Daniel Kent

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EDUCATION

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY
PH.D. IN POLITICAL SCIENCE
(FOCUS ON COMPUTATIONAL
SOCIAL SCIENCE)
August 2020 | Columbus, OH
M.A., POLITICAL SCIENCE
May 2017 | Columbus, OH

UC DAVIS
B.A., INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
(HIGHEST HONORS)
June 2013 | Davis, CA

RELEVANT COURSES

PROFESSIONAL
Data Science With Python

GRADUATE
Experimental and Survey Design
Machine Learning
Causal Inference
Social Network Analysis
Bayesian Statistics
Time Series Analysis
Generalized Linear Models
Probability Theory
Math for Political Scientists
Game Theory
Agent-Based Models

UNDERGRADUATE
Calculus I (Derivatives)
Calculus II (Integrals)
Calculus III (Multivariate)
Probability and Statistical Inference
Applied Regression

SKILLS

PROGRAMMING
Python (numpy, pandas, scipy, matplotlib, seaborn, scikit-learn, statsmodels) • R (dplyr, tidyr, purrr, ggplot2, h2o, caret) • SQL (MySQL, SQLite) • Git • Unix • Julia • Tableau

COMPUTATIONAL
Amazon Web Services • Google Cloud Platform • Cluster Computing • Apache Spark

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY | GRADUATE RESEARCH ASSOCIATE
August 2016 – August 2020 | Columbus, OH
- Secured over $50,000 in external funding through the National Science Foundation for a nationwide survey experiment, Mershon Center for International Security, and Ohio State Decision Sciences Collaborative
- Data analyst for multiple collaborative quantitative research projects, resulting in 3 academic manuscripts and 10 conference presentations
- Wrote novel R package, `dynamr`, returning 20% increase in changepoint detection accuracy over alternative software
- Implemented workflow across projects for computationally intensive tasks remotely on Ohio State's Unity Cluster through shell scripting

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY | JUNIOR PRISM FELLOW
August 2017 – July 2018 | Columbus, OH
- Provided statistics consulting for faculty and students, solving data, programming, and modeling problems in a faculty-awarded position
- Led and hosted 4 data science training workshops and visiting guest lectures throughout the academic year

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY | GRADUATE TEACHING ASSOCIATE
July 2019, July 2020 | Columbus, OH
- Taught graduate-level mathematics course for 15 incoming Ph.D. students on calculus, linear algebra, probability, and R programming
- Compiled a 50-page set of extensive course notes for students to reference during future statistics coursework

SELECTED PROJECTS

DISSERTATION | ESSAYS ON MACHINE LEARNING IN INTERNATIONAL POLITICS AND SOCIAL NETWORKS
- Built machine learning ensembles with 800,000+ observations to forecast the onset of international conflict
- Developed a novel statistical feature with 15,925 estimates of every country's international standing from 1816-2012

PUTTING TERROR IN ITS PLACE: AN EXPERIMENT ON MITIGATING FEARS OF TERRORISM AMONG THE AMERICAN PUBLIC
With Daniel Silverman and Christopher Gelpi
- Designed, implemented, and analyzed a nationwide survey experiment measuring the causal effect of information about terrorism's risks
- 2,500 participants were surveyed on NORC's AmeriSpeak and Amazon's MTurk platforms, with a follow-up two weeks after treatment

A PERMUTATION-BASED CHANGEPOINT TECHNIQUE FOR MONITORING EFFECT SIZES
Accepted at Political Analysis | With James Wilson and Skyler Cranmer
- Developed a statistical procedure for detecting coefficient changepoints in regressions estimated using time series cross-sectional data
- Technique estimates time-invariant behavior through permutation inference and detects changes with statistical process monitoring