

# 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

May 2021

**University of Illinois – Springfield** | Springfield, IL  
BA, Mathematics, minor in Political Science

Expected May 2025

- **Note:** Taking part-time courses to gain mathematical intuition of AI and augment AI Governance impact

**Stanford University** | Stanford, CA  
Non-Degree

Dec 2022

- **Courses:** Introduction to AI Alignment (AGI Safety Fundamentals equivalent)

## 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-SAFETY ACTIVITIES & CONFERENCES

**Dartmouth AI Safety Club Officer**

(4 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 (fall launch); club currently pre-faculty-mentor
- Provides feedback to executive board on how to increase traffic and retention from remote participants

### Research Presentations

- **Stanford AI Alignment (SAIA) Research Symposium 2023:** accepted presenter Mar 2023
- **Berkeley Good Futures Initiative (GFI) Research Symposium 2023:** accepted presenter Jan 2023

### Conferences

- **EAG London 2023:** accepted attendee Expected May 2023
- **EAG Bay Area 2023:** accepted attendee Feb 2023
- **AI Alignment Retreat 2022 (AIR):** sponsored attendee Dec 2022
- **EAGx Berkeley 2022:** sponsored attendee Dec 2022

## AI RESEARCH & FELLOWSHIPS

**EU AI Act – AI Technical Standards Contributor**

(5 mos) Mar 2023 – Jul 2023

AI Safety Camp 8 ([AISC](#)) | Remote

PI: Dr. Koen Holtman

- Supervised by Dr. Koen Holtman, Dutch rep. on Europa technical standards committee (EU CEN-CENELEC JTC21)
- Assisted with developing shovel-ready technical policies for EU AI Act's standardization requests
- Developed minimally acceptable best practices for AI risk management at government level

**Stanford AI Governance Researcher**

(3 mos) Jan 2023 – Mar 2023

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

PI: Robi Rahman

- Analyzed historical AI metrics (parameter, compute, dataset) across 31 countries to verify regional forecasting trends and inform governance strategies; published report in Stanford AI-Index

**Berkeley AI Audit Research Intern**

(2 mos) Dec 2022 – Jan 2023

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

Contact: Aris Richardson

- Performed literature review of auditing policies across 6 industries (hardware, software, robotics, cybersecurity, pharmaceutical, and financial) with goal of establishing precedents for AI-specific auditing frameworks

**Cambridge Machine Learning Fellow**

(1 mo) Jan 2022

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

Contact: Hannah Erlebach

- Worked on transformer interpretability, model training, and hyperparameter tuning
- Projects include building a raytracer, custom ResNet, simple backpropagation framework, custom BERT, and scaled GPT

**AI 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 mathematics to education

**Bioinformatics Research Assistant**

(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 research [paper](#); published in Journal of Clinical Bioinformatics

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**INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE****Data Science Apprentice**

(4 mos) Mar 2023 – Jun 2023

Adobe Digital Academy | Remote

- Selected finalist for Adobe x General Assembly's Data Science Immersive program
- Fast tracked to data science position with Adobe

**Data Analyst Intern**

(3 mos) Jun 2022 – Aug 2022

PNC Financial Services Group | Brecksville, OH

- Created 8 data products (Python/SQL scripts, Tableau dashboards) to help manage business capacity, performance, and risk
- Successfully saved \$375,000 via data-driven sight on loan pipeline involving 7 departments, 8+ managers, 100k data points

**Data Analytics Assistant Instructor & Tutor**

(1 yr 3 mos) Sep 2021 – Nov 2022

2U – Trilogy Education Services &amp; Wyzant.com | Atlanta, GA &amp; Remote

- Managed and taught data analytics curriculum; teaching and tutoring over 300+ hours to 65 students
- Successfully performs code reviews, provides feedback on projects, and teaches CS concepts

**Data Analyst Fellow**

(7 mos) Sep 2021 – Mar 2022

2U – Trilogy Education Services | Atlanta, GA

- Worked on 4 major projects (including SQL ETL database, full-stack web-based machine learning app)

**Art Analyst Intern**

(3 mos) Jun 2020 – Aug 2020

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

- Evaluated 12 artworks at leading luxury art auction house; 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)

**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

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**HOBBIES**

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