

# Nick Kunz

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## Education

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- Cornell University** — Ithaca, NY 2026  
Ph.D., Systems Engineering  
*Advisor: H. Oliver Gao*
- Columbia University** — New York, NY 2019  
M.S., Urban Planning, Urban Analytics  
*Advisors: Lance Freeman, Kazuki Sakamoto*
- Harvard University** — Cambridge, MA 2012  
Urban Planning  
*Advisor: Nick Hornig*
- Arizona State University** — Tempe, AZ 2012  
B.S. (Hons.), *summa cum laude*, Housing & Urban Development  
*Advisors: Kevin Kellogg, Michael Underhill, Trevor Barger*

## Research

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### Publications

- N. Kunz, H. O. Gao, “Generative Street Networks from Graph Embedding Synthesis” *In Preparation*. 2024.
- N. Kunz, H. O. Gao, “Global Geolocated Realtime Data of Interfleet Urban Transit Bus Idling” *Under Review*. 2024.
- W. Wu, N. Kunz, P. Branco, “Imbalanced Learning Regression” in *Machine Learning and Knowledge Discovery in Databases: European Conference, ECML PKDD, September 19–23, 2022, Grenoble, France*, Proceedings, Part VI, Lecture Notes in Computer Science, vol 13718. Springer, pp. 645–648, 2023. [\[Link\]](#)

### Industry

- N. Kunz, “n-Dimensional Mapping by Normalized Value Approximation: Squad Immersive Virtual Trainer (SiVT) Safety Performance Metrics,” Integrated Visual Augmentation System (IVAS), Microsoft, Redmond, WA, 2021. Protected from public disclosure pursuant to: Trade Secrets Act 18 USC § 1905, 5 USC § 552(b)(4), and C3.2.1.4. of US Dept. of Defense Regulation 5400.7-R. DISTRIBUTION F.
- N. Kunz, “Normalized n-Dimensional Inverse Euclidean Distance: Combining Independent Performance Metrics,” Integrated Visual Augmentation System (IVAS), Microsoft, Redmond, WA, 2021. Protected from public disclosure pursuant to: Trade Secrets Act 18 USC § 1905, 5 USC § 552(b)(4), and C3.2.1.4. of US Dept. of Defense Regulation 5400.7-R. DISTRIBUTION F.
- N. Kunz, “An Exploratory Data Analysis of the Gavin Cup: Brining Readiness & Performance Metrics Into Focus,” Integrated Visual Augmentation System (IVAS), Microsoft, Redmond, WA, 2020. Protected from public disclosure pursuant to: Trade Secrets Act 18 USC § 1905, 5 USC § 552(b)(4), and C3.2.1.4. of US Dept. of Defense Regulation 5400.7-R. DISTRIBUTION F.

### Theses

- N. Kunz, “Unsupervised Learning for Submarket Modeling: A Proxy for Neighborhood Change,” M.S. Thesis, Grad. Sch. of Arch., Plan., and Pres. (GSAPP), Columbia Univ., New York, NY, 2019. [Online]. Available: Columbia Academic Commons. [\[Link\]](#)
- N. Kunz, “Realizing Interactive Architecture: A Driver of the Knowledge Economy,” B.S. (Hons.) Thesis, Barrett, The Hons. Col., Arizona State Univ., Tempe, AZ, 2012. [Online]. Available: Barrett, The Honors College Thesis/Creative Project Collection. [\[Link\]](#)

## Industry Experience

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<b>Deloitte</b> — Seattle, WA Senior Data Scientist	2021 - 2024
<b>Microsoft</b> — Redmond, WA Data Scientist	2020 - 2021
<b>Pacific Prospecting Group</b> — Seattle, WA Data Scientist	2017 - 2019
<b>Brawner &amp; Company</b> — Snoqualmie, WA Development Analyst	2016 - 2017
<b>bcWORKSHOP</b> — Dallas, TX Fellow	2013 - 2014

## Software Packages

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**GRD-TRT-BUF-4I: Ground Truth Buffer for Idling** 2023  
 [Github](#) [ [Link](#) ]  [arXiv](#) [ [Link](#) ]  [Website](#) [ [Link](#) ]


A novel algorithm designed as a series of scalable microservices that detects urban transit bus idling in realtime on global scale. Utilizes a combination of templated ETL pipelines to provide a comprehensive view of the emergent behavior of interfleet idling patterns across multiple transit networks around the world.

**SMOGN: Synthetic Minority Over-Sampling Technique for Regression with Gaussian Noise** 2021  
 [Github](#) [ [Link](#) ]  [PyPI](#) [ [Link](#) ]  [Kaggle](#) [ [Link](#) ]  [Stack Exchange](#) [ [Link](#) ]



A pre-processing algorithm designed to address imbalanced data for regression problems. Conducts over-sampling with traditional interpolation, as well as with the introduction of Gaussian noise. Selects between the two over-sampling techniques by the KNN distances underlying a given observation.

**NestedHyperBoost: Nested Cross-Validation for Bayesian Optimized Gradient Boosting** 2020  
 [Github](#) [ [Link](#) ]  [PyPI](#) [ [Link](#) ]

Unifies Nested K-Fold Cross-Validation, Bayesian Hyperparameter Optimization, and Gradient Boosting. Designed for rapid prototyping on small to mid-sized data sets. Quickly obtains high quality prediction results by abstracting away tedious hyperparameter tuning and implementation details in favor of usability and implementation speed.

**NestedHyperLine: Nested Cross-Validation for Bayesian Optimized Linear Regularization** 2020  
 [Github](#) [ [Link](#) ]  [PyPI](#) [ [Link](#) ]

Unifies Nested K-Fold Cross-Validation, Bayesian Hyperparameter Optimization, and Linear Regularization. Designed for rapid prototyping on small to mid-sized data sets. Quickly obtains high quality prediction results by abstracting away tedious hyperparameter tuning and implementation details in favor of usability and implementation speed.

**CRASSMAT: Conditional Random Sampling Sparse Matrices** 2019  
 [Github](#) [ [Link](#) ]  [CRAN](#) [ [Link](#) ]

A novel matrix sampling algorithm designed to conditionally random sample sparse matrices. Useful for training and test set splitting prior to model fitting in cross-validation procedures and for estimating the predictive accuracy of imputation methods, such as NNMF and SVD.

## Selected Projects

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**N. Kunz**, S. Huang, S. Osakata, “Cloudy Night: Activating Park Space by Illuminated Interactivity,” Grad. Sch. of Arch., Plan., and Pres. (GSAPP), Columbia Univ., New York, NY, 2019. [Online]. Available:

 [GSAPP](#) [ [Link](#) ]  [Github](#) [ [Link](#) ]  [YouTube](#) [ [Link](#) ]  [Faculty](#) [ [Link](#) ]

**N. Kunz** and S. Bhele, “Signal or Noise? Qualified Opportunity Zone Affect on Development Activity in Queens,” Grad. Sch. of Arch., Plan., and Pres. (GSAPP), Columbia Univ., New York, NY, 2019. [Online]. Available:

 [GSAPP](#) [ [Link](#) ]  [Github](#) [ [Link](#) ]  [Issuu](#) [ [Link](#) ]  [Faculty](#) [ [Link](#) ]

E. Hudgins and **N. Kunz**, “Planning for Extreme Settlements, McMurdo Station, Antarctica,” Grad. Sch. of Arch., Plan., and Pres. (GSAPP), Columbia Univ., New York, NY, 2018. [Online]. Available:

 GSAPP [ [Link](#) ]  Issuu [ [Link](#) ]

J. Karasik, S. Lee, **N. Kunz**, *et. al.* “Negotiating Fragments (Restructuring Quarto Workshop),” Genoa, Italy, Grad. Sch. of Arch., Plan., and Pres. (GSAPP), Columbia Univ., New York, NY, 2018. [Online]. Available:

 GSAPP [ [Link](#) ]  YouTube [ [Link](#) ]  Issuu [ [Link](#) ]  Issuu [ [Link](#) ]  Press [ [Link](#) ]


N. Kunz, “Proportionalities: A Decade of Housing Markets to Subway Stations in Manhattan from 2006 to 2016,” Grad. Sch. of Arch., Plan., and Pres. (GSAPP), Columbia Univ., New York, NY, 2017. [Online]. Available:

 GSAPP [ [Link](#) ]  GSAPP [ [Link](#) ]  Issuu [ [Link](#) ]  Faculty [ [Link](#) ]

G. S. Coch, S. Nelsen, **N. Kunz**, K. Warner, “Seeking Refuge: The Geography of Migrant Deaths Along the US-MX Border,” Grad. Sch. of Arch., Plan., and Pres. (GSAPP), Columbia Univ., New York, NY, 2017. [Online]. Available:

 GSAPP [ [Link](#) ]  Medium [ [Link](#) ]


N. Kunz, “Health & Wellness Alliance for Children: Children’s Asthma, Healthy Physical Environments,” Dallas County, Texas, bcWORKSHOP, Dallas, TX, 2014. [Online]. Available:

 Issuu [ [Link](#) ]


N. Kunz, “The Bexar Street Corridor: A Century in Development,” Dallas, Texas, bcWORKSHOP, Dallas, TX, 2013. [Online]. Available:

 Issuu [ [Link](#) ]  Issuu [ [Link](#) ]  bc [ [Link](#) ]  Vimeo [ [Link](#) ]


N. Kunz, “Fenway-Kenmore Square: Comprehensive Planning & Finance,” Cambridge, Massachusetts, Grad. Sch. of Design (GSD), Harvard Univ., Cambridge, MA, 2012. [Online]. Available:

 Issuu [ [Link](#) ]


N. Kunz, “Danelle Plaza: Complete Street Mobility Planning,” Tempe, Arizona, Herberger Inst. for Des. and the Art., Arizona State Univ., Tempe, AZ, 2012. [Online]. Available:

 Issuu [ [Link](#) ]

N. Kunz, “Ascension: Multifamily Mixed-Use Real Estate Development Proposal,” Tempe, Arizona, n Creative Studios, Phoenix, AZ, 2012. [Online]. Available:

 Issuu [ [Link](#) ]

N. Kunz, “Sui Residence: Second Story Architectural Design,” Paradise Valley, Arizona, n Creative Studios, Phoenix, AZ, 2011. [Online]. Available:

 Issuu [ [Link](#) ]

## Honors & Awards

<b>Graduate Engineering Fellowship</b> , Cornell University — Ithaca, NY	2023 - 2026
<b>Systems Engineering Fellowship</b> , Cornell University — Ithaca, NY	2022 - 2023
<b>Top 20 Analytics Libraries</b> , Github20k — San Francisco, CA	2023
<b>AVID Applause Award</b> , Deloitte Consulting — Seattle, WA	2022
<b>Distinguished Alumni Award</b> , Arizona State University — Tempe, AZ	2016
<b>Eli Segal AmeriCorps Education Award</b> , AmeriCorps — Dallas, TX	2014
<b>Dingwall Foundation Scholarship</b> , William Orr Dingwall Foundation — Washington, DC	2011 - 2012
<b>Barrett, The Honors College Scholarship</b> , Arizona State University — Tempe, AZ	2010 - 2012
<b>AIERF Undergraduate Scholarship</b> , Appraisal Institute — Chicago, IL	2010 - 2011
<b>Herberger Institute for Design &amp; the Arts Scholarship</b> , Arizona State University — Tempe, AZ	2010
<b>Study.net Foundation Scholarship</b> , Study.net — Fort Lauderdale, FL	2010
<b>Dean’s List (4.00/4.00 GPA)</b> , Arizona State University — Tempe, AZ	2009 - 2012

## Mentorship Activities

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<b>Albert Rosario-Pichardo</b> , M.S., Urban Analytics, Columbia University — New York, NY GIS Analyst Intern, New York City Economic Development Corporation <i>Academic and professional development in early career public service.</i>	2023 - Present
<b>Albert Ruiz Martinez</b> , B.S., Computer Science, Arizona State University — Tempe, AZ Analyst, Deloitte Consulting <i>Professional development and management in early career consulting.</i>	2023 - 2024
<b>Julia VanPutte</b> , B.S., Operations Research, Cornell University — Ithaca, NY Business Intelligence Engineer Intern, Amazon <i>Academic and professional development from undergraduate school to industry.</i>	2022 - 2024
<b>Chawner Hurd</b> , M.B.A., Business, Columbia University — New York, NY Associate Intern, Visa <i>Military transition from US Army, 5th Special Forces Group to graduate school and industry.</i>	2020 - 2023
<b>Michael Bollinger</b> , B.A., Computer Science, Columbia University — New York, NY Software Engineer Intern, Amazon <i>Military transition from US Army, 75th Ranger Regiment to undergraduate school and industry.</i>	2019 - 2023
<b>Daniel Hinline</b> , B.A., Political Science, Columbia University — New York, NY Associate Intern, Guggenheim Partners <i>Military transition from US Army, 82nd Airborne Division to undergraduate school and industry.</i>	2018 - 2023

## Talks, Exhibits & Presentations

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<b>Ground Truth Buffer for Idling</b> , 3-Minutes of Madness, Cornell University — Ithaca, NY	2024
<b>Global Geolocated Realtime Data</b> , Flash Talks, Cornell University — Ithaca, NY	2023
<b>Emerging Technology Workshop</b> , Countryside Angels Talks, Ag Ventures Alliance — Mason City, IA	2021
<b>Urban Planners in Technology</b> , Alumni Panel, Columbia University — New York, NY	2021
<b>Cloudy Night</b> , Urban Planning Showcase, Columbia University — New York, NY	2019
<b>The Bexar Street Corridor</b> , US Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson's Office — Dallas, TX	2014
<b>The Bexar Street Corridor</b> , bcSHOPFRONT Series, bcWORKSHOP — Dallas, TX	2013
<b>Realizing Interactive Architecture</b> , Honors Symposium, Arizona State University — Tempe, AZ	2012

## Media & Press

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<b>Spotlights: Nick Kunz</b> , Cornell Systems Engineering — Ithaca, NY <a href="#">[Link]</a>	2023
<b>Meet the N-K Alumni Nick Kunz</b> , Northwood Anchor, Vol. 126, No. 41, Pg. 4 — Northwood, IA <a href="#">[Link]</a>	2022
<b>Achievement Oriented: Nick Kunz</b> , ASU Magazine, Vol. 20, No. 2, Pg. 7 — Tempe, AZ <a href="#">[Link]</a>	2016
<b>Welcome Nick Kunz</b> , bcWORKSHOP — Dallas, TX <a href="#">[Link]</a>	2013

## Military Service

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### Assignments

<b>US Army, 2d Ranger Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment</b> — Fort Lewis, WA <i>Infantry</i>	2015 - 2016
<b>US Army, Ranger Training Detachment</b> — Fort Benning, GA <i>Ranger Assessment and Selection Program</i>	2015
<b>US Army, 1st Special Warfare Training Group</b> — Fort Bragg, NC <i>Special Forces Assessment and Selection</i>	2014
<b>US Army, 1st Special Warfare Training Group</b> — Fort Bragg, NC <i>Special Forces Preparation and Conditioning</i>	2014
<b>US Army, 507th Parachute Infantry Regiment</b> — Fort Benning, GA <i>Airborne School</i>	2014
<b>US Army, 19th Infantry Regiment</b> — Fort Benning, GA <i>Infantry School</i>	2014

## Decorations

<b>Expert Badge, Rifle Component Bar</b> , US Army, 75th Ranger Regiment — Fort Lewis, WA	2016
<b>Global War on Terrorism Service Medal</b> , US Army, 75th Ranger Regiment — Fort Lewis, WA	2016
<b>Driver Badge, Wheeled Vehicle Component Bar</b> , US Army, 75th Ranger Regiment — Fort Lewis, WA	2015
<b>Parachutist Badge, Unit Trimming</b> , US Army, 507th Parachute Infantry Regiment — Fort Benning, GA	2014
<b>Infantry Blue Chord Fourragère</b> , US Army, 19th Infantry Regiment — Fort Benning, GA	2014
<b>National Defense Service Medal</b> , US Army, 19th Infantry Regiment — Fort Benning, GA	2014
<b>Army Service Ribbon</b> , US Army, 19th Infantry Regiment — Fort Benning, GA	2014

## Civil Service

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<b>AmeriCorps</b> — Dallas, TX <i>Volunteer in Service to America (VISTA)</i>	2013 - 2014
<b>Open Architecture Collaborative</b> — Dallas, TX <i>Architecture &amp; Planning</i>	2013 - 2014
<b>Trinity Park Conservancy</b> — Dallas, TX <i>Public Park Conservation</i>	2013 - 2014

## Technical Skills

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### Languages

**Scripting:** Python, Bash  
**Statistical:** R, Stata  
**Compiled:** C/C++, Fortran  
**Database:** SQL, NoSQL, Cypher  
**Typesetting:** ~~La~~TeX, Markdown

### Frameworks

**Data Science:** NumPy, SciPy, Pandas, statsmodels, Featuretools, Tidyverse  
**Visualization:** Matplotlib, Seaborn, Plotly, Processing, Shiny, ggplot  
**Statistical Learning:** Scikit-Learn, XGBoost, LightGBM, CatBoost  
**Reinforcement Learning:** OpenAI Baselines, Stable Baselines  
**Prompt Engineering:** GPT, LLaMa, Claude  
**Deep Learning:** Pytorch, TensorFlow, ONNX

### Deployment

**DevOps:** Git, Ubuntu, Docker, CI/CD  
**Databases:** PostgreSQL, SQLite, CosmosDB, Neo4j  
**Web Services:** Flask, Gunicorn, Nginx  
**Web Automation:** Selenium, Puppeteer  
**Cloud Platforms:** Azure, AWS, Databricks  
**Security:** OWASP ZAP, STIGs

### Software

**Development Environments:** VS Code, RStudio, Jupyter  
**Geographic Information Systems:** ArcGIS, QGIS, OSM, Leaflet, Mapbox  
**3D Modeling & Optimization:** Rhino, Grasshopper, SketchUp, AutoCAD, Unity  
**Design & Illustration:** Adobe Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign  
**Financial Modeling:** Excel, Macros, CoStar  
**Studio & Live Audio:** Logic, Protools

### Prototyping

**Sensors & Hardware:** Arduino, Raspberry Pi  
**Project Management:** Agile, Scrum, Critical Path  
**Electrical:** Soldering, Wiring, Safety  
**Ideation:** Drawing & Sketching, Storyboarding  
**Analogs:** Hand Drafting, Physical Modeling, Photography

# Personal Activities

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## Music & Live Audio

<b>Atlas North American Tour</b> — US & Canada The Word Alive ( <i>Fearless Records</i> ), Co-Tour Manager The Word Alive ( <i>Fearless Records</i> ), Guitar Tech	2013
<b>Fight the Silence Tour</b> — US The Word Alive ( <i>Fearless Records</i> ), Guitar Tech For Today ( <i>Razor &amp; Tie Records</i> ), Guitar Tech	2013
<b>All Stars Tour</b> — US The Word Alive ( <i>Fearless Records</i> ), Guitar Tech A Skylit Drive ( <i>Fearless Records</i> ), Guitar Tech	2012
<b>Van's Warped Tour</b> — US & Canada The Word Alive ( <i>Fearless Records</i> ), Co-Tour Manager Of Mice & Men ( <i>Rise Records</i> ), Guitar Tech	2011
<b>Regional Performances</b> — US The Rendering ( <i>Authentik Artists</i> ), Guitar	2011

## Outdoors & Endurance

Running (*Half Marathon, 13.1mi, Marathon, 26.2mi*)  
Cycling (*Century Ride, 100mi*)  
Hiking (*Mt. Rainier, Mt. Olympus, Mt. Denali*)  
Overlanding (*Rubicon Trail, Alaskan Arctic Circle, Powder River Basin, All 50 States*)  
Snowboarding (*Cascades, Sierra Nevadas, Colorado Plateau, Mississippi River Valley*)