# Dylan Slack

Website: dylanslacks.website Email: dslack@uci.edu

Scholar: scholar.google.com/dylanslack (1200+ citations) GitHub: github.com/dylan-slack

Education UC Irvine

Ph.D. Computer Science

Advisors: Sameer Singh (UC Irvine), Himabindu Lakkaraju (Harvard University)

• Dissertation: Robust Interactions With Machine Learning Models

Haverford College

B.S. Computer Science (High Honors, Magna Cum Laude)

Advisor: Sorelle Friedler

• Men's Varsity Lacrosse Team Captain

Employment Scale AI

Scale AI 2023 - Present

Machine Learning Research Engineer

Research Lead For:

• Fundamental RLHF Modeling

• Tool Use Modeling

• GPT Detection

Google AI June 2021 - Sep. 2021

Research Intern

Research Advisors: Nevan Wichers, Yinlam Chow, Bo Dai

• Developed novel safe rienforcement learning method, resulting in publication.

Amazon Web Services (AWS)

June 2020 - Sep. 2020

2019 - 2023

2015 - 2019

Applied Scientist Intern

Research Advisors: Krishnaram Kenthapadi, Nathalie Rauschmayr

DBO Partners Summer 2018

Summer Analyst

ValueAct Capital Summer 2017

Summer Analyst

SPMB Summer 2016

Summer Intern

Selected Awards Honorable Mention Outstanding Paper, NeurIPS 2022 TSRML Workshop

NeurIPS Outstanding Reviewer, 2021/2022

ICLR Outstanding Reviewer, 2021

Hasso Plattner Institute Fellow, 2021 (Full Ph.D. Funding)

Preprints TABLET: Learning From Instructions For Tabular Data. Dylan Slack, Sameer Singh.

arXiv, 2023.

Publications Post Hoc Explanations of Language Models Can Improve Language Models. Satyapriya

Krishna, Jiaqi Ma, Dylan Slack, Asma Ghandeharioun, Sameer Singh, Himabindu

Lakkaraju. NeurIPS, 2023.

TalkToModel: Understanding Machine Learning Models With Open Ended Dialogues. **Dylan Slack**, Satyapriya Krishna, Hima Lakkaraju\*, and Sameer Singh\*. Nature

Machine Intelligence, 2023.

Reliable Post hoc Explanations: Modeling Uncertainty in Explanability. Dylan

Slack, Sophie Hilgard, Sameer Singh, and Hima Lakkaraju. NeurIPS, 2021.

Counterfactual Explanations Can Be Manipulated. **Dylan Slack**, Sophie Hilgard, Hima Lakkaraju, and Sameer Singh. NeurIPS, 2021.

Active Meta-Learning for Predicting and Selecting Perovskite Crystallization Experiments. Venkateswaran Shekar, Gareth Nicholas, Mansoor Ani Najeeb, Margaret Zeile, Vincent Yu, Xiaorong Wang, Dylan Slack, Zhi Li, Philip Nega, Emory Chan, Alexander Norquist, Joshua Schrier, Sorelle Friedler. The Journal of Chemical Physics, 2021.

On the Lack of Robust Interpretability of Neural Text Classifiers. Muhammad Bilal Zafar, Michele Donini, Dylan Slack, Cedric Archambeau, Sanjiv Das, Krishnaram Kenthapadi. Findings of ACL, 2021.

Context, Language Modeling, and Multimodal Data in Finance. Sanjiv Das, Connor Goggins, John He, George Karypis, Sandeep Krishnamurthy, Mitali Mahajan, Nagpurnanand Prabhala, Dylan Slack, Rob van Dusen, Shenghua Yue, Sheng Zha, Shuai Zheng. The Journal of Financial Data Science, 2021.

Fooling LIME and SHAP: Adversarial Attacks on Post hoc Explanation Methods. Dylan Slack\*, Sophie Hilgard\*, Emiliy Jia, Sameer Singh, and Himabindu Lakkaraju. AAAI/ACM Conference on Artificial Intelligence, Ethics, and Society (AIES), 2020.

Fairness Warnings and Fair-MAML: Learning Fairly with Minimal Data. Dylan Slack, Sorelle Friedler, and Emile Givental. ACM Conference on Fairness, Accountability and Transparency (FAccT), 2020.

Workshop

Rethinking Explainability as a Dialogue: A Practitioner's Perspective. Himabindu Lakkaraju\*, Dylan Slack\*, Yuxin Chen, Chenhao Tan, and Sameer Singh, NeurIPS HCAI Workshop, 2022.

SAFER: Data-Efficient and Safe Reinforcement Learning via Skill Acquisition. Dylan Slack, Yinlam Chow, Bo Dai, and Nevan Wichers, ICML DARL Workshop, 2022.

Defuse: Training More Robust Models through Creation and Correction of Novel Model Errors. Dylan Slack, Nathalie Rauschmayr, Krishnaram Kenthapadi. NeurIPS XAI 4 Debugging Workshop 2021.

Feature Attributions and Counterfactual Explanations Can Be Manipulated. Dylan Slack, Sophie Hilgard, Sameer Singh, and Himabindu Lakkaraju. ICML Workshop on Theoretic Foundation, Criticism, and Application Trend of Explainable AI, 2021.

Differentially Private Language Models Benefit from Public Pre-training. Gavin Kerrigan\*, **Dylan Slack**\*, and Jens Tuyls\*. EMNLP PrivNLP Workshop, 2020.

Assessing the Local Interpretability of Machine Learning Models. **Dylan Slack**, Sorelle A. Friedler, Carlos Scheidegger, and Chitradeep Dutta Roy. NeurIPS Workshop on Human-Centric Machine Learning, 2019.

Technical Reports A Holistic Approach For Test and Evaluation of Large Language Models. Dylan Slack\*, Jean Wang\*, Denis Semenenko\*, Kate Park, Daniel Berrios, Sean Hendryx. 2023.

## Presentations

## Invited Talks & Presentations

- Stanford MedAI, 2022. Exposing Shortcomings and Improving the Reliability of Machine Learning Explanations
- Imperial College, 2022. Exposing Shortcomings and Improving the Reliability of Machine Learning Explanations
- Meta, 2022. Exposing Shortcomings and Improving the Reliability of Machine Learning Explanations

- UCI CML, 2022. Exposing Shortcomings and Improving the Reliability of Machine Learning Explanations
- Harvard University, 2021. Reliable Post Hoc Explanations
- Aggregate Intellect, 2021. Fooling LIME and SHAP: Adversarial Attacks on Post hoc Explanation Methods

## **Patents**

Automatic Failure Diagnosis and Correction in Machine Learning Models Nathalie Rauschmayr, Krishnaram Kenthapadi, and Dylan Slack Patent Application Filed

# Academic Service Community

• KDD Deep Learning Day, Organizer, 2021.

## Program Committee Member

• NeurIPS (2019, 2020, 2021, 2022), FAccT (2021), ICLR (2021), ICML (2020), AAAI (2020, 2021), KDD (2019).