

Will Wei Sun

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Professional Appointments	Assistant Professor, Dept. of Management Science, University of Miami, <i>Aug. 2016-</i> Research Scientist, Advertising Science Team, Yahoo Labs, <i>Jun. 2015 - Aug. 2016</i>
Education	Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN, USA Ph.D. in Statistics, <i>Aug. 2011 - May 2015</i> M.S. in Statistics and Computer Science, <i>Aug. 2012 - May 2014</i> Princeton University, Princeton, NJ, USA Visiting Student of Prof. Han Liu, <i>Sep. 2014 - May 2015</i> University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago, IL, USA M.S. in Statistics, <i>Aug. 2009 - May 2011</i> Nankai University, Tianjin, China B.S. in Statistics, <i>Sep. 2005 - Jul. 2009</i>
Research Interests	Machine Learning and Big Data: tensor methods; deep learning; non-convex optimization; heterogenous data analysis; classification stability Applications: online advertising; recommendation systems; brain image analysis
Journal Publications	9. Botao Hao, Will Wei Sun , Yufeng Liu, and Guang Cheng (2018), “Simultaneous Clustering and Estimation of Heterogeneous Graphical Models”, <i>Journal of Machine Learning Research</i> , To Appear. 8. Will Wei Sun and Lexin Li (2017), “STORE: Sparse Tensor Response Regression and Neuroimaging Analysis”, <i>Journal of Machine Learning Research</i> , To Appear. 7. Will Wei Sun , Guang Cheng, and Yufeng Liu (2017), “Stability-Enhanced Large-Margin Classifier Selection”, <i>Statistica Sinica</i> , To Appear. 6. Binhuan Wang, Yilong Zhang, Will Wei Sun , and Yixin Fang (2017), “Sparse Convex Clustering”, <i>Journal of Computational and Graphical Statistics</i> , To Appear. 5. Will Wei Sun , Junwei Lu, Han Liu, and Guang Cheng (2017), “Provable Sparse Tensor Decomposition”, <i>Journal of the Royal Statistical Society: Series B</i> , 79, 899-916. 4. Will Wei Sun , Xinye Qiao, and Guang Cheng (2016), “Stabilized Nearest Neighbor Classifier and Its Statistical Properties”, <i>Journal of the American Statistical Association</i> , 111, 1254-1265. 3. Wei Sun , Junhui Wang, and Yixin Fang (2013), “Consistent Selection of Tuning Parameters via Variable Selection Stability”, <i>Journal of Machine Learning Research</i> , 13, 3419-3440. 2. Wei Sun , Junhui Wang, and Yixin Fang (2012), “Regularized K-means Clustering of High-dimensional Data and Its Asymptotic Consistency”, <i>Electronic Journal of Statistics</i> , 6, 148-167. 1. Hongmei Liu, Jay Parker, and Wei Sun (2011), “Estimating Rates at Which Books Are Mis-shelved”, <i>Chance</i> , 1, 36-43.

Refereed Conference Publications

4. **Wei Sun**, Zhaoran Wang, Han Liu, and Guang Cheng, “Non-convex Statistical Optimization for Sparse Tensor Graphical Model”, *Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems (NIPS 2015)*. [**Full paper**, 22% **acceptance**]
3. **Wei Sun**, Pengyuan Wang, Dawei Yin, Jian Yang, and Yi Chang (2015), “Causal Inference via Sparse Additive Models with Application to Online Advertising”, *National Conference of the American Association for Artificial Intelligence (AAAI 2015)*. [**Full paper**, 26% **acceptance**]
2. Pengyuan Wang, **Wei Sun**, Dawei Yin, Jian Yang, and Yi Chang (2015), “Robust Tree-based Causal Inference for Complex Ad Effectiveness Analysis”, *ACM International Conference on Web Search and Data Mining (WSDM 2015)*. [**Full paper**, 16% **acceptance**]
1. Pengyuan Wang, **Wei Sun**, Dawei Yin (2015), “What Size Should A Mobile Ad Be”, *International World Wide Web Conference (WWW 2015)*, *Workshop on Offline and Online Evaluation of Web-based Services*.

Submitted Manuscripts

3. **Will Wei Sun** and Lexin Li (2017), “Dynamic Tensor Clustering”, *Journal of the American Statistical Association*, Major revision invited.
2. Xiang Lv, **Will Wei Sun**, Zhaoran Wang, Han Liu, Jian Yang, and Guang Cheng (2017), “Sparse Tensor Graphical Model: Non-convex Optimization and Statistical Inference”, *IEEE Transactions on Pattern Analysis and Machine Intelligence*, Under first round review.
1. Pengyuan Wang, Guiyang Xiong, **Will Wei Sun**, and Jian Yang (2017), “Effect of Complex Multimedia Advertising Campaigns: A Causal Inference Model for Big Data”, *Marketing Science*, Under first round review.

Grants

2017 ~ 2018, “Large Scale Advertisement Clustering via Spectral Decomposition”, University of Miami, Provost’s Research Award, \$17,000, Sole PI: Will Wei Sun

Teaching

MAS 311, Probability and Statistics, University of Miami, *Spring 2017*
 • Overall evaluation scores: 4.3/5, 4.8/5.

Honors

University of Miami Provost Award *2017*
 Institute of Mathematical Statistics Travel Award *2013, 2015*
 I.W. Burr Award, Department of Statistics, Purdue University *2015*
 Lynn Fellowship, Purdue University *2011 - 2015*
 Travel Award, LDHD Workshop, SAMSI, NC *2013*
 Travel Award, Massive Datasets Workshop, SAMSI, NC *2012*
 Travel Award, High-Dimensional Data Workshop, Yale University *2012*
 Travel Award, Doctor Forum, SIAM in Data Mining, Arizona *2011*

Presentations

Invited Conference Talks

- CMStatistics, London, UK, *Dec., 2017*
- Joint Statistical Meetings, Baltimore, MD, *Aug., 2017*
- Applied Statistics Symposium, ICSA, Chicago, IL, *Jun., 2017*
- International Conference on Econometrics and Statistics, Hongkong, *Jun., 2017*
- Conference on Statistical Learning and Data Science, NC, *Jun., 2016*
- Applied Statistics Symposium, ICSA, Atlanta, GA, *Jun., 2016*

Invited Seminar Talks

- Dept. of Mathematical Sciences, New Jersey Institute of Technology, *Sep., 2017*
- Dept. of Statistics, University of Wisconsin-Madison, *Sep., 2017*
- Guanghua School of Management, Peking University, China, *Jun., 2017*
- The Institute of Statistics, Nankai University, China, *Jun., 2017*
- School of Finance and Statistics, East University Normal University, *Jun., 2017*
- Dept. of Biostatistics, University of Miami, *Apr., 2017*
- Dept. of Statistics, Florida State University, *Apr., 2016*
- Dept. of Statistics, North Carolina State University, *Feb., 2016*
- Krannert School of Management, Purdue University, *Jan., 2016*
- Dept. of Management Science, University of Miami, *Dec., 2015*
- Dept. of Math & Stat., University of Massachusetts Amherst, *Dec., 2015*
- Division of Biostatistics, New York University, *Mar., 2015*
- Machine Learning Seminar, Binghamton University, *Sep., 2014*
- Yahoo Labs, Sunnyvale, CA, *Aug., 2014*
- Mathematical Statistics Seminar, Purdue University, *Sep., 2014*
- Dept. of MSCS, University of Illinois at Chicago, *Feb., 2011*

Industrial Experience

Yahoo Labs, Sunnyvale, CA

Research Scientist

Jun. 2015 - Aug. 2016

- Worked on personalized advertising based on web-scale data via Hadoop and Pig.
- Developed time series forecasting for Yahoo's traffic via ensemble machine learning.
- Proposed a new budget pacing algorithm in real time bidding system to improve advertisers' return on investment (ROI).

Yahoo Labs, Sunnyvale, CA

Research Scientist Intern

Jun. 2014 - Aug. 2014

- Proposed an efficient and robust tree-based causal inference framework for assessing the impact of complex advertising treatments from millions of users.
- Developed a sparse additive model equipped with Gaussian copula to model multi-variate non-gaussian advertising treatments.

Patents

"Systems and Methods for Measuring Complex Online Strategy Effectiveness", United States Patent Application 20160189202, Yahoo! Inc., December, 2014.

Software

1. **pass**, R package for prediction and stability selection of tuning parameters
2. **snn**, R package for stabilized nearest neighbor classifier
3. **Tlasso**, R package for non-convex optimization and statistical inference for sparse tensor graphical models

Professional Service

University Committee and Administrative Responsibilities:

- Faculty Hiring Committee, University of Miami, 2017.
- Departmental Seminar Organizer, University of Miami, 2016, 2017.
- PhD Student Recruitment, University of Miami, 2016, 2017.

Conference Invited Session Organizer/Chair:

- Joint Statistical Meetings, Vancouver, Canada, July, 2018
- IMS-APRM, Singapore, June, 2018
- CMStatistics, University of London, UK, December, 2017

Grant Referee:

- NSA-AMS Grant Program, 2015

Journal Referee:

- Annals of Statistics
- Journal of the American Statistical Association
- Journal of the Royal Statistical Society: Series B
- Journal of Machine Learning Research
- Annals of Applied Statistics
- Electronic Journal of Statistics
- Statistica Sinica
- Journal of Statistical Planning and Inference
- Journal of Multivariate Analysis
- Computational Statistics
- Statistical Analysis and Data Mining
- Statistics
- Journal of Statistical Computation and Simulation
- Mathematical Reviews

Conference Referee:

- ICML 2018
- ICLR 2018
- AISTAT 2015, 2018
- NIPS 2016, 2017
- WWW 2016
- CIKM 2016 Industrial Track

Memberships:

- Institute of Mathematical Statistics (IMS)
- American Statistical Association (ASA)