Baobao Zhang

CONTACT
INFORMATION

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ACADEMIC
APPOINTMENTS

Syracuse University: Maxwell Dean Associate Professor of the Politics of AI (tenured), 2025–
Assistant Professor, Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs, Department of Political Science, 2021–2025
Senior Research Associate, Autonomous Systems Policy Institute; Senior Research Associate, Campbell Public Affairs Institute

Centre for the Governance of AI: Research Affiliate, 2021–

Cornell University: Klarman Postdoctoral Fellow (Cornell Society of Fellows), primary affiliation: Department of Government; secondary affiliation: Department of Information Science, 2020–2021, 2022-2023

University of Oxford: Research Affiliate, Centre for the Governance of AI, 2018–2021

Harvard University: Fellow 2019–2020; Affiliate 2020–2021, Berkman Klein Center for Internet & Society

Massachusetts Institute of Technology: Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Political Science, 2019–2020

EDUCATION

Yale University: Ph.D., Political Science, 2020; M.A., Statistics, 2015
Exchange Scholar: Department of Political Science, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (2018–2019; 2015–2016); Nuffield College, University of Oxford (2017–2018)

Yale University: B.A., Political Science, 2013 (with Distinction)

EDITED VOLUME

Oxford Handbook of AI Governance. (Editors: Justin Bullock, Yu-Che Chen, Johannes Himmelreich, Valerie Hudson, Anton Korinek, Matthew Young, and **Baobao Zhang**), 2024, Oxford University Press.

PEER-REVIEWED
PUBLICATIONS

1. "Causal Inference on Human Behaviour" (Drew Bailey, Alexander Jung, Adriene Beltz, Christian Gische, Ellen Hamaker, Professor Konrad Körding, Catherine Lebel, Martin Lindquist, Julia Moeller, Adeel Razi, Julia Rohrer, **Baobao Zhang**, Kou Murayama); *Nature Human Behaviour*, 8(8), pp.1448-1459.
   DOI: 10.1038/s41562-024-01939-z

2. "Residential Mobility Leads to Persistent Reduction in Voting Among Disadvantaged Adults" (David Knight and **Baobao Zhang**); 2024, the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America* 121.20 (2024): e2306287121.
   DOI: 10.1073/pnas.2306287121

3. "Arbitrariness and Prediction: The Confounding Role of Variance in Fair Classification." (A. Feder Cooper, Katherine Lee, Madiha Choksi, Solon Barocas, Christopher De Sa, James Grimmelmann, Jon Kleinberg, Siddhartha Sen, and **Baobao Zhang**), 2024, the *Proceedings of the 38th AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence*. Oral presentation.
DOI: 10.48550/arXiv.2301.11562

4. "No Rage Against the Machines: Threat of Automation Does Not Change Policy Preferences." (**Baobao Zhang**), 2022, the *Proceedings of the 2022 AAAI/ACM Conference on AI, Ethics, and Society*. Coverage by *Axios*.
DOI: 10.1145/3514094.3534179

5. "Ethics and Governance of Artificial Intelligence: Evidence from a Survey of Machine Learning Researchers." (**Baobao Zhang**, Markus Anderljung, Lauren Kahn, Noemi Dreksler, Michael C. Horowitz, Allan Dafoe), 2021, *Journal of Artificial Intelligence Research*, 71: 591–666.
DOI: 10.1613/jair.1.12895
Conference proceedings: "Ethics and Governance of Artificial Intelligence: Evidence from a Survey of Machine Learning Researchers (Extended Abstract)." (**Baobao Zhang**, Markus Anderljung, Lauren Kahn, Noemi Dreksler, Michael C. Horowitz, Allan Dafoe), 2022, the *Proceedings of the 31st International Joint Conference on Artificial Intelligence (IJCAI'22)*, Journal Track.

6. "COVID-19 Vaccine Acceptance and Hesitancy in Low and Middle Income Countries, and Implications for Messaging." (Julio S. Solís Arce,...,**Baobao Zhang**, ..., Ahmed Mushfiq Mobarak), 2021, *Nature Medicine*.
DOI: 10.1038/s41591-021-01454-y

7. "Coercion and Provocation." (Allan Dafoe, Sophia Hatz, and **Baobao Zhang**), 2021, *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, 65(2-3): 372–402.
DOI: 10.1177/0022002720957078

8. "Skilled and Mobile: Survey Evidence of Immigration Preferences of AI Researchers." (Remco Zwetsloot, **Baobao Zhang**, Noemi Dreksler, Lauren Kahn, Markus Anderljung, Allan Dafoe, and Michael C. Horowitz), 2021, the *Proceedings of the 2021 AAAI/ACM Conference on AI, Ethics, and Society*.
DOI: 10.1145/3461702.3462617

9. "Americans' Perceptions of Privacy and Surveillance in the COVID-19 Pandemic" (**Baobao Zhang**, Sarah Kreps, Nina McMurry, and R. Miles McCain), 2020, *PLoS ONE* 15(12): e0242652. Coverage in *Bloomberg* and *IEEE Spectrum*; shared with the World Health Organization.
DOI: 10.1371/journal.pone.0242652

10. "Factors Associated with US Adults' Likelihood of Accepting COVID-19 Vaccination: Evidence from a Choice-Based Conjoint Analysis" (Sarah Kreps, Sandip Prasad, ..., **Baobao Zhang**, Douglas L. Kriner), 2020, *JAMA Network Open*, 3(10):e2025594. Coverage by *USA Today* and *Vox*.
DOI: 10.1001/jamanetworkopen.2020.25594

11. "Scientists' Political Behaviors Are Not Driven by Individual-level Government Benefits." (**Baobao Zhang** and Matto Mildenberger), 2020, *PLoS ONE*,

15(5):e0230961.
DOI: 10.1371/journal.pone.0230961

12. "U.S. Public Opinion on the Governance of Artificial Intelligence." (**Baobao Zhang** and Allan Dafoe), 2020, the *Proceedings of the 2020 AAAI/ACM Conference on AI, Ethics, and Society*.
DOI: 10.1145/3375627.3375827

13. "Quota Sampling Using Facebook Advertisements." (**Baobao Zhang**, Matto Mildenberger, Peter D. Howe, Jennifer Marlon, Seth Rosenthal, and Anthony Leiserowitz), 2020, *Political Science Research and Methods*, 8(3), 558–564. doi:10.1017/psrm.2018.49.
DOI: 10.1017/psrm.2018.49

14. "Experimental Effects of Climate Messages Vary Geographically." (**Baobao Zhang**, Sander van der Linden, Matto Mildenberger, Peter D. Howe, Jennifer Marlon, and Anthony Leiserowitz), 2018, *Nature Climate Change*, 8:370–374.
DOI: 10.1038/s41558-018-0122-0

15. "Information Equivalence in Survey Experiments." (Allan Dafoe, **Baobao Zhang**, and Devin Caughey), 2018, *Political Analysis*, 26(4):399–416.
DOI: 10.1017/pan.2018.9

16. "Viewpoint: When Will AI Exceed Human Performance? Evidence from AI Experts." (Katja Grace, John Salvatier, Allan Dafoe, **Baobao Zhang**, and Owain Evans), 2018, *Journal of Artificial Intelligence Research*, 62: 729-754.
No. 16 on Altmetric's top 100 most-discussed articles of 2017.
DOI: 10.1613/jair.1.11222

17. "Results of a Nationwide Capacity Survey of 94 Hospitals Providing Trauma Care in War-affected Syria, April 2015." (with Hani Mowafi et al.), 2016, *JAMA Surgery*, 151(9):815-822. Coverage by *Reuters*.
DOI: 10.1001/jamasurg.2016.1297

CHAPTERS IN EDITED BOOK

1. "Public Opinion Toward Artificial Intelligence." (**Baobao Zhang**), 2024, in the *Oxford Handbook of AI Governance*.
DOI: 10.31219/osf.io/284sm

UNDER REVIEW

1. "Messaging About Different AI Development Timelines Fails to Change the Public's Policy Preferences" (Anil Menon and **Baobao Zhang**)

2. "Workplace Governance and Labor Perceptions of Technological Risks and Benefits" (Jane Gingrich, Nicole Wu, and **Baobao Zhang**)

3. "Local US Officials' Views on the Impacts and Governance of AI: Evidence from 2022 and 2023 Survey Waves" (Sophia Hatz, Noemi Dreksler, Kevin Wei, and **Baobao Zhang**)

IN PREPARATION

1. "Deliberative Democracy Can Increase Participation in the Governance of Artificial Intelligence: Evidence from a U.S. National Public Assembly" (**Baobao Zhang**, Kate Mays, Kyle Bozentko, Sarah Atwood and Kari Waters)

TECHNICAL
REPORTS &
POLICY WRITING

1. Response to "NIST AI 600-1, Artificial Intelligence Risk Management Framework: Generative Artificial Intelligence Profile" (**Baobao Zhang**, Hamid Ekbia, Katreen Boustani, Garrett Katz, Sadia Khan, Khashayar Khodadad Motarjemi, Bixuan Ren, and Harshit Sharma)

2. Forecasting AI Progress: Evidence from a Survey of Machine Learning Researchers" (Baobao Zhang, Noemi Dreksler, Markus Anderljung, Lauren Kahn, Charlie Giattino, Allan Dafoe, and Michael C. Horowitz)

3. "Beyond the North-South Fork on the Road to AI Governance: An Action Plan for Democratic & Distributive Integrity." (with the Paris Peace Forum Working Group on Algorithmic Governance), 2022, Paris Peace Forum.

4. "Building Robust and Ethical Vaccination Verification Systems." (**Baobao Zhang**, Laurin Weissinger, Johannes Himmelreich, Nina McMurry, Tiffany Li, Naomi Schinerman, and Sarah Kreps), 2021, Brookings Institution.

5. "The Immigration Preferences of Top AI Researchers: New Survey Evidence." (Remco Zwetsloot, **Baobao Zhang**, Markus Anderljung, Michael C. Horowitz, and Allan Dafoe), 2021, Perry World House. Cited in the UK National AI Strategy.

6. "Contact-tracing Apps Face Serious Adoption Obstacles." (Sarah Kreps, **Baobao Zhang**, and Nina McMurry), 2020, Brookings Institution. Cited by the U.S. Senate.

7. "In Defense of Pollsters." (**Baobao Zhang**), 2020, *Fortune*.

8. "Contact-tracing Apps Face Serious Adoption Obstacles." (Sarah Kreps, **Baobao Zhang**, and Nina McMurry), 2020, Brookings Institution. Cited by the U.S. Senate.

9. "Americans Don't Trust Contact Tracing Apps. Here's How We Can Fix That." (Sarah Kreps, Nina McMurry, and **Baobao Zhang**), 2020, *Fortune*.

10. "Contribution to a European Agenda for AI." (Adrien Abecassis, Justin B. Bullock, Johannes Himmelreich, Valerie M. Hudson, Jack Loveridge, and **Baobao Zhang**), 2020, Berkman Center for Internet & Society.

11. "Artificial Intelligence: American Attitudes and Trends." (**Baobao Zhang** and Allan Dafoe), 2019, Centre for the Governance of AI, Future of Humanity Institute, University of Oxford. Coverage by *Vox*, *MIT Technology Review*, and *Bloomberg News*.

12. "Public Opinion Lessons for AI Regulation." (**Baobao Zhang**), 2019, Brookings Institution.

13. "It's 2043. We Need a New American Dream for the A.I. Revolution," (**Baobao Zhang**), August 12, 2019, *New York Times*.

14. "Challenges to Democracy at Home and Abroad." (**Baobao Zhang**), 2019, Kerry Initiative, Jackson Institute for Global Affairs, Yale University.

SELECT AWARDS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND GRANTS	National Science Foundation Faculty Early Career Development (CAREER) Award: $567,491 (2025) Schmidt Sciences AI2050 Seed Grant (with Atoosa Kasirzadeh): $42,900 U.S. National Institute for Standards and Technology Assessing Risks and Impacts of AI Online Red-teaming Competition Winner (2024) Maxwell School Centennial Dean's Citations of Excellence to Faculty (2024) Collaborator in the Okanagan Data Safety and AI Literacy research cluster (O-DSAIL), Eminence Grant, University of British Columbia, co-PIs: Pourang Irani and Wendy Wong (2023): CA$600,000 Public Voices Fellowship on Technology in the Public Interest (2023) CIFAR Catalyst Grant (2023), with Nicole Wu: CA$50,000 Schmidt Futures AI2050 Early Career Fellowship (2022): $200,000 CIFAR-Jacobs Foundation Seed Grant (2021), with Kou Murayama, Catherine Lebel, Julia Moeller, Drew Bailey, and Adeel Razi: CA$50,000 CIFAR Azrieli Global Scholar in the Innovation, Equity & the Future of Prosperity Program (2021): CA$100,000 unrestricted; CA$5,000 for career development Syracuse University Appleby-Mosher Grant (2021): $1,300 Syracuse University Autonomous Systems Policy Institute Curricular Initiative Grant (2021): $2,500 Social Science Research Council Just Tech Covid-19 Rapid-Response Grant (2020), with Sarah Kreps, Nina McMurry, and Laurin Weissinger: $9,000 Berkeley Existential Risk Initiative Grant (2020), with Sarah Kreps: $10,000 OECD Future of Work Fellowship (2020): €5,000 Russell Sage Foundation Behavioral Economics Grant (2019), with David Knight: $7,500 Ethics and Governance of AI Fund Grant (2018), with Allan Dafoe: $250,000 Kerry Fellowship, Yale Jackson Institute for Global Affairs (2018–2019): $3,000 National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship (2014–2017): $132,000 in tuition scholarship and stipend Yale Institution for Social and Policy Studies Field Experiment Grant (2016): $5,000 Falk Fellowship for the Study of American Politics, Yale University (2013–2014) James Gordon Bennett Prize for Best International Relations Senior Thesis, Yale University (2013)
TEACHING EXPERIENCE	• Advanced Quantitative Political Analysis, Syracuse University (2022; 2025); PhD-level • US National Government and Politics, Syracuse University (2022; 2023); introductory undergraduate • **Governance and Ethics of Artificial Intelligence**, Syracuse University (2021; 2024); advanced undergraduate • **Introduction to American Politics**, Yale University (2018); introductory undergraduate
SELECT PRESENTATIONS & SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS	• "Messaging About Different AI Development Timelines Fails to Change the Public's Policy Preferences," Navigating the New Frontier: The Political and Economic Implications of AI Conference, California Institute of Technology, 2024 • "U.S. Public Assembly on High Risk AI," Brookings Institution, 2023; Center for

Security and Emerging Technology, Georgetown University, 2023; Stockholm Workshop on the Global Governance of AI, 2024

- "Housing Mobility, Voter Participation, and Political Power Among Disadvantaged Groups: Evidence from a Large-Scale Experiment," 2022 Research Data Center Annual Conference, Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City, 2022; Columbia University American Politics Workshop, 2022
- "Understanding AI Governance Through Surveys," Brookings/GovAI Conference on the Governance of Transformative AI, Brookings Institution, 2022 (Invited panelist)
- "Roadblocks to Developing, Implementing and Enforcing AI Best Practices, Standards, and Regulations," NSF Program on Fairness in AI in Collaboration with Amazon PI Meeting, 2022 (Invited panelist)
- "Tutorial: Why Contact Tracing Apps Failed: a Postmortem," ACM Conference on Fairness, Accountability, and Transparency, 2022
- "Public Opinion Toward Artificial Intelligence": CIFAR Innovation, Equity & the Future of Prosperity Program Meeting, 2021
- "NLP for Positive Impact": Joint Conference of the 59th Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics and the 11th International Joint Conference on Natural Language Processing, 2021 (Invited panelist)
- "Ethics and Governance of Artificial Intelligence: Evidence from a Survey of Machine Learning Researchers": Future of Privacy Forum, 2021 (Invited); Information Society Project, Yale Law School, 2021 (Invited)
- "The Opportunities & Challenges of COVID-19 Tracking Apps as Pandemic Control Mechanisms": University of Wisconsin–Madison, 2021 (Invited panelist)
- "Policy, Politics and Ethics of the Coming AI Revolution": Cornell University, 2021 (Invited panelist)
- "Forecasting Process in AI Development: Evidence from Machine Learning Researchers": OECD Future of Work Initiative, 2020 (Invited)
- "Lessons of History, Law, and Public Opinion for AI Development": Brookings Institution, 2019 (Invited)
- "Anxiety of Automation and Policy Preferences": Midwest Political Science Association Conference, 2019, NYU Center for Experimental Social Science Political Science Conference, 2018
- "Quota Sampling Using Facebook Advertisements": Oxford Internet Institute, 2017, New Faces in Political Methodology Conference, 2017 (Invited)
- "Hands Off My Medicare?: Self-Interest and Conditional Policy Feedback": Centre for Experimental Social Sciences, Nuffield College, University of Oxford, 2017 (Invited), American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, 2016
- "When Will AI Exceed Human Performance? Evidence from AI Experts": Robert Shiller's "Financial Markets" Coursera course salon, 2017 (Invited)
- "Regression Discontinuity Design Using Complex Surveys": Visions in Methodology Conference, 2016 (Invited)
- "Information Equivalence in Survey Experiments": Polmeth Summer Methods Meeting, 2015, NYU Center for Experimental Social Science Political Science Conference, 2015, International Studies Association Annual Conference, 2015, American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, 2014

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE	• U.S. Artificial Intelligence Safety Institute Consortium Task Force on Generative AI Profile for the AI Risk Management Framework: member (2024-present) • CIFAR Workshop: World Models: Causality, Neuroscience, and AI Safety: Co-organizer, 2024 (funded by CIFAR and Alfred P. Sloan Foundation) • Politics of Emerging Technologies Mini-Conference: Lead organizer, 2022, 2023 • Search committee member for the director of the Autonomous Systems Policy Institute at Syracuse University • Stanford University Center for AI in Medicine and Imaging: External advisory board member, 2022 • Media Law & Policy Scholars Conference: Co-organizer, 2021 • Paris Peace Forum Working Group on Algorithmic Governance: Member, 2021 • Governance Research in Artificial Intelligence Leadership Network: Member, 2019–2021 • Yale Institution for Social and Policy Studies Experiments Workshop: Coordinator, 2013–2015; 2016–2017 • Yale Political Science Methods Skills Enrichment Program: Assistant and Web Developer, 2013-2015 Reviewer for *Political Analysis*, *American Political Science Review*, *American Journal of Political Science*, *Political Science Research and Methods*, *Public Opinion Quarterly*, *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, *AI & Society*, MIT Press, and the ACM Conference on Fairness, Accountability, and Transparency.
PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE	• Yale Jackson Institute for Global Affairs: Fellow, Kerry Initiative, 2018–2019 • Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies: Data Scientist, Yale Program on Climate Change Communication, 2015–2018 • Pew Research Center Data Lab: Data Lab Fellow, June 2016–August 2016 • Yale University Center for Science and Social Science: Data Consultant, 2014–2015
ADDITIONAL TRAINING	Oxford Internet Institute Summer Doctoral Programme, 2017 University of Oxford Advanced Quantitative Methods and Research Design, 2013 (funded) Department of Peace and Conflict Research, Uppsala University
SKILLS	**Computer**: R, Stata, SPSS, Python, ArcGIS, Qualtrics, LaTeX, Raspberry Pi **Languages**: Chinese (native), French (reading)
MENTORING AND ADVISING	• **Dr. Kari Waters**, PhD Candidate, Political Science, Syracuse University (Project supervisor) • **Dr. Kate Mays**, Postdoctoral Researcher, Syracuse University, (Supervisor PI) • **Dr. Tae Hyun Lim**, PhD Candidate, Political Science, Syracuse University (Committee member)

CV updated on July 14, 2025.