Keyon Vafa

Columbia University
Department of Statistics
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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)	2016 - 2019
	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

Research Experience		
	Training and Inference for Deep Gaussian Processes Supervised by Alexander Rush	2016
	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 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 on NBC.	

	Predicting Restaurant Hygiene with Yelp	2014 - 2015

Supervised by Michael Luca

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   2015

Queried data with Apache Hive and Presto to model Facebook traveling patterns, city categorizations, and tourist engagement levels.

Software Engineering Intern, Facebook   2014

As member of Data Science Infrastructure team, created dashboards with relevant statistics for data scientists and implemented historical experiment repository.

Teaching Experience

Department of Computer Science, Harvard University

Teaching Fellow, CS 281: Advanced Machine Learning (graduate level)   2015
Professor: Finale Doshi-Velez

Teaching Fellow, CS 181: Introduction to Machine Learning   2015
Professor: Ryan Adams

Selected Posters

Training Deep Gaussian Processes with Sampling, *NIPS Advances*   2016
in Approximate Bayesian Inference Workshop, Barcelona, Spain.

Languages and Skills

Python, R, Stan, SQL, Java, PHP
English (native), French (advanced), Farsi (proficient)
Long distance running (ran 2016 Boston Marathon)