Keyon Vafa

Research

Columbia University keyon.vafa@columbia.edu
Department of Statistics keyonvafa.github.io
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Interests	Machine Learning, Data Science, Approximate Bayesian Inference	
Education	Columbia University Ph.D. Statistics Advisor: David Blei	2016 -
	Harvard University B.A. (honors) Computer Science and Statistics	2012 - 2016
Awards and Fellowships	National Science Foundation, Graduate Research Fellow (\$34,000/year) Columbia University Dean's Fellow (full graduate funding) Graduated from Harvard magna cum laude Elected to Phi Beta Kappa Society Awarded high honors for undergraduate thesis Bok Center Certificate of Distinction in Teaching John Harvard Scholar (grade point average in top 5% of class)	2016 - 2019 2016 - 2016 2016 2016 2016 2015 2013 - 2015

Training and Inference for Deep Gaussian Processes

Proposed the Deep Gaussian Process Sampling algorithm, an approximate inference method for deep Gaussian Processes (a regression model that combines Gaussian processes with deep architectures) as part of undergraduate thesis.

Price Discrimination in The Princeton Review's Online SAT Tutor- 2015 ing Service

2016

Advisor: Latanya Sweeney

Advisor: Alexander Rush

Uncovered evidence of geographic-based price discrimination for Princeton Review's online tutoring service. Published in Journal of Technology Science, presented to Federal Trade Commission in Washington D.C., and featured in Propublica and on the Today Show on NBC.

	Predicting Restaurant Hygiene with Yelp Advisor: Michael Luca	2014 - 2015
	Explored using Supoort Vector Machines and Supervised LDA as methods to predict health inspection scores for restaurants in San Francisco using the text of Yelp reviews.	
Work Experience	Data Science Intern, Facebook Queried data with Apache Hive and Presto to model Facebook traveling patterns, city categorizations, and tourist engagement levels.	2015
	Software Engineering Intern, Facebook As member of Data Science Infrastructure team, created dashboards with relevant statistics for data scientists and implemented historical experiment repository.	2014
Teaching	Department of Computer Science, Harvard University Teaching Fellow, CS 281: Advanced Machine Learning (graduate level) Professor: Finale Doshi-Velez	2015
	Teaching Fellow, CS 181: Introduction to Machine Learning Professor: Ryan Adams	2014
Languages and Skills	Python, R, Stan, SQL, Java, PHP English (native), French (advanced), Farsi (proficient) Long distance running (finished 2016 Boston Marathon)	