

# Ronald J. Yurko Jr.

## Curriculum Vitae

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🌐 <https://www.stat.cmu.edu/~ryurko/>

🐙 Github

## Positions

Department of Statistics & Data Science, Carnegie Mellon University

Fall 2022 – **Assistant Teaching Professor.**

Summer 2022 **Special Faculty.**

## Education

2017–22 **PhD in Statistics**, *Carnegie Mellon University*.

Thesis supervised by Kathryn Roeder and Max G'Sell, titled "Selective inference approaches for augmenting genetic association studies with multi-omics metadata"

2017–18 **MS in Statistics**, *Carnegie Mellon University*.

2012–15 **BS in Statistics**, *Carnegie Mellon University*, University Honors.

## Publications

### Journal Articles

- 2024 Yujin Kim, Minwoo Jeong, In Gyeong Koh, Chanhee Kim, Hyeji Lee, Jae Hyun Kim, **Ronald Yurko**, Il Bin Kim, Jeongbin Park, Donna M Werling, Stephan J Sanders, and Joon-Yong An. CWAS-Plus: estimating category-wide association of rare noncoding variation from whole-genome sequencing data with cell-type-specific functional data. *Briefings in Bioinformatics*, volume 25, July 2024.
- 2023 Quang Nguyen, **Ronald Yurko**, and Gregory J. Matthews. Here Comes the STRAIN: Analyzing Defensive Pass Rush in American Football with Player Tracking Data. *The American Statistician*, volume 0, pages 1–10. Taylor & Francis, 2023. ASA Editor's Choice Collection.
- 2021 **Ronald Yurko**, Kathryn Roeder, Bernie Devlin, and Max G'Sell. An approach to gene-based testing accounting for dependence of tests among nearby genes. *Briefings in Bioinformatics*, volume 22, 08 2021.
- 2021 **Ronald Yurko**, Kathryn Roeder, Bernie Devlin, and Max G'Sell. H-MAGMA, inheriting a shaky statistical foundation, yields excess false positives. *Annals of Human Genetics*, volume 85, pages 97–100. Wiley Online Library, 2021.
- 2021 Riccardo Fogliato, Natalia L Oliveira, and **Ronald Yurko**. TRAP: a predictive framework for the Assessment of Performance in Trail Running. *Journal of Quantitative Analysis in Sports*, volume 17, pages 129–143. De Gruyter, 2021.
- 2020 **Ronald Yurko**, Francesca Matano, Lee F Richardson, Nicholas Granered, Taylor Pospisil, Konstantinos Pelechrinis, and Samuel L Ventura. Going deep: models for continuous-time within-play valuation of game outcomes in american football with tracking data. *Journal of Quantitative Analysis in Sports*, volume 16, pages 163–182. De Gruyter, 2020. Editor's Choice free access article.
- 2020 **Ronald Yurko**, Max G'Sell, Kathryn Roeder, and Bernie Devlin. A selective inference approach for false discovery rate control using multiomics covariates yields insights into disease risk. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, volume 117, pages 15028–15035. National Academy of Sciences, 2020.

- 2020 Sarah Mallepalle, **Ronald Yurko**, Konstantinos Pelechrinis, and Samuel L Ventura. Extracting NFL tracking data from images to evaluate quarterbacks and pass defenses. *Journal of Quantitative Analysis in Sports*, volume 16, pages 95–120. De Gruyter, 2020.
- 2020 Rishav Dutta, **Ronald Yurko**, and Samuel L Ventura. Unsupervised methods for identifying pass coverage among defensive backs with nfl player tracking data. *Journal of Quantitative Analysis in Sports*, volume 16, pages 143–161. De Gruyter, 2020.
- 2019 **Ronald Yurko**, Samuel Ventura, and Maksim Horowitz. nflWAR: a reproducible method for offensive player evaluation in football. *Journal of Quantitative Analysis in Sports*, volume 15, pages 163–183. De Gruyter, 2019. Editor's Choice free access article.

#### Under Review

- 2024 **Ronald Yurko**, Quang Nguyen, and Konstantinos Pelechrinis. NFL Ghosts: A framework for evaluating defender positioning with conditional density estimation. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2406.17220*, 2024.
- 2024 Quang Nguyen, Ruitong Jiang, Meg Ellingwood, and **Ronald Yurko**. Fractional tackles: Leveraging player tracking data for within-play tackling evaluation in american football. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2403.14769*, 2024.
- 2024 Ryan S Brill, **Yurko, Ronald**, and Abraham J Wyner. Exploring the difficulty of estimating win probability: a simulation study. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2406.16171*, 2024.
- 2024 Ryan S Brill, **Ronald Yurko**, and Abraham J Wyner. Analytics, have some humility: a statistical view of fourth-down decision making. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2311.03490*, 2024.

#### Invited Commentaries and Popular Press

- 2024 Adriana Gonzalez Sanchez, Sierra Martinez, **Ronald Yurko**, and Ryan Elmore. Does Icing the Field Goal Kicker Work in the National Football League? *CHANCE*. Taylor & Francis, 2024. (Accepted for publication and link to be made available later.).
- 2023 **Ronald Yurko** and Rebecca Nugent. Discussion on “Flexible marked spatio-temporal point processes with applications to event sequences from association football” by Narayanan et al. *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society, Series C*. Oxford University Press, 2023.
- 2019 Konstantinos Pelechrinis, **Ronald Yurko**, and Sam Ventura. Reducing Concussions in the NFL: A Data-Driven Approach. *CHANCE*, volume 32, pages 46–56. Taylor & Francis, 2019.

#### Book Chapters

- 2024 **Ronald Yurko**, *An Introduction to Sports Analytics Research with Expected Goals*, Foundations for Undergraduate Research in Mathematics, Springer. (Accepted for publication and link to be made available later.)

#### Miscellaneous Articles

- 2023 **Momentum-based fractional tackles**, *Joint work with Quang Nguyen, Larry Jiang, and Meg Ellingwood*, NFL Big Data Bowl 2024 (Finalist).  
Kaggle: <https://www.kaggle.com/code/tindata/momentum-based-fractional-tackles>
- 2021 **Evaluating defender ability to limit YAC**, *Joint work with Kostas Pelechrinis*, NFL Big Data Bowl 2021 (Honorable Mention).  
Kaggle: <https://www.kaggle.com/ryurko21/evaluating-defender-ability-to-limit-yac>
- 2019 **Detecting data analysis patterns in text and graphs to characterize student workflows**, *Advanced Data Analysis report*, Advised by Rebecca Nugent.

## Teaching

### Courses Taught at Carnegie Mellon (*ordered by course level*)

- Fall 2023 **46-924 Natural Language Processing (*mini*)**.  
Elective course on natural language processing for the Master's in Computational Finance program, including text mining, topic models, and transformers; created course curriculum and materials.
- Fall 2022-23 **46-926 Machine Learning I (*mini*)**.  
Core course on statistical machine learning for the Master's in Computational Finance program, including regression, classification, and tree-based methods.
- Spring 2024 **36-460/660 Special Topics: Sports Analytics**.  
Elective course for advanced undergraduate and master's level students on sports analytics methods, including multilevel models, Bayesian statistics, and spatio-temporal data; created course curriculum and materials.
- Fall 2022-23 **36-613 Data Visualization (*mini*)**.  
Master's level course on creating and understanding data visualizations and interactive tools from a statistical perspective; created course curriculum and materials.
- Summer 2024 **36-642 Telling Impactful Stories with Data Visualization (*online mini*)**.  
Data visualization course in Foundations of Data Science online graduate certificate program.
- Spring 2023 **36-493 Sports Analytics Capstone**.  
Undergraduate capstone course using data provided by CMU athletics for sports analytics research projects. Advised three groups of student projects, all presented at Meeting of the Minds.
- Spring 2022-24 **36-315 Statistical Graphics and Visualization**.  
Undergraduate course on creating and understanding data visualizations from a statistical perspective.
- Summer 2020-22 **Summer Undergraduate Research Experience in Statistics, *Lead Instructor and Director***.  
8-10 week program with 12-16 students selected each year nationally with an emphasis on diversity. Experience includes client-facing capstone with real-world problems and datasets. Created course curriculum, materials, and advised student projects: <https://www.stat.cmu.edu/cmsac/sure/2022/materials/>
- 2015 **Introduction to Sabermetrics and Exploring Baseball Data with R**.  
Instructor and created course materials in undergraduate student-taught course program.

### Workshops

- 2022 **Big Data Bowl Workshop Sponsored by SumerSports**.  
Created workshop materials and instructor with live coding demonstrations of accessing and analyzing player-tracking data: <https://www.stat.cmu.edu/cmsac/conference/2022/workshop/slides.html>
- 2018-2019 **Carnegie Mellon Football Analytics Workshop**.  
Created workshop materials and instructor with live coding demonstrations of accessing and analyzing NFL play-by-play with introduction to ELO ratings: <https://www.stat.cmu.edu/cmsac/football/>
- Summer 2019 **Wharton Moneyball Academy and Training Camp**.  
Assisted in development of course materials and course instructor for week-long introductory statistics course for high-school students.
- 2018-2019 **Carnegie Mellon Football Analytics Workshop**.  
Created workshop materials, organized Q&A session with Pittsburgh Pirates, and instructor with live coding demonstrations of accessing and analyzing baseball data: <https://ryurko.github.io/Carnegie-Mellon-Baseball-Analytics-Workshop/>

### Executive Education

- 2022 – **Data Science Executive Education programs, *In progress for multiple global/national finance institutions and pharmaceutical companies (company names not allowed to be public yet)***.  
Instructor role providing feedback in custom ISLE analytics platform.
- 2022 – 2023 **Data Science for Business Leaders, *Optum/United Health Group***.  
Instructor for data visualization content.

### Courses Served as Teaching Assistant at Carnegie Mellon (*ordered by course level*)

- Spring 2021 **46-927 Statistical Machine Learning II, (*mini*).**  
Core course on statistical machine learning for the Master's in Computational Finance program, including clustering, classification, dimension reduction, and deep learning.
- Summer 2018 **36-315 Statistical Graphics and Visualization.**  
Undergraduate course on creating and understanding data visualizations from a statistical perspective.
- Spring 2018 **36-462 Data Mining.**  
Undergraduate course on statistical learning including clustering, classification, dimension reduction, and tree-based models.
- Fall 2017 **36-350 Statistical Computing.**  
Undergraduate course introducing programming for statistical analysis in R.
- Fall 2013–14, **36-201 Statistical Reasoning and Practice.**  
Spring 2014 Undergraduate introductory statistics for humanities and social sciences majors.

### Courses Served as Grader at Carnegie Mellon

- Fall 2015 **36-225 Introduction to Probability Theory.**  
Undergraduate course introducing mathematical probability theory for statistics, math, and other majors.
- Spring 2015 **36-226 Introduction to Statistical Inference.**  
Undergraduate course introducing mathematical statistics for statistics, math, and other majors.

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## Advising / Supervising

### PhD Students

- 2023 – **Quang Nguyen.**
- 2023 – **Meg Ellingwood.**  
Co-advising with Professor Alex Reinhart.

### Independent Study

- Fall 2023 – **Xuduo Victor Wen, *Cardiac Arrhythmia in Equine Health: A Statistical Perspective on Electro-***  
Spring 2024 ***cardiogram Data Analysis.***  
Co-advised Dietrich College Senior Honors Program Undergraduate Thesis with Professor Joel Greenhouse and external collaborator Dr. Katharyn Mitchell.
- Spring 2023 **Samuel Yu, *Decreasing TTO Rates in Baseball by Adjusting the Strike Zone.***  
Advised undergraduate computer science student on project working exploring and modeling umpire strike zones in Major League Baseball. Student presented poster at Meeting of the Minds.
- Fall 2022 **Jacob Muskovitz, *Modeling Defensive Outcomes from Linear Distances Between Players.***  
Advised Heinz College master's student on project working exploring and modeling spatio-temporal data provided by a professional soccer team.

### Master's Projects

- Spring 2024 **Lawrence Jang, *blitzFlag: predicting pass rushers with player-tracking data.***  
Advised master's student machine learning project for 10-718 Machine Learning in Practice.
- Fall 2023 – **Shane Hauck, Marion Haney, Devin Basley, and Vinay Maruri, *No Edge No Chance: The***  
Spring 2024 ***Impact of Setting the Edge on Zone Run Plays.***  
Advised master's students on NFL Big Data Bowl 2024 submission that was selected as finalists for presentation at NFL Combine: <https://www.kaggle.com/code/devinbasley26/no-edge-no-chance>

### Undergraduate Research Supervision

- Summer 2024 **Summer Undergraduate Research Apprenticeship, *Faculty Advisor.***  
Advised two undergraduate students on summer research projects: (1) exploring changes in NFL salary cap construction over time and (2) analysis of equine ECG data.

- Fall 2023 **Undergraduate Research Course, Faculty Advisor.**  
Advised team of undergraduate students to build simulation approach for predicting the number of medals won by US Olympics Gymnastics team for USOPC Data Challenge.
- Fall 2023 – **Undergraduate Research Course, Faculty Advisor.**
- Spring 2024 Advised two teams of undergraduate students working with equine ECG data provided by external collaborator Dr. Katharyn Mitchell.
- Fall 2022 **Undergraduate Research Course, Faculty Advisor.**  
Advised two teams of undergraduate students working with spatio-temporal data from: (1) Big Data Derby and (2) Big Data Bowl.
- Fall 2021 **Data Science Initiative, PhD Project Fellow.**  
Advised two teams of undergraduate students working with United States Olympic & Paralympic Committee.
- Fall 2021 **Quantitative Social Science Scholars (QSSS) Program Senior Thesis, Advisor.**  
Advisor of undergraduate senior thesis on measuring latent attributes for NBA players.
- Summer 2019 **Summer Undergraduate Research Experience in Statistics, Teaching Assistant.**  
Advised multiple undergraduate student projects and created datasets for program labs.

## Presentations

### Invited Talks

- Sep. 2024 **Cascadia Symposium on Statistics in Sports, Momentum Interference: A Hierarchical Framework for Modeling Tackling Ability in American Football**, Vancouver, Canada, joint work with Ruitong Jiang, Meg Ellingwood, Quang Nguyen.
- Sep. 2024 **Cascadia Symposium on Statistics in Sports, Swinging, Fast and Slow: Untangling intention and timing error from bat speed and swing length in Major League Baseball**, Vancouver, Canada, joint work with and presented by Scott Powers.
- June 2024 **Electronic Conference on Teaching Statistics, Creating and Sharing Sports Data Content with the SCORE Network**, organized and led breakout session with Ivan Ramler, Rebecca Nugent, Nicholas Clark, Michael Schuckers, Robin Lock, and Rodney Sturdivant.
- March 2024 **Simon Fraser University Sports Analytics Group Virtual Seminar Series, NFL Ghosts: Evaluating pass defense with high-dimensional CDEs**, Simon Fraser University, Virtual.
- May 2023 **United States Conference on Teaching Statistics, Building a SCORE module to teach with sports data**, Pennsylvania State University, joint workshop with Michael Schuckers, Robin Lock, Rebecca Nugent, Brian Macdonald.
- Nov. 2023 **MSCF Speaker Series, Sports Analytics in the Post-Moneyball Era**, Carnegie Mellon University.
- Sep. 2023 **New England Symposium on Statistics in Sports, NFL Ghosts: Evaluating pass defense with high-dimensional CDEs**, Harvard University.
- Sep. 2023 **Information Technology, Analytics, and Operations Seminar, NFL Ghosts: Evaluating pass defense with high-dimensional CDEs**, University of Notre Dame, Mendoza College of Business.
- Nov. 2021 **Center of Modeling, Simulation and Interactions (MSI) Seminar, Selective inference approaches for augmenting genetic association studies with multi-omics metadata**, Université Côte d'Azur, Virtual.
- July 2020 **International Seminar on Selective Inference, Adaptive approaches for augmenting genetic association studies with multi-omics covariates**, Virtual, presented by Kathryn Roeder.
- Oct. 2020 **UConn Sports Analytics Symposium (Keynote Speaker), Going Deep: Models for Continuous-Time Within-Play Valuation of Game Outcomes in American Football with Tracking Data**, Virtual.
- Aug. 2020 **Joint Statistical Meetings, Going Deep: Models for Continuous-Time Within-Play Valuation of Game Outcomes in American Football with Tracking Data**, Virtual, Presented by Lee Richardson.



- Sept. 2019 **New England Symposium on Statistics in Sports (Featured Talk)**, *Going Deep: Models for Continuous-Time Within-Play Valuation of Game Outcomes in American Football with Tracking Data*, Harvard University.
- May 2019 **United States Conference on Teaching Statistics**, *Many Students, One Dataset: Using ISLE to Teach Reproducibility and the Impact of Data Analysis Decisions on Conclusions*, Pennsylvania State University, joint presentation with Rebecca Nugent, Philipp Burckhardt, Frank Kovacs.
- Sept. 2018 **Pittsburgh useR Group**, *Exploring NFL data with nflscrapR*, Pittsburgh, PA.
- Aug. 2018 **RIT Sports Analytics Conference**, *nflWAR: a reproducible method for offensive player evaluation in football*, Rochester Institute of Technology.
- Oct. 2017 **Carnegie Mellon Sports Analytics Conference**, *nflWAR: a reproducible method for offensive player evaluation in football*, Carnegie Mellon University.
- Oct. 2017 **Computational Sports Informatics Colloquium**, *nflWAR: a reproducible method for offensive player evaluation in football*, University of Pittsburgh.
- Sept. 2017 **New England Symposium on Statistics in Sports**, *nflWAR: a reproducible method for offensive player evaluation in football*, Harvard University.

### Contributed Talks

- Aug. 2024 **Joint Statistical Meetings**, *SCORE Sports Data Repository*, Portland, OR.
- Aug. 2023 **Joint Statistical Meetings**, *CMSACamp: A Summer Undergraduate Research Experience with Sports Analytics*, Toronto, Canada.
- Aug. 2020 **Joint Statistical Meetings**, *A selective inference approach for FDR control using multi-omics covariates yields insights into disease risk*, Virtual.
- Aug. 2018 **Cascadia Symposium on Statistics in Sports**, *Multilevel models to measure player, team, and stadium effects on NFL injury risk*, Vancouver, Canada, presented by Zachary Binney.
- June 2018 **Classification Society Annual Meeting**, *A case study in reproducibility: detecting data analysis patterns in text and graphs to characterize student workflows*, Stony Brook University.
- May. 2018 **Symposium on Data Science & Statistics**, *Variable selection for consistent clustering*, Reston, VA.
- July 2017 **Great Lakes Analytics in Sports Conference**, *NFL player evaluation using expected points added with nflscrapR*, University of Wisconsin–Stevens Point.
- June 2017 **Classification Society Annual Meeting**, *Variable selection for consistent clustering*, University of California, Santa Cruz - Silicon Valley Campus.
- Apr. 2017 **UP-STAT (Second Place, Best Young Researchers' Award in Category C: Application)**, *nflscrapR: an R package for easy access to NFL data and a new model for expected points and win probability*, Canisius College.

### Invited Guest Lectures

- May 2024 **In-Person MSBA Immersion Campus Experience Weekend**, *Sports Analytics in the Post-Moneyball Era: How technology and machine learning are changing the way professional sports teams evaluate players*, Carnegie Mellon University, Tepper School of Business.  
Online Master of Science in Business Analytics (MSBA) Program.
- Feb 2024 **PT MBA Virtual Session**, *Sports Analytics in the Post-Moneyball Era: How technology and machine learning are changing the way professional sports teams evaluate players*, Carnegie Mellon University, Tepper School of Business.  
Part-time, Online Master of Business Administration (MBA) Program.
- Sept 2023 **MSBA-SA Guest Lecture**, *Sports Analytics in the Post-Moneyball Era: How technology and machine learning are changing the way professional sports teams evaluate players*, University of Notre Dame, Mendoza College of Business.  
Sports Analytics concentration of the Master of Science in Business Analytics program.

- May 2023 **In-Person MSBA Immersion Campus Experience Weekend**, *Sports Analytics in the Post-Moneyball Era: How technology and machine learning are changing the way professional sports teams evaluate players*, Carnegie Mellon University, Tepper School of Business.  
Online Master of Science in Business Analytics (MSBA) Program.
- July 2022 **PT MBA Access Weekend**, *Sports Analytics in the Post-Moneyball Era: How technology and machine learning are changing the way professional sports teams evaluate players*, Carnegie Mellon University, Tepper School of Business.  
Part-time MBA Program.
- May 2022 **In-Person MSBA Immersion Campus Experience Weekend**, *Sports Analytics in the Post-Moneyball Era: How technology and machine learning are changing the way professional sports teams evaluate players*, Carnegie Mellon University, Tepper School of Business.  
Online Master of Science in Business Analytics (MSBA) Program.
- Apr. 2022 **Human Genetics 2080 Statistical Genetics**, *An approach to gene-based testing accounting for dependence of tests among nearby genes*, University of Pittsburgh, Graduate School of Public Health, invited by Professor Daniel Weeks.  
Graduate course in the principles and practice of statistical genetics.
- Mar. 2022 **STATS 100: The Mathematics of Sports**, *An introduction to NFL analytics research*, Stanford University, invited by Instructor Xavier Gonzalez.  
Undergraduate course on statistics, probability, and mathematics in sports.
- Oct. 2021 **Foundation Seminar: Sports, Statistics and Society**, *An introduction to NFL analytics research*, Bucknell University, invited by Professor Abby Flynt.  
First-year undergraduate course on statistics in sports.
- Oct. 2021 **STAT401 Sports Analytics**, *Going Deep: Models for Continuous-Time Within-Play Valuation of Game Outcomes in American Football with Tracking Data*, The Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania, invited by Professor Abraham Wyner.  
Advanced undergraduate course introducing students to the growing field of sports analytics.
- Sept. 2020 **Foundation Seminar: Sports, Statistics and Society**, *An introduction to NFL analytics research*, Bucknell University, invited by Professor Abby Flynt.  
First-year undergraduate course on statistics in sports.
- Mar. 2020 **Human Genetics 2080 Statistical Genetics**, *Application of post-selection inference to multi-omics data yields insights into the etiologies of human diseases*, University of Pittsburgh, Graduate School of Public Health, invited by Professor Daniel Weeks.  
Graduate course in the principles and practice of statistical genetics.
- Feb. 2020 **BUSMGT 7334 - Sports Analytics**, *Going Deep: Models for Continuous-Time Within-Play Valuation of Game Outcomes in American Football with Tracking Data*, Ohio State University, invited by Professor John Draper.  
Course introducing students to the current state of sports analytics.
- Feb. 2018 **INFSCI 1091: Special Topics - Moneyball 2.0: Winning in Sports with Data**, *nflWAR: a reproducible method for offensive player evaluation in football*, University of Pittsburgh, invited by Professor Kostas Pelechrinis.  
Special topics course introducing students to data collection, analysis, and visualization in sports.

#### Conference Poster Presentations

- Oct. 2019 **Annual Meeting of the American Society of Human Genetics**, *Application of post-selection inference to multi-omics data yields insights into the etiologies of human diseases*, Houston, TX.
- Nov. 2019 **Carnegie Mellon Sports Analytics Conference (Best Poster Prize)**, *TRAP: a predictive framework for the assessment of performance in trail running*, Harvard University, presented by Riccardo Fogliato.

- Sept. 2019 **New England Symposium on Statistics in Sports (Best Student Poster Prize)**, *TRAP: a predictive framework for the assessment of performance in trail running*, Harvard University, presented by Natalia L. Oliveira.
- Apr. 2018 **Pittsburgh ASA Chapter Spring Banquet**, *Variable selection for consistent clustering*, Pittsburgh, PA.
- Nov 2015 **Dietrich Undergraduate Colloquium**, *Improving predictions of ensemble methods using distributions of estimated probabilities*, Carnegie Mellon University.
- May 2015 **Meeting of the Minds (First Place, Statistics Poster Competition)**, *Classifying Kepler objects of interest*, Carnegie Mellon University.

#### Electronic Poster Presentations

- Oct. 2020 **Annual Meeting of the American Society of Human Genetics**, *Augmenting gene-level tests based on two-sided summary statistics with multiomics covariates*.
- June 2020 **Symposium on Data Science & Statistics**, *A selective inference approach for FDR control using multi-omics covariates yields insights into disease risk*.
- May 2018 **Electronic Conference On Teaching Statistics**, *Identifying misconceptions of introductory data science using a thinkaloud protocol*, Joint work with S. Hyun, P. Burckhardt, P. Elliott, C. Evans, K. Lin, A. Luby, C. P. Makris, J. Orellana, A. Reinhart, J. Wieczorek, G. Weinberg, R. Nugent.
- May 2018 **Electronic Conference On Teaching Statistics**, *Using text analysis to characterize student learning in an introductory statistics & data science course*.

#### Funding

- 2024 – **Dietrich College Seed Grant Award**, *Research on how combatants and their supporters describe each other in modern war*, Led by Daniel Silverman (CMIST) with Bill Marcelino (RAND), Anna Pechenkina (Utah State University), and Austin Knuppe (Utah State University).
- 2022 – 2026 **NSF: Improving Undergraduate STEM Education**, *SCORE with Data: Building a sustainable national network for developing and disseminating Sports Content for Outreach, Research, and Education in data science*, Senior Personnel.  
\$1,100,000; four years

#### Software

- 2020 **snpcombineR: R package to combine SNP-level test statistics at various region levels**.  
GitHub: <https://github.com/ryurko/snpcombineR>
- 2019 **adaptMT: Modifications including wrapper functions for XGBoost implementation with EM algorithm cross-validation tuning**.  
GitHub: <https://github.com/ryurko/adaptMT>
- 2018 **fcscrapR: R package to scrape soccer commentary and statistics from ESPN**.  
GitHub: <https://github.com/ryurko/fcscrapR>
- 2018 **nflWAR: An R package to compute WAR for offensive players using nflscrapR**.  
GitHub: <https://github.com/ryurko/nflWAR>
- 2017 **nflscrapR: Compiling the NFL Play-by-Play API for easy use in R**.  
GitHub: <https://github.com/maksimhorowitz/nflscrapR>

#### Student Research Experience

- 2018 – 2022 **Graduate Research Assistant**, *Applications of selective inference in statistical genetics*, Advised by Kathryn Roeder, Max G'Sell, Bernie Devlin.  
Research funding provided by Simons Foundation Grant SFARI SF575097



- Fall 2015 **Undergraduate Research Assistant**, *PREDS: Prediction with Ensembles using Distribution Summaries*, Advised by Sam Ventura and Rebecca Nugent.
- Spring 2015 **Undergraduate Research Course**, *Classifying Kepler Objects of Interest*, Advised by Peter Freeman and Rebecca Nugent.
- Fall 2014 **Independent Research**, *The Science of Fooling Batters: An Objective Analysis of Pitch Sequencing*, Advised by Andrew C. Thomas.

## Industry Experience

- 2021 – 2022 **Part-time Data Scientist**, *Football Strategy*, Zelus Analytics, Remote.
- 2016 – 2017 **Quantitative Analytics Associate**, *Analytics & Portfolio management*, PNC Financial Services, Pittsburgh, PA.
- 2015 **Risk Management Intern**, *Analytics & Portfolio management*, PNC Financial Services, Pittsburgh, PA.
- 2014 **Data and Analytics Intern**, *Baseball Operations*, Pittsburgh Pirates, Pittsburgh, PA.
- 2013 **Equity Research Intern**, *Equity Analysis*, Schenley Park Capital Management, Pittsburgh, PA.

## Fellowships & Awards

- 2022 **Student of the Year**, ASA Pittsburgh Chapter.
- 2018 – 2019 **Carnegie Mellon Presidential Fellowship**.
- 2015 **Andrew Carnegie Society Scholar**.
- 2015 **Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society**.

## Service

### Organization

- 2017 – **Co-Organizer**, *Carnegie Mellon Sports Analytics Conference*.  
200+ attendees from academia, industry, and professional sports. Responsibilities include maintaining and assessing current research in field, website/event/speaker/press management, marketing materials, budgeting, and bringing in sponsors.
- 2018 – **Co-Organizer**, *CMSAC Reproducible Research Competition*.  
Inclusive conference competition to promote reproducible research with separate tracks for students and software contributions. Responsibilities include creating competition format, promoting, and organizing evaluation of submissions with review feedback.
- 2018 – 2019 **Organizer**, *Carnegie Mellon Football Analytics Workshop*.  
80+ attendees from academia, industry, and professional sports. Responsibilities included creating workshop material, website/event/press management, coordinating Q&A session with NFL Director of Data and Analytics.
- 2018 **Organizer**, *Carnegie Mellon Baseball Analytics Workshop*.  
50+ attendees from academia, industry, and professional sports. Responsibilities included creating workshop material, website/event/press management, and coordinating Q&A session with professional baseball team.

### Department Service

- 2022 – **Director**, *Summer Undergraduate Research Experience in Statistics*.  
Director of 8 week summer program with 12-16 students selected each year nationally with an emphasis on diversity. Experience includes managing admissions, organizing speakers, advising client-facing capstone projects with real-world problems and datasets.
- 2024 – **Committee Member**, *Dietrich College General Education Steering Committee*.  
Review courses and discuss changes for Dietrich College GenEd curriculum.
- 2023 – **Committee Member**, *MSCF Program*.  
Discuss and implement changes to program curriculum.

2022 – **Committee Member**, *MADS Program*.  
Discuss and implement changes to program curriculum.

2022 – **Committee Member**, *MADS Admissions*.

2023 – **Committee Member**, *Undergraduate Program*.  
Discuss and implement changes to program curriculum.

2017 – **Organizer**, *Statistics in Sports Reading Group*.

2020 – 2021 **Zoom Moderator**, *Statistics & Data Science Research Showcase*.

2019 – 2022 **Organizer**, *Statistical Genetics & Genomics Student Reading Group*.

2019 **Judge**, *Meeting of the Minds*.

2018 – 2019 **Mentor**, *Women in Statistics Matched Pairs Mentorship Program*.

2018 – 2019 **Judge**, *Statistical Graphics Poster Presentations*.

2017 – 2022 **Cohort Representative**, *Student Advisory Committee*.

### University Service

2022 – **Faculty Advisor**, *Carnegie Mellon Sports Analytics Club*.

2017 – 2022 **Graduate Student Advisor**, *Carnegie Mellon Sports Analytics Club*.

2013 – 2016 **Co-Founder, Vice President, Editor, Writer**, *Carnegie Mellon Sports Analytics Club*.

### Professional Service

Aug. 2024 **Invited Paper Session Chair**, *Joint Statistical Meetings*, Leveraging Player Tracking Data in Sports: Challenges and Opportunities.

2024 – **Associate Editor**, *SCORE Network*.

2024 **Chair-Elect**, *ASA Statistics in Sports Section*.

Aug. 2023 **Roundtable Organizer and Presenter**, *Joint Statistical Meetings*, How Do we Teach Sports Analytics Research?.

2022 – **Associate Editor**, *Journal of Quantitative Analysis in Sports*.

2022 **Judge**, *SMT Data Challenge*.

2021 **Mentor**, *NFL Big Data Bowl Mentorship Program*.

Program designed with goal of increasing diversity within sports analytics by advising students from underrepresented groups in sports analytics / STEM fields.

2021 **Judge**, *NFL Big Data Bowl*.

2020 – **Co-Host**, *Open Source Sports*.

Podcast created to serve as public reading group discussing the latest research in sports analytics.

Peer Reviewer *Annals of Applied Statistics*, *The American Statistician*, *Journal of Quantitative Analysis in Sports*, *GENETICS*, *PLOS Computational Biology*, *Journal of Sports Analytics*, *Journal of Business Analytics*, *Communications in Statistics*, *ASTA Advances in Statistical Analysis*, *Operational Research*

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## Media Recognition

Interviews *Wharton Moneyball*, *Unexpected Points*, *Pittsburgh Post Gazette*, *theScore*

Citations *FiveThirtyEight*, *The Athletic*, *Wall Street Journal*

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## Professional Societies

American Society of Human Genetics

American Statistical Association

Classification Society

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## Computer Skills

Expert	R
Proficient	Python, SAS, SQL
Intermediate	C++, Julia
Beginner	HTML, Clojure, Java

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## Activities

### Team Sports

2017 – 2022 **Graduate Student Assembly Summer Sports**, *Softball captain*.

2013 – 2022 **Carnegie Mellon Intramural Sports**, *Flag-football captain*.

2018 co-rec champions

2013 **Carnegie Mellon University Club Baseball Team**.

### Volunteering

2019 **Campaign Against Cancer**.

### Charity Runs

2017 – **Pirates Home Run 5K 10K**.

<https://www.mlb.com/pirates/community/race>

2017 – **The Great Race**.

<https://www.rungreatrace.com/>

2016 – **Pittsburgh Penguins 6.6K Run & Family Walk**.

<https://mariolemieux.org/our-events/pittsburgh-penguins-66k/>