

# DERYA D. AKBABA

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♦ gotdairyya.github.io

Updated: May 2020  
University of Utah  
SCI Institute  
Salt Lake City, UT

08/2019 - present    **UNIVERSITY OF UTAH**    **SALT LAKE CITY, UT**  
Expected Degree: PhD Computing  
Advisor: Miriah Meyer  
Research Interest: Critical Visualization Design, Data Visualization for Society

Graduated    **CORNELL UNIVERSITY**    **ITHACA, NY**  
05/2013    BS Industrial and Labor Relations  
Minors: Cognitive Science, Economics

## {INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE}

10/2013 - 6/2019    **LOCUS ANALYTICS: home.locus**    **NEW YORK, NY**  
Locus is pioneering an information system for economic data based on functional locations.

02/2017 - 6/2019    Research & Development -- DIRECTOR  
*Set vision and direction for Locus product; focus on developing collaborative team building.*

- \* Worked with team of senior managers and CEO to set 3 to 5 year company objectives
- \* Researched & developed new paths of use for information system technology
- \* Set goals, monitored progress, and managed team of 12 analysts and developers
- \* Expanded 11 new projects across countries, academics, and private companies

08/2016 - 6/2019    Product & Design -- CREATIVE DIRECTOR  
*Defines the abstract visual language that parallels R&D work.*

- \* Created data visualizations
- \* Managed product development by setting objectives, reviewing copy, leading team through prototyping
- \* Built data visualization literacy curriculum

06/2015 - 6/2019    Summer Internship -- EDUCATOR + CURRICULUM DEVELOPER  
*Develops curriculum and teaches college interns, business partners, and high school students.*

06/2018    Trained summer intern class of 13  
05/2017    Led 2-day workshop for 30 business owners in Cameroon  
06/2016 - 8/2016    Partnered with community school in Harlem/Bronx  
06/2015    Redesigned curriculum to incorporate constructivist learning methods

3/2018 - 12/2018    **WEDWELL: bewedwell.com**    **NEW YORK, NY**  
wedwell is a women run startup focused on connecting holistic wellness providers with a larger audience.

7/2018 - 12/2018    Design & Development -- CTO  
*Developed technology roadmap for product development.*

## {PROJECTS + INTERESTS}

### Volunteering & Accomplishments

06/11 -13/2020    Participant in ComSciCon flagship workshop {<https://comscicon.com/>}  
08/2019 - 1/2020    Department Fellowship, U of Utah fellowship covering first year costs + tuition waiver  
02/2018 - 1/2019    NYC Make-a-Thon Site Leader (Make a Mark): organizing NYC Make-a-Thon event in 2019  
01/20/2018    Created Design Equity campaign in a 12-hr design-a-thon {[design equity campaign](#)}  
06/2017 - 9/2017    Biked across America, built affordable homes, raised over \$5k {[bikeandbuild.org](#)}  
12/2015 - 8/2016    Non-Resident Coordinator for Back on My Feet - Team Brooklyn {[nyc.backonmyfeet.org](#)}  
09/2011 - 5/2012    Art Beyond Cornell: taught art lessons to incarcerated girls {[orgsync.rso.cornell.edu/org/artbeyondcornell](#)}  
2010    Writing Excellence Award, published in *UMass Amherst Writing Anthology 2011-2012*, "Consider the Wallace"  
03/2010 - 3/2010    UMass Alliance for Community Development, Exmore, VA: spring break focused on social justice work

{UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH}

01/2013 - 5/2013	Cornell University -- POLICY ANALYSIS AND MANAGEMENT LAB NY <i>Determining whether physician group practices have market power.</i>	ITHACA,
01/2012 - 5/2012	Cornell University -- SCHEINMAN INSTITUTE ON CONFLICT RESOLUTION <i>Analyzing the alternative dispute resolution tactics in businesses and schools.</i>	ITHACA, NY
9/2011 - 12/2011	Cornell University -- COGNITIVE SCIENCE LAB <i>Conducted experiments to test theory of pattern and rule recognition amongst participants.</i>	ITHACA, NY
06/2011 - 7/2011	Cornell University -- HIGH ROAD FELLOWSHIP <i>8-week service learning fellowship focused on social justice through community action.</i>	BUFFALO, NY