

SEBASTIAN DERI

sebastian.der@gmail.com | sebastianderi.com

Education & Standardized Testing

Bachelor of Science, May 2013

Cornell University, ILR School,
Interdisciplinary Training in: *Psych., Econ., Soc., Stats.*
Minor: *Law & Society*
Highest Honors, Graduated 3rd in Class (GPA: 4.09)

Master of Science, May 2016

Cornell University, ILR School
Concentration: *Organizational Behavior*,
Minor: *Cognitive Studies*
(GPA: 4.04)

Doctorate of Philosophy, May 2021 (*if this fucking guy gets his act together*)

Cornell University
Arts & Sciences, Discipline: *Psychology*
Minor: *Information Science*
Committee: Tom Gilovich, Michael Macy,
Melissa Ferguson, Khenia Swallow

GRE October 2015

170/170 Verbal (99th percentile)
166/170 Quantitative (92nd percentile)
5.5/6 Analytical Writing (98th percentile)
(*here to ease feelings of insecurity in author/CV holder*)

Work Experience

Quantitative UX Researcher, Facebook (Menlo Park, CA) June to September 2018

- *Conducted research on mobile app, and user well-being*
- *Designed, launched, and analyzed multinational survey of 14,000+ FB users in US, India, Indonesia, Brazil, Japan, Nigeria, France*
- *Custom SQL queries (& completed Intro+Intermediate SQL training)*
- *Received return offer at the end of internship*

Data Science Research Intern, Nokia Bell Labs (Cambridge UK) June to September 2017

- *Worked in computational social science group (led by Daniele Quercia, Luca Aiello, and Miriam Redi (now at Wikimedia))*
- *Doing research on three main projects:*
 - *hybrid human-computer lie detection*
 - *categorizing online social relationships*
 - *using social media images to predict emotion & well-being*

Ongoing Research Projects

- Human-Computer Hybrid Lie Detection
 - Leading research project on text-based lie detection—comparing human v. NLP & machine learning lie detection methods. Also examining combined human + computer methods (i.e. “hybrid lie detection”)
 - Project in collaboration with Daniele Quercia and Luca Aiello from Nokia Bell Labs (Cambridge, UK) and Eva Sharma (Georgia Tech and Northeastern University)

Published Papers

Macy, M., *Deri, S., *Ruch, A., & *Tong, N. (2019). Opinion cascades and the unpredictability of partisan polarization. *Science Advances*. 5 (8).

Davidai, S., & Deri, S. (2019). The second pugilist’s plight: Why people believe they are above average, but are not especially happy about it. *Journal of Experimental Psychology: General*. 148 (3). 570-587.

Deri, S., Stein, D., & Bohns, V. (2019). With a little help from my friends (and strangers): Closeness as a moderator of the underestimation-of-compliance effect. *Journal of Experimental Social Psychology*. 82, 6-15.

Deri, S., Rappaz, J., Aiello, L., Quercia, D. (2018) Coloring in the Links: Capturing Social Ties as They are Perceived. *Computer-Supported Cooperative Work and Social Computing*. 2; 43.

Deri, S., Davidai, S., & Gilovich, T. (2017). Home alone: Why people believe others’ social lives are richer than their own. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, 113(6), 858.

Deri, S., & Zitek, E. M. (2017). Did You Reject Me for Someone Else? Rejections That Are Comparative Feel Worse. *Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin*, 43(12), 1675-1685.

* equal contribution

Presentations

Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Annual Convention, 2019 <i>Speaker at Social Comparisons in the 21st Century: New Questions, New Insights (other presenters: Shai Davidai, Ashley Whillans, David Levari)</i>	February 2019 Portland, OR
---	-------------------------------

Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Annual Convention, 2018 <i>Chair of Symposium on Computational Social Psychology (presenters: Michal Koslinski, Morteza Dehghani, Daniele Quercia, Sebastian Deri)</i>	March 2018 Atlanta, GA
---	---------------------------

Psychology of Technology Conference <i>Presenting research on social comparison attitudes from social media</i>	November 2017 Berkeley, CA
---	-------------------------------

CODE@MIT 2017 (Conference on Digital Experimentation) <i>Two min. data-blitz talk on human, computer, & hybrid (human-computer) judgments of deception</i>	October 2017 Cambridge, MA
--	-------------------------------

Nokia Bell Labs, Summer Spritz Pecha Kuna Talk Series <i>Gave a talk on interdisciplinary project between social scientists and computer scientists building web-based platforms to infer offline behavior.</i>	July & August 2017 Cambridge, UK
---	-------------------------------------

Five Colleges Conference, Annual Conference	May 2017
---	----------

<i>Gave talk on research about people's relative assessments of their social lives at regional social psychology conference</i>	New York, NY
Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Annual Convention <i>Presented research demonstrating that while people believe they are above average, they do not consider the average person relevant</i>	January 2017 San Antonio, TX
Academy of Management, Annual Meeting <i>Gave talk on Senior Honors Thesis at symposium on Social Deviance (Symposium Title: "To Conform or Deviate"), talk related to creativity and religion</i>	August 2014 Philadelphia, PA
Awards	
NSF Research Grant (2 years; \$335,000) <i>Co-wrote grant with Professor Michael Macy + sociology & info. sci. graduate students Alex Ruch, and Natalie Tong, proposing experiment to examine whether political polarization in part caused by arbitrary preference cascades (proposal# 1756822)</i>	March 2018
Department of Defense NDSEG Fellowship (\$38,000 x 4 years + tuition) <i>National graduate fellowship awarded by Department of Defense, to U.S. citizens to encourage training in science and engineering disciplines (award rate: < 6% of applicants)</i>	April 2017
Cornell University Sage Fellowship (\$30,000 x 2 years + tuition)	April 2016
Full scholarship for PhD in psychology (stipend x 5 years + tuition) <i>Cornell University, Yale University, Princeton University, Columbia University, University of Chicago (Behavioral Science), University of Michigan, University of Virginia</i>	Spring 2016
Martin T. Wells Social Statistics Summer Fellowship (\$3,200)	Summer 2011
Cornell Daily Sun, Best New Columnist Award	Spring 2011
National AP Scholar	Spring 2009

Service & Community Engagement

<i>Program Committee (i.e. reviewer),</i> The Web Conference , Track: Web & Society	May 2019 (upcoming) San Francisco, CA
<i>Program Committee (i.e. reviewer),</i> European Symposium Series on Societal Challenges in Computational Social Science , Topic: Bias and Discrimination	December 2018 Cologne, Germany
<i>Moderator</i> , Professional Development Session on New Methods ("Crisis or Opportunity? Student Perspectives on Evolving Methodological Standards" at Annual SPSP 2018	Spring 2018 Atlanta, GA

Chair, Symposium (“Computational Social Psychology: Old Question, New Methods”) at Annual SPSP 2018	Spring 2018 Atlanta, GA
Program Committee (i.e. reviewer), European Symposium Series on Societal Challenges in Computational Social Science , Topic: Inequality and Imbalance	Fall 2017 London, UK
Organizer (Assistant), Five Colleges Conference, 2017	Spring 2017 New York, NY
Co-Chair, Cornell Psychology Dept. Social Activities Committee (Ithaca, NY)	Fall 2016 Ithaca, New York

Teaching Experience

Organizational Behavior (TA under Professors Emily Zitek, and Olga Khessina) <i>Taught 50 minute sections once a week for entire semester, led discussions on case studies, and various topics such as social conformity, motivation and cognitive biases; Fall semester overall teaching quality rating: 4.5/5; Spring semester overall teaching quality rating: 4.6/5</i>	Fall 2014; Spring 2015
Social Psychology (TA under Professor Tom Gilovich) <i>Taught 50 minute section 5 times a week for intensive 4 week summer course. Was given the freedom to develop my own syllabus (syllabus I developed included hands on demonstrations of Wason’s “Guess the Rule”, overconfidence, illusory correlations, etc); Rated 6.7/7 on overall teaching quality, and on an anonymous feedback form 100% of students in my section said they would select me again as their TA</i>	Summer 2013
Statistics (TA under Professor Paul Velleman) <i>Was a TA for the first part of the semester. Led 50 minute discussions every week on introductory statistical topics. Graded homeworks and statistical analyses assignments</i>	Fall 2012

Skills (Programming Languages, Statistical Software, Research Packages)

- R (Intermediate to Advanced, depending on topic)
- SQL (Intermediate)
- Python (Novice, but familiar)
- PHP (Intermediate)
- HTML (Intermediate)
- CSS (Above Novice)
- SPSS (Advanced)
- Java (Intermediate, but out of practice)
- MATLAB (Novice, and out of practice)
- Experimental Psychology Specific Software: Qualtrics (Advanced); Amazon MTurk (Advanced); TurkPrime (Advanced); Figure Eight (formerly “CrowdFlower”); (Intermediate); Medialab (Novice); DirectRT (Novice); Superlab (Novice)

Relevant Coursework

- CS 2800 (Discrete Structures/Discrete Math) (took Pass/Fail: Pass)
- CS 2110 (Object Oriented Programming and Data Structures) (took Pass/Fail: Pass)
- INFO 2300 (Intermediate Programming for the Web) (took Pass/Fail: Pass)
- CS 1110 (Intro Programming) (took Pass/Fail: Pass)
- INFO 1100 (Intro Programming for the Web) (A+)
- MATH 2310 (Linear Algebra with Applications) (A)
- Calculus II (A)
- Statistics I (A+)
- Statistical Methods II (A+)
- Social Science Research Methods (A+)
- Data Analysis in Practice (A+)
- Statistical Sampling (A-)
- Microeconomics (A+)
- Macroeconomics (A+)
- Labor Economics (A+)

Extracurricular

Cornell Daily Sun Opinion Columnist; Cornell Daily Sun 129th Editorial Board Member; Cornell Moot Court (President); Cornell Mock Trial (Team Captain, Witness, Attorney); Cornell EARS (Psychological Counseling Service Trainee); Cornell International Friendship Program (Fellow, Host)

Miscellanea

Fluent in Hungarian + First Generation U.S. Citizen, Published in Huffington Post and the *Situationist* (Harvard Law Blog); Mediocre juggler and Rubik's cube solver (best time: 79 seconds); Intramural Basketball; Data Collector for Burning Man Census Camp