10.1111/tgis.12837.
- [8] 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". *International Journal of Health Geographics* (2020). DOI: 10.1186/s12942-020-00229-x.

# PEER-REVIEWED CONFERENCE PAPERS

[9] A. Michels, M. Kotak, A. Padmanabhan, and S. Wang. "Streamlined HPC Environments with CVMFS and CyberGIS-Compute". *I-GUIDE Forum 2023*. Oct. 2023. DOI: 10.5703/1288284317677.

- [10] A. Michels and S. Wang. "An Agent-Based Modeling Approach to Spatial Accessibility". I-GUIDE Forum 2023. Oct. 2023. DOI: 10.5703/1288284317670.
- [11] I. Haqiqi, W. Hu, R. Kumaran, P.-C. Li, N. Manning, A. Michels, A. Nassar, J. Park, J. Shi, A. Tonks, and Z. Wang. "I-GUIDE Climbers: A Model for Multidisciplinary Academic Labs for Early Career Development". *I-GUIDE Forum 2023*. Oct. 2023. DOI: 10.5703/1288284317667.
- [12] A. Michels, J. Park, B. Li, J.-Y. Kang, and S. Wang. "Impacts of Catchments Derived from Fine-Grained Mobility Data on Spatial Accessibility". 12th International Conference on Geographic Information Science (GIScience 2023). Vol. 277. Sept. 2023. DOI: 10.4230/LIPIcs.GIScience.2023.52.
- [13] 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". *Practice and Experience in Advanced Research Computing*. PEARC '22. Boston, MA, USA: Association for Computing Machinery, 2022. DOI: 10.1145/3491418.3535148.
- [14] A. Michels, 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". *Proceedings of the 3rd ACM SIGSPATIAL International Workshop on GeoSpatial Simulation*. GeoSim '20. Seattle, Washington: ACM, 2020. DOI: 10.1145/3423335.3428167.
- [15] 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". GeoSim '19: Proceedings of the 2nd ACM SIGSPATIAL International Workshop on GeoSpatial Simulation. Chicago, Illinois: ACM, 2019. DOI: 10.1145/3356470.3365531.

#### CONFERENCE ABSTRACTS

- [16] 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". AGU Fall Meeting Abstracts. Vol. 2022. Dec. 2022.
- [17] A. Padmanabhan, Z. Xiao, R. Vandewalle, F. Baig, A. Michels, Z. Li, and S. Wang. "CyberGIS-Compute for Enabling Computationally Intensive Geospatial Research". SpatialAPI'21: Proceedings of the 3rd ACM SIGSPATIAL International Workshop on APIs and Libraries for Geospatial Data Science. Nov. 2021. DOI: 10.1145/3486189.3490017.
- [18] **A. Michels**, A. Padmanabhan, Z. Li, and S. Wang. "Towards Reproducible Research on CyberGISX with Lmod and Easybuild". *Gateways 2021*. Oct. 2021. DOI: 10.5281/zenodo.5569659.
- [19] A. Padmanabhan, Z. Xiao, R. Vandewalle, A. Michels, and S. Wang. "Enabling Computationally Intensive Geospatial Research on CyberGIS-Jupyter with CyberGIS-Compute". *Gateways 2021*. Zenodo, Oct. 2021. DOI: 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

2024 SDOH & Place Fellowship, Healthy Regions & Policies Lab

- 2023 Teacher Ranked as Excellent By Their Students, Center for Innovation in Teaching & Learning
- 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, American Association of Geographers (AAG) / University Consortium for Geographic Information Science (UCGIS)

# \_\_\_\_ SELECTED PRESENTATIONS \_

# INVITED TALKS

- "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.
- "CyberGIS-Compute: Geospatial Middleware for Simplifying Access to High-Performance Computing" with Dr. Anand Padmanabhan. NSF Institute for Geospatial Understanding through an Integrative Discovery Environment (I-GUIDE) - Virtual Consulting Office. Virtual. July 27, 2022.

#### CONFERENCE TALKS

- 2024 "Putting the Area in Catchment Areas: An Areal Approach to Spatial Accessibility Analysis". American Association of Geographers (AAG) Annual Meeting, Honolulu, HI, April 16, 2024
- 2023 "Streamlined HPC Environments with CVMFS and CyberGIS-Compute". *I-GUIDE Fo*rum, New York City, NY, Oct 6, 2023
- 2023 "An Agent-Based Modeling Approach to Spatial Accessibility". *I-GUIDE Forum*, New York City, NY, Oct 5, 2023
- 2023 "Impacts of Catchments Derived from Fine-Grained Mobility Data on Spatial Accessibility". International Conference on Geographic Information Science (GIScience), Leeds, UK, Sept 13, 2023
- 2023 "Exploring Road Infrastructure Inequities Across the Conterminous U.S.". American Association of Geographers (AAG) Annual Meeting, Denver, CO, March 25, 2023
- 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". *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

#### TUTORIALS & WORKSHOPS

- "Geospatial Knowledge Discovery Harnessing Pre-trained Language Models on Cyber-GISX" with Zhaonan Wang, Wei Hu, and Anand Padmanabhan. 2023 NSF HDR Ecosystem Conference. Denver, CO. Oct 17, 2023.
- "CyberGIS-Compute: Geospatial Middleware for High-Performance Computing" with Anand Padmanabhan and Shaowen Wang. *I-GUIDE Forum 2023*. New York City, NY. Oct 4, 2023.
- 2023 "CyberGIS-Compute: Geospatial Middleware for Simplifying Access to High-Performance Computing" with Furqan Baig. Accelerating Computing for Emerging Sciences (ACES) Workshop 2023. League City, TX. July 15, 2023.
- "CyberGIS-Compute: Geospatial Middleware for High-Performance Computing". Annual Meeting of the American Association of Geographers (AAG) 2023. Denver, CO. March 24, 2023.

#### POSTER PRESENTATIONS

- 2023 "CyberGIS-Compute: Middleware for Democratizing Scalable Geocomputation". 2023 NSF HDR Ecosystem Conference, Denver, CO. October 16, 2023
- 2021 "ScalableAccess: Travel-Time Polygons for Accessibility at Scale". UIUC GIS Day, Champaign, IL. November 17, 2021
- 2021 "Rapidly Measuring Spatial Accessibility of COVID-19 Healthcare Resources: A Case Study of Illinois, USA". *UIUC SESE Research Review*, 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". UIUC GIS Day, Champaign, IL. November 13, 2020

# 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
List of Teachers Ranked as Excellent By Their Students

# Undergraduate Student Mentees Current:

- Ian Zhang (2023 ) John Speaks (2023 ) Jeffrey Huang (2023 )
- Former:
  - Mit Kotak (2022 2023), pursuing PhD at MIT
  - Taylor Ziegler (2022 2023), software engineering intern
  - Zimo Xiao (2019 2022), pursuing MS at CMU

#### PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

# American Association of Geographers (AAG)

Specialty Groups:

- Applied Geography
   Cyberinfrastructure
   Health and Medical Geography
   Spatial Analysis and Modeling
- GIScience & GIS
   Transportation Geography

# Association for Computing Machinery (ACM)

Special Interest Group: SIGSPATIAL (Spatial Information)

#### $\_$ SERVICE .

#### CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS

- 2024 **Symposium Organizer**, AAG 2024 Symposium on Geospatial Data Science for Sustainability
- 2024 Session Organizer, "Challenges and Opportunities of Spatial Accessibility 1 & 2." AAG 2024 Symposium on Geospatial Data Science for Sustainability
- 2023 **Reviewer**, Institute for Geospatial Understanding through an Integrative Discovery Environment (I-GUIDE) Forum
- 2023 **Symposium Program Co-Chair**, AAG 2023 Symposium on Harnessing the Geospatial Data Revolution for Sustainability Solutions
- 2023 **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

2022-2026	Director, AAG CyberInfrastructure Specialty	Group (CISG)

2021-2022 Student Director, AAG CyberInfrastructure Specialty Group