

AMY JOHNSON PITTS

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EDUCATION

Columbia University, Mailman School of Public Health, New York, NY
Doctorate of Philosophy
Biostatistics

Expected Graduation: Spring 2025

Marist College, Poughkeepsie, NY
Bachelor of Science
Double Major: Applied Mathematics and Data Science & Analytics
Minor: Computer Science

Graduation: May 2020
Summa Cum Laude
Honors in Mathematics

EXPERIENCE

Graduate Teaching Assistant

2020-Present

Biostatistics Department, Mailman School of Public Health

- Fosters learning through holding weekly office hours, and answering student questions during class and over email, provides detailed feedback on weekly assignments, quizzes and projects
- Introduction to Health Data Science course primarily focuses on tidyverse in R and basic biostatistics fundamental topics
- Introduction to Randomized Clinical Trials course focuses on the fundamentals of clinical trials which culminates in each student designing their own phase 3 protocol utilizing the PASS software
- Biostatistical Methods II course focuses on GLM to analyze non-Gaussian response data, GEE and mixed models to analyze repeated measures, and understand Kaplan-Meier estimator and use Cox models to analyze survival data

Biostatistics Research Fellow

Summer 2021

Bristol Myers Squibb, Remote Internship

- Selected into the 2021 summer Bristol Myers Squibb PhD Internship Program in the early clinical trial biostatistics department
- Explored 2 projects: comparing dose escalation designs through simulations and go/no go decisions using a Bayesian framework
- Both project's corresponding R shiny application can be found on my website

Math Lab Lead Tutor

2018-2020

Department of Mathematics, Marist College

- Supervised, trained, and administrated staff of six students
- Provided tutoring in the Math Lab, a peer help/tutoring center staffed entirely by students
- Courses covered are: Calculus I-III, Linear Algebra, Differential Equations, Intro to Mathematical Reasoning, Real Analysis

Biostatistics Research Fellow

Summer 2019

Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, New York, NY

- Accepted to competitive Quantitative Sciences Undergraduate Research Experience (QSURE)
- Explored the effects of missing data in cancer studies under advisement of attending biostatistician
- Created a RShiny Application currently accessible online. Paper currently in process of being written

Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU)

Summer 2018

Lafayette College, Easton, Pennsylvania

- Developed a Bayesian procedure to detect breakpoints in time series alongside two other undergrad students and a professor
- Produced working R code and a rough draft of a paper that is in the process of being edited to be submitted for publication
- Presented research at the Joint Mathematics Meetings and was a recipient of an Outstanding Poster Award in 2019

PUBLICATIONS

Pitts, Amy, & Rivas, Pablo, "Finding Time Series Breakpoints with Fully Connected Neural Networks", *Int'l Conf. Artificial Intelligence CSREA Press*. 2019. p.352-357. ISBN: 1-60132-501-0.

Pitts, Amy, & Patil, Sujata. "Missing data in cancer studies" in preparation.

PRESENTATIONS

Presentations:

- Pitts, Amy. Ehrlich, Fiona. "R-Shiny Crash Course" Columbia Biostatistics Computing Club. February 2020.
- Pitts, Amy. "Bayesian Go/No-Go Rules & Two-stage Designs and Comparison of Dose Escalation Designs in Early Oncology Studies", Bristol Myers Squibb. August 2021.

- Pitts, Amy. “Predicting Mesothelioma Disease Status Using Demographic, Clinical, and Exposure-Related Factors”, Marist College Pi Mu Epsilon Induction Ceremony. May 2021.
- Pitts, Amy. Kwizera, Muhire. “Python Tutorial” Columbia Biostatistics Computing Club. Zoom. December 2020.
- Pitts, Amy. Mulligan, Kaitlyn. & Allison Nowakowski. “The Machine Learning Quote Generator” Marist College School of Computer Science & Mathematics. Cisco Webex. May 2020.
- Pitts, Amy. “SeminaR: an R tutorial looking at shiny applications” Marist College Department of Mathematics. Poughkeepsie, NY. November 2019.
- Pitts, Amy. “My Research Experience at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center” Marist College Department of Mathematics. Poughkeepsie, NY. October 2019.
- Pitts, Amy. “Overleaf Overview” Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center. New York, NY. August 2019.
- Pitts, Amy, & Rivas, Pablo. “Finding time series breakpoints with fully connected neural networks” 2019 International Conference of Artificial Intelligence. Las Vegas, NV. July, 2019.
- Pitts, Amy. “Missing Data in Cancer Studies” QSURE Final Presentations hosted in the Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center. New York, NY. July 2019.
- Pitts, Amy. Haglich, Kathryn. & Neitzel, Sarah. “A Bayesian method for locating breakpoints in time series” Joint Mathematics Meetings. Baltimore, MD. January 2019.
- Pitts, Amy. “My Research Experience at Lafayette College” Marist College Department of Mathematics. Poughkeepsie, NY. September 2018.

Poster Presentations:

- Pitts, Amy. Haglich, Kathryn. Neitzel, Sarah. & Leibner, Jeffery. “A Bayesian method for locating breakpoints in time series” ACM New York Celebration of Women in Computing. Lake George, NY. April 2019.
- Pitts, Amy. Haglich, Kathryn. Neitzel, Sarah. & Leibner, Jeffery. “A Bayesian method for locating breakpoints in time series” Joint Mathematics Meeting. Baltimore, MD. January 2019.

RELEVANT COURSES

Columbia University:

Advanced Statistical Computing, SPRIS, Probability for Biostatisticians, Theory of Statistical Inference (I-II), Advanced Methods, Probability, Biostat Methods I-II, Data Science I-II, Randomized Clinical Trials, Epidemiology Principles

Marist College:

Mathematics: Applied Statistics, Differential Equations, Advanced ODE, Complex Analysis, Mathematical Analysis, Numerical Analysis, Operations Research, Abstract Algebra, Independent Study in Math Biology, Computational Linear Algebra

Computer Science: Algorithms, Software Development I-II, Database Management

Data Science: Machine Learning, Data Mining, Data Analysis, Data Visualization, Data Management

SKILLS/RELEVANT PROJECTS

Experience in Python, R, RStudio, RShiny, L^AT_EX, PASS, Java, HTML, CSS, JavaScript, D3, git, GitHub, SQL, Access, Maple, Octave, MATLAB, Hadoop, Hive, Pig, Spark, Microsoft Sql Server, and Microsoft Visual Studio

Statistical Methods Comparison (DID and Multilevel Logistic Regression)

2020 – 2021

- Comparing a Difference in Difference approach with Multilevel Logistic Regression approach on marijuana usage and legislation data alongside a Professor in the Mailman School of Public Health

An Exploration into SEER Missing Data

Fall 2019 – Spring 2020

- Honors project that explores the missing data from a SEER data subset via a survival analysis problem

The Machine Learning Quote Generator

Spring 2020

- Project that generates quotes via a Stacked LSTM algorithm training on data gathered from twitter

Missing Data in Cancer Studies Application

Summer 2019

- RShiny application that allows the users to explore the how missing data introduces bias into analysis. Project can be accessed at amypitts.shinyapps.io/Missing_Data/

Finding Time Series Breakpoints with Fully Connected Neural Networks

Spring 2019

- Machine learning project coded in Python that learned from simulated time series to detect significant point of change

ACTIVITIES/HONORS

Activities:

- Board Member, Columbia University Biostatistics Computing Club, (2020-Present)
- President, Marist College Alpha Pi Chapter, Pi Mu Epsilon (2019-2020)

- President and Founder, Association for Women in Mathematics (AWM) Chapter at Marist College (2019-2020)
- Vice President, Marist Math Club (2019-2020)
- Treasurer, Equestrian Team (2017-2020)
- Member of Marist Team, 79th annual William-Lowell Putnam Mathematical Competition (2018)

Honors:

- Invited to give the key note speech & the presidential address at the Marist College Pi Mu Epsilon Induction Ceremony (2021)
- Marist College Excellence in Mathematics Award (2020)
- Inducted into the Marist College Pi Mu Epsilon Chapter Mathematics Honors Society (2019)
- Recipient of an Outstanding Poster Award at the Joint Mathematics Meeting, Baltimore (2019)
- Student Subcommittee Chair, 2019 Marist Math Department Faculty Search Committee (2019)
- Recipient of the Marist College Early Career Undergraduate Mathematics Research Award (2018)
- Awarded Best Visualization at DataFest located at Vassar College (2018)
- Winner of the Hack Harassment Category in Marist College Hackathon (2016)