## **Keyon Vafa**

Columbia University

New York, NY

Department of Statistics

Interests Machine learning, approximate Bayesian inference, causal inference, deep learning Education **Columbia University** 2016 -Ph.D. Computer Science Advisor: David Blei **Harvard University** 2012 - 2016 B.A. (honors) Computer Science and Statistics Awards and National Science Foundation, Graduate Research Fellow (\$34,000/year) 2016 - 2019 **Fellowships** Columbia University Dean's Fellow (full graduate funding) 2016 -Graduated from Harvard magna cum laude 2016 Elected to Phi Beta Kappa Society 2016 Awarded high honors for undergraduate thesis 2016 Bok Center Certificate of Distinction in Teaching 2015 John Harvard Scholar (grade point average in top 5% of class) 2013 - 2015 Work Research Intern, Facebook Artificial Intelligence Research 2017 Experience Data Science Intern (Places Team), Facebook 2015 Software Engineer Intern (Data Science Infrastructure), Facebook 2014 Research 2017 -Deep neural networks for estimation of heterogeneous causal effects Experience Joint work with Alexander Peysakhovich and Dean Eckles We're employing deep neural networks to estimate heterogeneous causal effects in instrumental variable models. Presented at Conference on Digital Experimentation at MIT. Working paper. Training and inference for deep Gaussian processes 2016 Supervised by Alexander Rush Proposed stochastic optimization inference method for deep Gaussian Processes (a regression model that combines Gaussian processes with deep architectures) for undergraduate thesis. Presented as workshop paper at NIPS.

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	Price discrimination in the Princeton Review's online SAT tutoring service Supervised by Latanya Sweeney	2015
	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.	
Selected Papers	D. Eckles, A. Peysakhovich, and <b>K. Vafa</b> . Deep neural networks for interpretable instrumental variable-based estimation of heterogeneous causal effects. <i>Conference on Digital Experimentation</i> , MIT.	2017
	<b>K. Vafa</b> . Training Deep Gaussian Processes with Sampling, Advances in Approximate Bayesian Inference Workshop, NIPS.	2016
Conference Reviewing	International Conference on Machine Learning Neural Information Processing Systems Advances in Approximate Bayesian Inference Workshop (NIPS) International Conference on Learning Representations	2017 2017 2017 2017
Teaching Experience	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	2015
Languages and Skills	Python (+ PyTorch and TensorFlow), R (+ Stan), SQL, Java, PHP, Go English (native), French (advanced), Farsi (proficient) Long distance running (ran 2016 Boston Marathon)	