

Keyon Vafa

Columbia University
Department of Computer Science
New York, NY

keyon.vafa@columbia.edu
www.keyonvafa.com

Interests	Machine Learning, Deep Generative Models, Computational Social Science, NLP	
Education	Columbia University Ph.D. Computer Science Advisor: David Blei	2017 -
	Columbia University M.S. Computer Science	2016 - 2018
	Harvard University B.A. Computer Science and Statistics, <i>magna cum laude</i>	2012 - 2016
Awards and Fellowships	Columbia University Nominee for Google PhD Fellowship	2019
	National Science Foundation, Graduate Research Fellow (\$34,000/year)	2016 - 2019
	Columbia University Dean's Fellow (full graduate funding)	2016 -
	Elected to Phi Beta Kappa Society	2016
	Bok Center Certificate of Distinction in Teaching	2015
Work Experience	John Harvard Scholar (grade point average in top 5% of class)	2013 - 2015
	Software Engineer Intern, Google Brain	2018 - 2019
	Research Intern, Facebook Artificial Intelligence Research	2017
	Data Science Intern (Places Team), Facebook	2015
	Software Engineer Intern (Data Science Infrastructure), Facebook	2014
Selected Papers	K. Vafa , S. Naidu, D. Blei. Text-based ideal points . <i>Proceedings of ACL</i> .	2020
	D. Tran, K. Vafa , K. Agrawal, L. Dinh, B. Poole. Discrete flows: Invertible generative models of discrete data . <i>Proceedings of NeurIPS</i> .	2019
	D. Eckles, A. Peysakhovich, K. Vafa . Deep neural networks for interpretable instrumental variable-based estimation of heterogeneous causal effects. <i>Conference on Digital Experimentation</i> , MIT.	2017
	K. Vafa . Training deep Gaussian processes with sampling . <i>Advances in Approximate Bayesian Inference Workshop at NeurIPS</i> .	2016

	K. Vafa , C. Haigh, A. Leung, N. Yonack. Price discrimination in the Princeton Review's online SAT tutoring service . <i>Journal of Technology Science</i> . 2015	
Selected Talks	Test-Based Ideal Points (invited talk), Milstein Program Summer Speaker Series . Cornell Tech. 2020	
	Discrete Flows and Text-Based Ideal Points (guest lecture), Machine Learning with Probabilistic Programming , Columbia University. 2019	
	Text-Based Ideal Points, Text as Data Conference , Stanford University. 2019	
	Text-Based Ideal Points, <i>Caselaw Access Project Research Summit</i> , Harvard Law School. 2019	
Teaching Experience	Department of Computer Science, Columbia University Teaching Assistant, Foundations of Graphical Models (graduate level) Professor: David Blei 2018	
	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	
Conference Reviewing	International Conference on Machine Learning 2017 - 2020	
	Neural Information Processing Systems 2017 - 2019	
	Advances in Approximate Bayesian Inference 2017 - 2019	
	International Conference on Learning Representations 2017 - 2019	
Press	Harvard Law Today blog post : Text-Based Ideal Points ProPublica article : Princeton Review Price Discrimination Today Show segment : Princeton Review Price Discrimination	
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)	