BENJAMIN DRAVES

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(330) 428-5025

EDUCATION

Boston University - Boston, MA *Degree expected May 2021*
Ph.D. Candidate in Statistics GPA: 4.0

- Relevant Coursework: Machine Learning, Non/Semi-parametric Data Modeling, Advances in Bayesian Computation, Network Analysis, Probability Theory I/II, Estimation Theory, Hypothesis Testing
- Qualifying Exams: *Applied Stat., Probability* Preliminary Exams: *Mathematical Stat., Applied Stat.*

Boston University - Boston, MA *October 2018*
Masters in Statistics GPA: 4.0

- Relevant Coursework: Bayesian Statistics, Computational Statistics, Generalized/Linear Models, Methods for Network Analysis & Graph Algorithms, Stochastic Processes

Lafayette College - Easton, PA *May 2017*
B.S. in Mathematics, *Summa Cum Laude* GPA: 3.9

- Honors: Departmental Honors with Thesis, Barge Oratorical Prize (most compelling thesis defense), DataFest 2017 Award Recipient, Mitman Mathematics Award (most outstanding mathematics major)

EXPERIENCE

Lead Statistical Consultant 2016 - Present

- BU Consulting: Oversaw a team of 14 masters students working in BU's consulting center. Completed 35 projects for researchers at BU over 10 months. Lead statistical decision making, managed team workflows in weekly lab meetings, and interfaced with clients throughout the project life cycle.
- Freelance Consulting: Clients included *Crayola.com, Ryan Center - PT Treatment Center, University of Mount Union Academic Affairs, Victaulic, Easton Area Public Schools, Easton Area Neighborhood Center.*

Data Analyst Intern: *National Interstate* June - August 2017
Adapted and implemented a boosted, generalized regression tree to predict claim frequency and severity. Accounted for 42% weight in final implemented model.

Graduate Instructor 2019 - Present
Taught 5 discussion sessions of 30 undergraduate students in an introductory statistics course. Created weekly lectures, exercises, and group activities to reinforce concepts introduced in the main lecture.

Leadership Positions 2017 - Present
BU Student Chapter of the ASA Board Member, BU Network Seminar Organizer, Ignite Student Council

RESEARCH PROJECTS

Multiple Network Embeddings 2018 - Present
Analyzed joint network embedding techniques for heterogeneous networks. We prove concentration and central limit theorems for node embeddings with a focus on consequent inference. Manuscript in preparation.

Denoising Sparse Covariance Matrices 2016 - 2018
Constructed and analyzed iterative smoothing techniques that denoise sparse, positive-definite matrices using spectral methods. Method applied to refining estimates of genetic relatedness. Manuscript submitted.

PROGRAMMING CAPABILITIES

Proficient	R, Java, Github, Unix Enviroment
Intermediate	Python, SQL, Mathematica, SAS
Typesetting	LaTex, R Markdown, Microsoft Office