

# Sangyeon Kim

Observatory on Social Media  
Indiana University  
Bloomington, IN 47408  
USA

Office: Luddy Center for Artificial Intelligence (2nd floor)  
Email: [ski15@iu.edu](mailto:ski15@iu.edu)  
Phone: 582-203-9317  
Website: <https://clearingkim.github.io/>

## Employment

Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana, USA  
Postdoctoral Researcher, Observatory on Social Media, August 2023 -

## Education

Ph.D. Political Science and Social Data Analytics, The Pennsylvania State University, August 2023.

Dissertation Title: "Networks in Political Communication, Advocacy, and Conflict."

Committee: Bruce Desmarais (Chair), Cyanne E. Loyle, Kevin Munger, Charles Seguin (Sociology)

M.A. Political Science, The Pennsylvania State University, August 2020.

M.A. Political Science, Korea University, August 2018.

B.A. Political Science and Sociology, Korea University, February 2016.

## Research

· Peer-Reviewed Publications (\*: Corresponding author, †: Co-first author)

1. Amanda Driscoll, Jay Krehbiel, Michael J. Nelson, and **Sangyeon Kim**, 2025, "The consistency principle: Crisis perceptions, partisanship and public support for democratic norms in comparative perspective.", *European Journal of Political Research*. 64: 406-416.
  2. **Sangyeon Kim**, 2024, "Understanding political communication and political communicators on Twitch", *PLOS ONE*, 19(11), e0314429.
  3. **Sangyeon Kim\***, Howard Liu and Bruce Desmarais, 2023, "Spatial modeling of dyadic geopolitical interactions between moving actors", *Political Science Research and Methods*, 11(3): 633-644.
    - Honorable mention of 2022 John Sprague Award (Best Graduate Student Paper), Political Networks Section, APSA (American Political Science Association).
  4. **Sangyeon Kim†**, Omer Yalcin, Sam Bestvater, Kevin Munger, Burt Monroe and Bruce Desmarais, 2020, "The effects of an informational intervention on attention to anti-vaccination content on YouTube." In *Proceedings of the International AAAI Conference on Web and Social Media* (Vol. 14, pp. 949-953).
  5. **Sangyeon Kim**, 2019, "Development and persistence of African rebel groups: Case study of three Ugandan rebel groups, LRA, UPA and UPDA", *Social Science Review* 50(2): 21-36 [In Korean]
- Other Writings

Chloe Ahn, Drew Dimmery, **Sangyeon Kim**, and Kevin Munger, 2025, "Social science has entered the chat: What we learned from experimenting on Twitch", *APSA Experimental Research Section Newsletter* 6(1)

- Working Papers (\*: Corresponding author, †: Co-first author)

**Sangyeon Kim**, "The political influence of non-politicized users: An experimental approach for the spread of protest information in Twitter" *under review*

Bao Tran Truong, **Sangyeon Kim\***, Gianluca Nogara, Enrico Verdolotti, Erfan Samieyan Sahneh, Florian Saurwein, Natascha Just, Luca Luceri, Silvia Giordano, and Filippo Menczer, "Delayed takedown of illegal content on social media makes moderation ineffective" *Preprint arXiv:2502.08841 (2025), under review*

Ozgur Can Seckin, Filipi Nascimento Silva, Bao Tran Truong, **Sangyeon Kim**, Fan Huang, Nick Liu, Alessandro Flammini, and Filippo Menczer, "The rise of Bluesky" *Preprint arXiv:2504.12902 (2025)*

Byunghwee Lee, **Sangyeon Kim†**, Yong-Yeol Ahn, Filippo Menczer, Jisun An, and Haewoon Kwak, "Arts, music, fashion, and beyond: Can LLMs infer your political leaning from casual talk?"

**Sangyeon Kim**, Ozgur Can Seckin, Filippo Menczer, and Kai-Cheng Yang, "Diversity and quality trade-offs in political news sources on different social media platforms"

- Work in progress

Chloe Ahn, Drew Dimmery, **Sangyeon Kim**, and Kevin Munger, "Twitching, fast and slow: Experimentally reducing toxicity on political livestreams"

Boyoon Lee, **Sangyeon Kim**, Yoonseok Lee, "Sexism, support for violence, and democratic support: Evidence from South Korea"

## Invited Talks

Large language models can infer political inclination from non-political discourse (School of Digital Humanities and Computational Social Sciences, KAIST, Nov 2024)

Navigating the social media maze: Recent research on social media (with Bao Tran Truong and Filipi Nascimento Silva, Indiana University - Indianapolis, Oct 2024)

## Presentations and Posters

Arts, music, fashion, and beyond: Can LLMs infer your political leaning from casual talk? (with With Byunghwee Lee, Yong-Yeol Ahn, Filippo Menczer, Jisun An, and Haewoon Kwak) **APSA 2025 (declined), IC2S2 2025, MPSA 2025**

The persistence of contrarianism on Twitter: Mapping users' sharing habits for the Ukraine war, COVID-19 vaccination, and the 2020 Midterm elections (with David Axelrod and John Paolillo) **IDeAS 2024**

Quantifying the effects of time delay in illegal content takedown (with Bao Tran Truong, Samuel Groesch, Enrico Verdolotti, Silvia Giordano, Natascha Just, Florian Saurwein, and Filippo Menczer) **IC2S2 2024**

Twitching, fast and slow: Experimentally reducing toxicity on political livestreams (with Chloe Ahn, Drew Dimmery, and Kevin Munger) **IC2S2 2024**

Multi-platform comparison of credibility of news shared in social media during the US Midterm election 2022: Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, Reddit, and 4chan (with Ozgur Can Seckin, Kaicheng Yang, and Filippo Menczer) **APSA 2025 (scheduled), MPSA 2024**

Understanding political communication and political communicators on Twitch **APSA 2023, JAWS 2023, PolMeth 2022, PolNet 2022, PaCSS 2022, MPSA 2022**

The political influence of non-politicized users: An experimental approach for the spread of protest information in Twitter **MPSA 2023, PaCSS 2020**

Spatial modeling of dyadic geopolitical interactions between moving actors (with Howard Liu and Bruce Desmarais) **PolNet 2021, PolMeth 2020**

The effects of an informational intervention on attention to anti-vaccination content on YouTube (with Omer Yalcin, Sam Bestvater, Kevin Munger, Burt Monroe and Bruce Desmarais) **ICDS Symposium 2020**

## Grants, Fellowships, & Awards

Humane Studies Fellowship, Institute for Humane Studies (IHS), George Mason University (\$5,000)

RGSO Dissertation Support, College of the Liberal Arts, The Pennsylvania State University, Spring 2023 (\$5,000 for a semester release)

Summer Graduate Research Award, The Pennsylvania State University, Summer 2020, 2021, 2022. (\$4,000)

C-SoDA Accelerator Award, Center of Social Data Analytics (The Pennsylvania State University), Spring 2021. (\$2,000)

Honors Fellowship, Korea University, Spring 2015.

## Teaching Experience

- Instructor of Record

SoDA 308 Research Design for Social Data Analytics, Fall 2022.

- Teaching Assistant

Teaching Assistant for Jeremy Ladd, PLSC 10 Scientific Study of Politics, Spring 2022.

Teaching Assistant for Amy Sentementes, PLSC 1 American Politics, Fall 2020.

Teaching Assistant for Dube Sibusiwe, AFR 110 Introduction to Contemporary Africa, Fall 2018.

Teaching Assistant for Jae Hyeok Shin, Leadership Program for Next Generation, Summer 2016.

## External Service

Reviewer: *The Journal of Politics, Government and Opposition, EPJ Data Science, PS: Political Science & Politics, PNAS Nexus, PLOS ONE*

## Professional Skills

*Programming Languages:* R, Python

## References

### Bruce Desmarais

Professor of Political Science  
Director of Graduate Studies, Social Data  
Analytics  
230 Pond Lab  
Department of Political science  
Pennsylvania State University  
University Park, PA 16802  
bdesmarais@psu.edu

### Haewoon Kwak

Associate professor of Informatics  
Luddy Center for Artificial Intelligence,  
Room 2022  
Department of Informatics  
Indiana University  
Bloomington, IN 47408  
hwkwak@iu.edu

### Filippo Menczer

Luddy professor of Informatics and Computer Science  
Luddy Center for Artificial Intelligence,  
Room 2028  
Department of Informatics  
Indiana University  
Bloomington, IN 47408  
fil@iu.edu

### Michael Nelson

Professor of Political Science  
232 Pond Lab  
Department of Political science  
Pennsylvania State University  
University Park, PA 16802  
mjn15@psu.edu

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