

Benjamin Laufer

Website: bendlaufer.github.io

Email: ben.laufer@gmail.com

Phone: +1-917-628-8880

EDUCATION

- **Cornell Tech** New York, NY
Ph.D. Candidate in Information Science *2021 – present*
 - **Advisor:** Helen Nissenbaum
- **Princeton University** Princeton, NJ
B.S. in Engineering, Operations Research and Financial Engineering, Cum Laude *2015 – 2019*
 - **Minors:** Urban Studies, Environmental Studies
 - **Senior Thesis:** Compounding Injustice: History and Prediction in Carceral Decision-Making

GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

- **Fulbright ETA Fellowship, Laos:** 1 year full support (2019; declined)
- **Princeton SEAS Research Fund:** Funding for senior thesis research (2018-2019)
- **Parkhurst Research Fund:** Funding for senior thesis research (2018-2019)
- **Yale Law School Arthur Liman Fellowship:** Award for a summer internship in the public interest and colloquium attendance (2018) [[link1](#), [link2](#)]
- **Princeton SEAS Research Fund:** Funding for junior independent research (2018)
- **Princeton Environmental Institute Fellowship:** Award for environmental research (2017) [[link](#)]
- **Princeton International Internship Program:** Award for international summer research (2016)

HONORS

- **Lime Hackathon Winner:** 1st place prize in Lime’s annual company-wide hackathon. Project entitled “Head First: Real-Time Helmet Detector using Computer Vision” (2020)
- **Best Senior Thesis in Urban Studies:** Princeton Urban Studies department thesis prize (2019) [[link1](#), [link2](#)]
- **Kenneth H. Condit Graduation Prize:** Awarded to a graduating senior at Princeton who has exhibited excellence in leadership, academic achievement and community service (2019) [[link](#)]
- **Departmental Distinction:** Graduated *Cum Laude*, Princeton ORFE (2019)
- **Sigma Xi:** Nominated to the Scientific Research Honors Society upon graduating (2019)

PAPERS

- **Benjamin Laufer, Thomas Gilbert, Helen Nissenbaum:** “Neglected Normative Assumptions in Applied Optimization.” *Under Review*.
- **Benjamin Laufer, Emma Pierson, Nikhil Garg:** “End-to-end Auditing for Decision Pipelines.” *ICML Workshop on Responsible Decision Making in Dynamic Environments (RDMDE)*, 2022.
- **Benjamin Laufer*, Niko Grupen*:** “Security, Privacy and Obfuscation in Crowdsourcing Technologies.” *KDD MIS2-TrueFact and ICML DisCoML workshops*, 2022.
- **Benjamin Laufer, Sameer Jain, A. Feder Cooper, Jon Kleinberg, Hoda Heidari:** “Four Years of FAccT: A Reflexive, Mixed-Methods Analysis of Research Contributions, Shortcomings, and Future Prospects.” *ACM Conference on Fairness, Accountability, and Transparency (FAccT)*, 2022.
- **A. Feder Cooper, Emanuel Moss, Benjamin Laufer, Helen Nissenbaum:** “Accountability in an Algorithmic Society.” *ACM Conference on Fairness, Accountability, and Transparency (FAccT)*, 2022.
- **Benjamin Laufer:** “Abandoning Criminal Risk and Recidivism: On Dangerous Goals in ML Scoring-Decision Systems.” *NeurIPS Resistance AI Workshop*, 2020.
- **Benjamin Laufer:** “Feedback Effects in Repeat-Use Algorithmic Risk Assessments”. *ArXiv*, November 2020.
- **Benjamin Laufer:** “Compounding Injustice: History and Prediction in Carceral Decision-Making”. Undergraduate Thesis, *ArXiv*, *Princeton Mudd Manuscript Library*, April 2019.
- **Benjamin Laufer:** “Data Analytics and Machine Learning for Environmental Protection: Targeting Air Inspections”. Junior Research Paper, *Princeton ORFE*, January 2018.

TALKS

- **FAccT**: Proceedings talk, and Doctoral Consortium participation, June 2022.
- **NeurIPS**: Workshop on Resistance AI, December 2020. [[event](#)]
- **Princeton ORFE Department**: Invited lecture on algorithmic fairness in ORF473-FinTech Lending (prof: Margaret Holen), May 2020.
- **Princeton Reunions**: “Princeton in Prison: The Petey Greene Tutors” Panel, June 2019.
- **Princeton Urban Studies Department**: Research Symposium, May 2019. [[link](#)]
- **High Meadows Environmental Institute**: Research Symposium, April 2019.
- **Yale Law Public Interest Colloquium**: Invited as a fellow, April 2018. [[event](#)]

WORK EXPERIENCE

- **Lime** San Francisco, CA
Data Scientist II (prev. Data Scientist, Data Analyst Intern) 2019 - 2021 (2 years)
- **National Center for Access to Justice** New York, NY
Arthur Liman Research Fellow, Yale Law School Jun 2018 - Aug 2018 (3 months)
- **U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)** New York, NY
Data Science Intern Jun 2017 - Jan 2018 (8 months)
- **Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory (PPPL)** Princeton, NJ
Research Assistant Oct 2016 - May 2017 (8 months)
- **International Water Management Institute** Accra, Ghana
Intern Jun 2016 - Aug 2016 (3 months)
- **Princeton High School Debate Team** Princeton, New Jersey
Private Debate Coach September 2015 - June 2016 (10 months)
- **National Symposium for Debate** Minneapolis, Minnesota
Debate Teacher Jul 2015 - Aug 2015 (2 months)

FREELANCE CONSULTING

- **Deputy Data Director for a Democratic Presidential Primary Campaign (3 months)**: Developed the strategy for allocating field organizers and targeting phone calls to effectively gain electoral votes.
- **Research for Lightspeed Venture Partners (2 months)**: Designed and executed a research report for a venture capital company on the impact of COVID-19 on work and changes to companies' IT needs.

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

- **UCLA COVID Behind Bars Research Group** Los Angeles, CA
Data Science Researcher Jul 2020 - Present (5 months)
 - **Data reporting for COVID-19 cases in ICE detention facilities**: Creating a single location for COVID-19 case and death counts in ICE facilities.
- **Petey Greene Program** Princeton, NJ
Tutor and Undergraduate President 2016 - 2019 (4 years)
 - **Bringing Education into Prisons**: Tutored inside NJ correctional facilities weekly for four years.
 - **Undergraduate President**: Led the team of 100+ tutors and organized educational programs and trainings for tutors.

PROGRAMMING SKILLS

- **Languages**: Python, SQL, MATLAB, R, Java, C, html, CSS, JS, STATA
- **Technologies**: AWS, Sagemaker, React, Tableau

REFERENCES

- **Helen Nissenbaum, Professor, Information Science, Cornell Tech**: hn288 [at] cornell.edu
- **Miklos Racz, Assistant Professor, ORFE, Princeton University**: mkracz [at] princeton.edu