

A versatile data scientist skilled in implementing and fine-tuning advanced models, with a strong foundation in probability theory and applied statistics. Proficient in developing machine learning models and creating algorithms to manage large datasets while ensuring optimal performance. Adept at simplifying technical concepts for diverse audiences using straightforward explanations, visual tools, and relatable examples.

SKILLS

PROGRAMMING LANGUAGES	PYTHON R MATLAB
WEB TECHNOLOGIES & DATABASES	JAVASCRIPT HTML CSS POSTGRESQL MYSQL SQLITE RSQLITE
FRAMEWORKS & LIBRARIES	JUPYTER BEAUTIFULSOUP NUMPY PANDAS SCIKIT-LEARN TENSORFLOW PYTORCH KERAS XGBOOST LIGHTGBM SQLALCHEMY
TOOLS, SOFTWARE & FORMATTING	ARCGIS STATA GIT LATEX MARKDOWN

EXPERIENCE

DATA SCIENTIST SCALE AI	APRIL 2023 - PRESENT SAINT LOUIS, MO
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- Contributed to a reward model of reinforcement learning from human feedback (RLHF) to align with client-specific needs
- Emphasized improvements in accuracy, conversational fluidity, and user engagement while maintaining strict writing style and structure protocols across various domains
- Incorporated sophisticated AI capabilities, including semantic comprehension and topic adherence to optimize model performance
- Formulated detailed training scripts for a range of data science applications, strengthening the chatbot's proficiency in code interpretation and generation

PYTHON INSTRUCTOR WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY IN SAINT LOUIS	JUNE 2020 — JUNE 2022 SAINT LOUIS, MO
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- Developed curriculum teaching Python programming, data analysis techniques, Git, and JupyterLab
- Taught Python fundamentals, data manipulation, and visualization using pandas, numpy, seaborn and matplotlib libraries
- Supervised hands-on projects, highlighting the use of GitHub for version control and JupyterLab for interactive analysis
- Adapted teaching methods for diverse learners, preparing students to confidently employ data-driven approaches

RESEARCH ASSISTANT WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY IN SAINT LOUIS	JUNE 2018 — DECEMBER 2022 SAINT LOUIS, MO
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- Implemented advanced ensemble machine learning techniques, such as Bayesian model averaging and random forests
- Developed an R package (`EBMAforecast`) for predicting heterogeneous treatment effects
- Conducted extensive data pre-processing, exploratory analysis, handling of missing values, outlier detection, and feature engineering

- Optimized model performance through rigorous hyper-parameter tuning, cross-validation, and appropriate feature set selection

PROJECTS

NEWS DISCOURSE ANALYSIS VIA ADVANCED NLP TECHNIQUES

JUNE 2020-JUNE 2023

BIG DATA, MACHINE LEARNING, DATA ENGINEERING, POLITICAL COMMUNICATION

- Scraped and assembled a a SQL database containing billions of tweets and replies from 30 news outlets to examine communication patterns and styles
- Designed an automated ETL pipeline using Python packages such as `nltk` and `numpy`
- Utilized advanced NLP techniques such as sentiment analysis, topic modeling, and text classification using packages like `BERT`, `gensim`, and `scikit-learn`

FORECASTING THE 2020 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

JULY 2019

MACHINE LEARNING, ENSEMBLE METHODS, BAYESIAN INFERENCE, TIME SERIES ANALYSIS, ELECTION FORECASTING

- Conducted extensive data pre-processing, feature engineering, and model evaluation using cross-validation techniques
- Developed a Bayesian model averaging approach to combine predictions from multiple forecasting models
- Applied the ensemble method to the 2020 presidential election, resulting in a highly accurate and precise forecast
- Designed and implemented an MCMC sampling scheme for rigorous statistical inference and uncertainty quantification

POLITICAL ADVERTISEMENT PERCEPTION STUDY WITH ADVANCED ANALYTICS

DECEMBER 2021

DATA ENGINEERING, DATA VISUALIZATION, CONJOINT EXPERIMENT, POLITICAL ADVERTISING

- Deployed a conjoint experiment to understand user preferences and perceptions of political ads
- Leveraged expertise in non-parametric analysis with tools such as `cjoint`, `coefplot`, and `gmodels` packages for advanced statistical modeling and analysis
- Ensured accurate interpretation of results using statistical concepts such as weighted means, confidence intervals, and hypothesis testing
- Designed and developed informative visualizations with `ggplot2` and `plotly` packages

ANALYZING MISINFORMATION EFFECTS

JULY 2022

RESEARCH DESIGN, DATA ANALYSIS, MACHINE LEARNING, DATA VISUALIZATION, PUBLICATION, MISINFORMATION

- Developed a novel research framework integrating experimental and observational data to investigate misinformation effects on public opinion and behavior
- Employed machine learning techniques such as regression and generalized linear mixed models, classification, and clustering algorithms to evaluate causal factors and predict misinformation susceptibility
- Ensured validity and generalizability by using nationally representative samples and advanced statistical cross-validation techniques

RESEARCH DESIGN, DATA ANALYSIS, DATA VISUALIZATION, GRANT WRITING, MISINFORMATION

- Devised a novel survey experiment to assess the efficacy of misinformation corrections using advanced statistical techniques
- Implemented a pilot survey and deployed the final survey to a diverse, nationally-representative sample
- Analyzed survey data, employing R packages such as `dplyr`, `tidyverse`, and `ggplot2` for data manipulation, visualization, and application of multivariate statistics

EDUCATION

PH.D. IN POLITICAL SCIENCE	WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY IN SAINT LOUIS	AUGUST 2017 — JULY 2024
M.A. IN POLITICAL SCIENCE	SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY	AUGUST 2016 — MAY 2017
B.A. POLITICAL SCIENCE (CUM LAUDE)	SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY	AUGUST 2013 — MAY 2016
A.A. COMMUNICATION	IVY TECH COMMUNITY COLLEGE	AUGUST 2009 — MAY 2012

PUBLICATIONS

- Guess, Andrew, Dominique Lockett, Benjamin Lyons, Brendan Nyhan, Jacob M. Montgomery, and Jason Reifler. 2020. "“Fake news” may have limited effects beyond increasing beliefs in false claims." The Misinformation Review.
- Edelson, Laura, Dominique Lockett, Jacob Montgomery, Damon McCoy, Tobias Lauinger, Celia Guillard "US Public Opinion Towards Platform Regulation of Political Advertisements: Discontent and Consensus for Reform" (Forthcoming)
- Lockett, Dominique. Using Objectivity to Improve Argument Evaluations. (Forthcoming)

AWARDS AND CERTIFICATES

RESEARCH SEED GRANT	WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY IN SAINT LOUIS	NOVEMBER 2020
DIVERSITY FELLOWSHIP	SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY	JUNE 2016
FUNDAMENTALS OF G.I.S.	UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, DAVIS	SEPTEMBER 2020

RELEVANT COURSEWORK

QUANTITATIVE POLITICAL METHODOLOGY II 2020

- Advanced course focused on sophisticated statistical analysis methods for computational scientists
- Emphasized maximum likelihood estimation for various scenarios, including cross-sectional, time series, and non-parametric bootstrapping
- Materials: *Linear Models with R*, Julian Faraway; Taught by Jacob Montgomery

COMPUTATIONAL SOCIAL SCIENCE 2020

- Explored various data types in social science, including networks, text, audio, images, and videos
- Focused on both mechanistic and probabilistic approaches to supervised and unsupervised learning.
- Materials: *Pattern Recognition and Machine Learning*, Christopher Bishop; *A Course in Machine Learning*, Hal Daumé; *The Elements of Statistical Learning*, Jerome Friedman, Trevor Hastie, Robert Tibshirani; Taught by Christopher Lucas

MAXIMUM LIKELIHOOD ESTIMATION

2019

- In-depth focus on MLE principles, including probability theory, likelihood functions, and properties of estimators like consistency and efficiency
- Comprehensive study of generalized linear models using MLE, covering exponential family distributions, link functions, logistic and Poisson regression
- Advanced MLE topics: handling categorical data, overdispersion in count data, model selection criteria (AIC, BIC), model fit assessment and diagnostics
- Materials: *Generalized Linear Models*, Peter KDunn, Gordon KSmyth; Taught by Christopher Lucas

CAUSAL INFERENCE

2019

- Deep exploration of causal inference theories, focusing on counterfactual reasoning, potential outcomes, and causal diagrams
- Study of experimental design principles, including randomized trials, natural and field experiments
- Exploration of observational techniques: propensity score matching, regression discontinuity, difference-in-differences, instrumental variables
- Advanced statistical methods for causal estimation: structural equation modeling, mediation analysis, sensitivity analysis; Taught by Julia Park

APPLIED STATISTICAL PROGRAMMING

2018

- Introduced object-oriented programming, functional programming paradigms, and efficient data manipulation
- Covered topics such as debugging, profiling, as well as package development and contribution to open-source projects
- Emphasized statistical meta-skills like data cleaning, transformation, visualization, and implementation of various statistical models and algorithms
- Materials: *R for Dummies*, de Vries and Meys; *Advanced R*, Hadley Wickham; Taught by Jacob Montgomery

THEORIES OF INDIVIDUAL AND COLLECTIVE CHOICE I (GAME THEORY)

2018

- Study of rational choice theory, delving into strategic decision-making processes, utility maximization, and behavioral strategy
- Game-theoretic models: extensive and normal form games, Nash equilibrium concepts, repeated and dynamic games
- Analysis of cooperative game theory, focusing on coalition formation, bargaining theories, and the Shapley value
- Advanced topics: evolutionary game theory, Bayesian games, and information asymmetry in strategic interactions
- Materials: *Game Theory: An Introduction*, Steven Tadelis; Taught by Keith Schnakenberg

QUANTITATIVE POLITICAL METHODOLOGY I

2017

- Explored mathematical underpinnings of linear regression models, exploring both scalar and matrix representations
- Covered extensive topics including estimation techniques, inference methods, assumptions of linear models, diagnostic procedures, and the implementation of these concepts in statistical computation
- Special focus on understanding the Gauss-Markov theorem, least squares estimation, multicollinearity, heteroskedasticity, and model specification errors
- Materials: *Linear Models with R*, Julian Faraway; Taught by Guillermo Rosas

MATHEMATICAL MODELING**2017**

- Explore advanced mathematical concepts, particularly matrix algebra and calculus, within the framework of economic modeling
- Topics include matrix operations, determinants, eigenvalues and eigenvectors, and their applications in solving linear systems
- Covered single-variable and multivariate calculus, including a detailed study of limits, continuity, differentiation, and integration
- Materials: *Mathematics for Economists*, Pemberton and Rau; Taught by Randy Calvert

RESEARCH DESIGN**2017**

- Explored the application of the philosophy of science in the social sciences
- Topics included research methodologies, hypothesis formation and testing, the structure of scientific inquiry, and the principles of logical reasoning
- Addressed the challenges of causality, including the design of experiments and observational studies, and the use of statistical methods for causal inference
- Materials: *Political Science and the Logic of Representations*, Kevin AClarke and David MPrimo; *The Logic of Real Arguments*, Alec Fisher; Taught by Matt Gabel.