Peter Kruse Last update: November 17, 2024

CONTACT INFORMATION

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EDUCATION

• University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN

2022–2027 (expected)

• Ph.D in Data Science Engineering

o GPA: **4.0/4.0**

• Juniata College, Huntingdon, PA

2018 - 2022

o B.S. in Economics, Minors in Mathematics, Data Science, and German Studies

o GPA: **3.92/4**

TECHNICAL SKILLS

• Programming Languages: Python, Rstudio, SQL, Unix

• Languages: German (Full Professional Proficiency)

• Data Analysis Skills: Neural Networks, Large Language Models, Computer Vision, Random Forest, Support Vector Classifier, Linear Regression, Logistic Regression

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

• Graduate Research Assistant

August 2022 - present

Oak Ridge National Laboratory

Implementations for the projects below were done with Unix and Python, and R.

- \circ Utilized deep learning and computer vision algorithms to develop and artificial intelligence model for T. arvense segmentation
- Developed frameworks for using LLMs in a biology-specific context by utilizing fine-tuning, RAG, and graph encoding methods.
- \circ Implemented transformer-based architectures to predict binding site behavior from protein sequence and structure information
- Developed transformer-based architectures to predict plant phenotype outputs given a sequence of SNPs.

• Post-Undergraduate Research Assistant

June 2022 - August 2022

Wright Lab, Juniata College

Implementations for the project below were done with Python.

- Created multiple machine learning and deep learning models to classify samples and CDI positive or negative given microbiome inputs
- Created a support vector classifier that achieved up to 85% accuracy on CDI datasets
- $\circ\,$ Created a random forest that achieved up to 83% accuracy on CDI datasets
- o created an artificial neural network that achieved up to 83% accuracy on CDI datasets
- $\circ\,$ Wrote modeling methods and results document for use in a National Health Institute grant application
- o Presented findings at the Landmark Summer Research Conference

• Big Data REU Assistant County

Implementations for the project below were done with Unix and Python.

- Worked with a team of five students, two mentors, and one external collaborator to develop five Neural Network AI models to forecast Arctic sea ice extent and sea ice concentration.
- \circ Employed Convolutional Neural Network, Convolutional LSTM, and Multi-Task AI techniques.
- Developed weekly presentations detailing our progress and presented them to fellow researchers.
- Presented findings to members of UMBC's faculty and other students in a final presentation.
- Findings were published in the IEEE Big Data Conference.

• Undergraduate Research Assistant

December 2020 - June 2022

Wright Lab, Juniata College

Implementations for the project below were done with Rstudio and Python.

- Researched the mathematics behind neural networks and created a presentation for the Mathematical Association of America Allegheny Sectional detailing their process.
- \circ Created a neural network that classified areas that had been sanitized using anti-pathogen technology with up to 90% accuracy.

- Created a neural network classifying whether water samples were taken upstream or downstream from hydraulic fracturing sites with up to 94% accuracy.
- \circ Worked with another student to create an AI classifying human dietary patterns with up to 87% accuracy.
- Created a seminar presentation in order to teach co-workers how to apply deep learning and AI technology to their own biological datasets.

$\bullet \ \ Undergraduate \ Research \ Assistant \\$

Summer 2020

Juniata College

- o Tested the genetic variation within Woodrat populations in Central Pennsylvania.
- o Created mechanisms to collect Woodrat DNA and photograph Woodrats.
- \circ Traveled to multiple locations in Central Pennsylvania to place and check DNA collection mechanisms.
- Gathered water samples to test for the presence of cyanobacteria in wetlands in Central Pennsylvania.
- o Constructed educational videos detailing numerous Environmental Science subjects.

Presentations

- AI Methods for High-Throughput Pennycress Seedpod Phenotyping August, 2024 Internation Pennycress Resilience Project Annual Meeting
 - Presented deep learning and computer vision methods to Pennycress seed pod phenotypes.

• Systems Biology for Cover Crops: New Horizons for CBI Center for Bioenergy Innovation Annual Science Meeting

• Detailed the benefits of incorporating cover crops into the CBI feedstock portfolio.

• Image Segmentation for Plant Phenotyping with Very Few Samples September 6, 2023

ORNL Artifical Intelligence Expo

• Presented methods for using transfer learning to extract phenotypes from multiple plant species using the same neural network architecture.

• Modeling Methods for Microbiome Data

July 20, 2022

June, 2024

Landmark Conference Summer Research Symposium

• Explained the theory and practice behind applying various machine learning models, such as support vector machines, random forests, and artificial neural networks, to microbiome data.

• Liberal Arts Symposium

April 21, 2022

Juniata College

• Explained the theory and practice behind applying generative deep learning models, specifically Variational Autoencoders and Generative Adversarial Networks, to microbiome data.

• Generative Learning for Microbiome Data

April 1, 2022

MAA Allegheny Sectional

- Explained the mathematical concepts behind how generative deep learning works.
- Examined specific generative deep learning architectures, including Variational Autoencoders and Generative Adversarial Networks.

• Deep Learning for Biological Data

November 13, 2021

Allegheny Branch of the American Society of Microbiology

- $\circ\,$ Detailed the applications and drawbacks of using deep learning techniques on microbiological data
- Won "best undergraduate presentation" at the conference.

• Mathematics Colloquium

October 28, 2021

Juniata College

- Presented the process and results of my REU experience.
- Used my experience to give younger students tips on finding research positions in the future.

• Introduction to Deep Learning for Microbiological Data

August 15, 2021

Contamination Source Identification

• Introduced the concepts behind deep learning to Microbiologists.

- Explained how and when to apply deep learning models to microbiome datasets using Python and R code examples.
- Multi-Task Deep Learning Based Spatiotemporal Arctic Sea Ice Forecasting July 31, 2021

University of Maryland, Baltimore County

• Worked with a group to present the findings from our REU experience, where we developed novel deep learning techniques to forecast Arctic sea ice extent and concentration.

• Liberal Arts Symposium

May 13, 2021

Juniata College

 Presented the results of my neural network research, which involved creating a deep learning classifier to distinguish between sanitized and un-sanitized microbial samples from hospital surfaces.

• Introduction to Neural Networks

April 9, 2021

MAA Allegheny Sectional

- Explained the mathematical concepts behind neural networks, including their architecture, training, evaluation, and predictive processes.
- Discussed applications for neural networks, including image recognition and time series prediction.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- 1. Eliot Kim, Peter Kruse, Skylar Lama, Jamal Bourne Jr., Michael Hu, Sahara Ali, Yiyi Huang, and Jianwu Wang. "Multi-Task Deep Learning Based Spatiotemporal Arctic Sea Ice Forecasting." *IEEE Biq Data Conference*, 2021.
- Andrew Yeich, Peter Kruse, Kristen Park, and Timothy J. Craig. "Consistency
 of Hereditary Angiodema Care Across Demographic Subgroups." The Journal of Allergy and
 Clinical Immunology, 2023.
- Regina Lamendella, Jeremy R. Chen See, Jillian Leister, Justin R. Wright, Peter I. Kruse, Mohini V. Khedekar, Catharine E. Besch, Carol A. Kumamoto, Gregory R. Madden, and David B. Stewart. "Clostridioides difficile Infection is Associated with Differences in Transcriptionally Active Microbial Communities" Frontiers in Microbiology, 2024.
- 4. Eric O Johnson, Heidi S Fisher, Kyle A Sullivan, Olivia Corradin, Sandra Sanchez-Roige, Nathan C Gaddis, Yasmine N Sami, Alice Townsend, Erica Teixeira Prates, Mirko Pavicic, Peter Kruse, Elissa J Chesler, Abraham A Palmer, Vanessa Troiani, Jason A Bubier, Daniel A Jacobson, and Brion S Maher. "An Emerging Multi-Omic Understanding of the Genetics of Opioid Addiction." Journal of Clinical Investigation, 2024.
- 5. Kyle Sullivan, J Izaak Miller, David Kainer, Matthew Lane, Mikaela Cashman, Michael R Garvin, Alice Townsend, Peter Kruse, Bryan C Quach, Caryn Willis, Ke Xu, Bradley E Aouzierat, Eric O Johnson, Dana B Hancock, and Daniel Jacobson "Network Biology Algorithms Identify Biological Pathways Underlying Cigarette Smoking Behaviors." European Neuropyschopharmacology, 2023.

Honors and Awards

- Tickle College of Engineering Fellowship University of Tennessee Fall 2022 present
- Leonard J. Fuoss Scholarship Juniata College 2020
- Tau Pi Phi Business Honors Society Juniata College 2020