

# CHRISTOPHER DENQ

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## SUMMARY

Early-career **data scientist** seeking to transfer passion and drive into building **AI governance** solutions. **Technical industry experience** in analytics and machine learning augments empirical methodologies for policy research; unique undergraduate background in **philosophy and art history** provides strong foundations for epistemics. Self-taught transition from the art market to data science demonstrates resiliency, resourcefulness, initiative, and commitment to long-term projects.

## EDUCATION

**University of Pennsylvania** | Philadelphia, PA

BA, Philosophy and Art History

Jan 2017 – May 2021

*Candidate in BS, Economics, concentration in Statistics (Wharton)*

Aug 2015 – Jan 2017

- **Honors:** John C. Parker Fellowship Grant, 2016 (\$500 for statistical game theory research in board game scenarios)

**Foothill College** | Los Altos, CA

Non-Degree

Apr 2021 – Dec 2022

- **Courses:** Linear Algebra, Stats., MV Calc., Discrete Math., Dif EQs, Analysis of DS/Algos
- Took *a la carte* college courses to bolster mathematical understanding of AI

**Stanford University** | Stanford, CA

Non-Degree

Sep 2022 – Dec 2022

- **Courses:** Introduction to AI Alignment

## SKILLS & FLUENCIES

- **Spoken Languages:** Mandarin Chinese (Fluent), Taiwanese Hokkein (Native), Spanish (Elementary)
- **Coding Languages:** Python (OOP), C/C++, SQL (PostgreSQL), NoSQL (MongoDB), HTML/CSS/JS, APIs, Git
- **Machine Learning:** SKLearn, Keras, TensorFlow, PyTorch, Numpy, Scipy
- **Cloud & DevOps:** Google GCP, Google Collab, Hadoop/Spark, Docker, Github Pages, AWS
- **Analytics/Visualization:** Tableau, Google Sheets/Apps Script, Google Suite, Excel/VBA, Matplotlib, Seaborn

## AI RESEARCH & FELLOWSHIPS

**Incoming Stanford AI Governance Fellow**

(3 mos) Incoming Feb 2023 – Apr 2023

Stanford AI Alignment's [SPAR](#), Stanford University | Stanford, CA

PI: TBA, Contact: Gabe Mukobi

- Incoming research intern with Stanford AI Alignment's SPAR program in Spring
- Project TBA; aim to conduct technical and policy AI research for benchmarking policies and output research paper

**Cambridge Machine Learning Fellow**

(1.5 week) Jan 2022

Cambridge AI Safety Hub's [MLAB](#), Cambridge University | Cambridge, England

Contact: Hannah Erlebach

- Gained technical experience with transformer interpretability, model training, and hyperparameter tuning
- Projects include building a raytracer, custom ResNet, simple backpropagation framework, custom BERT, and scaled GPT

**Berkeley AI Governance Research Intern**

(3 mos) Dec 2022 – Feb 2023

EA@Berkeley Group's [GFI](#), UC Berkeley | Berkeley, CA

Advisor: Mauricio Baker, Contact: Aris Richardson

- Researching potential AI policy framework from existing auditing precedents in hardware, software, and robotics
- Project includes a 15-page report and EA Forum post for Mauricio (OpenAI contractor) and Aris (Berkeley)

**CSUN Machine Learning Student Assistant**

(7 mos) Nov 2021 – May 2022

AI-x Group, California State University: Northridge | Northridge, CA

PI: Prof. Wenchin Hsu

- Researched ML education pedagogies and curriculum development for Prof Hsu's Spring 2023 graduate ML course
- Succeeded in delivering 280+ slides, 10+ Java-to-Python code conversion, and applying linear algebra to research

**UF Bioinformatics Researcher**

(1 yr, 4 mos) Jun 2012 – Sep 2013

Systems Biology Laboratory, University of Florida | Gainesville, FL

PI: Prof. Su-Shing Chen

- Researched optimal parameter space for SVM techniques to detect influential biomarkers for Alzheimer's
- Co-authored technical research [paper](#); published in Journal of Clinical Bioinformatics

## AI-SAFETY ACTIVITIES & CONFERENCES

### Dartmouth AI Safety Club Logistics Volunteer

(2 mos) Dec 2022 – Present

AI Safety x Dartmouth, Dartmouth College | Dartmouth, NH

Contact: Mark Lovett

- Performs logistics for new AI-Safety-specific club at Dartmouth (summer launch); club currently pre-faculty-mentor
- Provides feedback to executive board on how to increase traffic and retention from remote participants

### Conferences

- **EAG London 2023:** *decision pending* Pending May 2023
- **EAG Bay Area 2023:** *decision pending* Pending Feb 2023
- **AI Alignment Retreat 2022 (AIR):** sponsored attendee (13% admittance) Dec 2022
- **EAGx Berkeley 2022:** sponsored attendee Dec 2022

## INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE

### Data Scientist

(2 mos) Dec 2022 – present

Accenture Federal Services | Arlington, VA

- Streamline and optimize federal client's impact through optimizing data value and analytics

### Data Analyst Intern

(3 mos) Jun 2022 – Aug 2022

PNC Financial Services Group | Brecksville, OH

- Delivered 8 data products used by 90+ members across 7 departments to monitor team performance and internal loan pipeline
- Succeeded in saving \$375,000 in new hiring costs by addressing existing inefficiencies in team hand-offs

### Data Analytics Assistant Instructor

(6 mos) May 2022 – Nov 2022

2U – Trilogy Education Services | Atlanta, GA

- Managed and taught data analytics curriculums with instructor team; teaching and tutoring over 210+ hours to 35 students
- Successfully performs code reviews, provides feedback on projects, and teaches CS concepts

### Freelance Computer Science Tutor

(9 mos) Sep 2021 – May 2022

Wyzant.com | Online

- Tutored 25+ students from high school to adult learners for 65+ hours; topics range from AP Computer Science to Intro. ML
- Succeeded in adapting teaching style, clearly communicating abstract computer science concepts, and mentoring students

### Career Transition (Break)

(1 yr 1 mo) Aug 2020 – Sep 2021

- Self-taught computer science and data analytics while finishing UPenn degree

### Leading Art Auction House Intern

(3 mos) Jun 2020 – Aug 2020

Christie's Auctions & Private Sales | New York, NY

- Evaluated 12 artworks over 6+ reports and collection documentation; attended 3+ onsite auctions, hilling meetings
- Succeeded in 3 sales of collections (net value \$19.5M) and contributing to establishing TAMs category (AI art, NFTs)

### Art Market Internships

(3 yrs 3 mos) Jan 2017 – Mar 2020

Various Art Institutions | New York, NY & Philadelphia, PA

- Kapp Kapp Gallery: Spring Gallery Intern (3 mos) Jan 2020 – Mar 2020
- Freeman's Auctions: Summer Auction House Intern (3 mos) Jun 2019 – Aug 2019
- Philadelphia Museum of Art: Spring Acquisitions Intern (5 mos) Jan 2019 – May 2019
- Penn Museum of Arch. and Anthro.: Summer Curator Intern (3 mos) Jun 2018 – Aug 2018
- Arthur Ross Gallery: Part-time Docent (1 yr 5 mos) Jan 2017 – May 2018

### Non-Profit Founder and Executive Business Operations Manager

(3 yrs, 7 mos) Sep 2016 – Mar 2020

Oasis Commissary @ University of Pennsylvania | Philadelphia, PA

- Started non-profit to address local community issue in dorm
- Wrote grant proposal to Dean, obtained vendor license from city, and upon successful pilot, was absorbed by Penn
- Managed 21 staff, 2 managers, \$2000 bi-monthly budget, 6 marketing campaigns
- Succeeded in business development and serving college dorm; \$1300 gross, 22k purchases, 180 unique clients

## HOBBIES

Competitive Escape Rooms ("Ranked Runs") • Resource-Management Boardgames • Tabletop Roleplaying Games