Serina Chang

serinac@cs.stanford.edu • https://serinachang5.github.io
Last updated: Nov. 27, 2021

EDUCATION

Stanford University, Stanford, CA — 2019-present
Ph.D. candidate, Computer Science
Advised by Prof. Jure Leskovec and Prof. Johan Ugander

Columbia University, New York, NY — 2015-2019
B.A., Computer Science, concentration in Sociology, *magna cum laude*
Advised by Prof. Kathleen McKeown
GPA: 3.97/4.00, Dean's List (all semesters)

HONORS

Best Paper Award, KDD 2021 (Applied Data Science Track) — 2021
Outstanding Undergraduate Researcher Award, Computing Research Association — 2019
Graduate Research Fellowship, National Science Foundation — 2019
The Finch Family Fellowship, Stanford University, School of Engineering — 2019
Phi Beta Kappa, Columbia University — 2019
Theodore R. Bashkow Award, Columbia University, Computer Science — 2019
Academic Excellence Award, Columbia University, Computer Science — 2019
Collegiate Award Finalist, National Center for Women and Information Technology — 2018
King's Crown Leadership Award, Innovation and Enhancement, Columbia University — 2018

PUBLICATIONS

*indicates co-first authorship.

[1] Zakaria Mehrab, Mandy L. Wilson, **Serina Chang**, Galen Harrison, Bryan L. Lewis, Alex Tellionis, Justin Crowe, Dennis Kim, Scott Spillman, Kate Peters, Jure Leskovec, and Madhav Marathe. Data-driven real-time strategic placement of mobile vaccine distribution sites. IAAI 2022 (conditionally accepted).

[2] **Serina Chang**, Mandy L. Wilson, Bryan Lewis, Zakaria Mehrab, Komal K. Dudakiya, Emma Pierson, Pang Wei Koh, Jaline Gerardin, Beth Redbird, David Grusky, Madhav Marathe, and Jure Leskovec. Supporting COVID-19 policy response with large-scale mobility-based modeling. KDD 2021 (Applied Data Science Track, **Best Paper Award**). Oral presentation.

[3] Kyle Kawagoe*, Mark Rychnovsky*, **Serina Chang**, Greg Huber, Lucy M. Li, Jonathan Miller, Reuven Pnini, Boris Veytsman, and David Yllanes. Epidemic dynamics in inhomogeneous populations and the role of superspreaders. *Physical Review Research*, 2021.

[4] **Serina Chang***, Emma Pierson*, Pang Wei Koh*, Jaline Gerardin, Beth Redbird, David Grusky, and Jure Leskovec. Mobility network models of COVID-19 explain inequities and inform reopening. *Nature*, 2020. Also presented at Networks 2021 (oral) and NeurIPS 2020 ML for Health Workshop. Coverage in 380+ news outlets, including The New York Times, The Washington Post, Bloomberg, CNN, Fox Business, Wired, NPR, The Telegraph, MIT Technology Review, and Nature News. Ranked at #4 most online impact among 83,000+ papers ever published by *Nature* (Altmetric).

[5] **Serina Chang** and Kathleen McKeown. Automatically inferring gender associations from language. EMNLP 2019 (short paper). Oral presentation.

[6] **Serina Chang**, Ruiqi Zhong, Ethan Adams, Fei-Tzin Lee, Siddharth Varia, Desmond Patton, William Frey, Chris Kedzie, and Kathleen McKeown. Detecting gang-involved escalation on social media using context. EMNLP 2018 (long paper). Oral presentation.

[7] Jessica Ouyang, **Serina Chang**, and Kathleen McKeown. Crowd-sourced iterative annotation for narrative summarization corpora. EACL 2017 (short paper). Oral presentation.

WORKING PAPERS

[1] **Serina Chang** and Johan Ugander. To recommend or not? A model-based comparison of item-matching processes. Under review, 2021. Also presented at IC2S2 2021 (oral).

[2] Dallas Card, **Serina Chang**, Chris Becker, Julia Mendelsohn, Rob Voight, Leah Boustan, Ran Abramitzky, and Dan Jurafsky. Computational analysis of 140 years of U.S. political speeches reveals more positive but increasingly polarized framing of immigration. Under review, 2021.

TEACHING & MENTORSHIP

Head course assistant (CA), Stanford University, Machine Learning with Graphs (CS224W) 2021
- Managing CA team and class of over 300 students; overseeing lecture slides, assignments, exams, and final projects
- Course material covers the foundations and state-of-the-art of machine learning with graphs, including representation learning, graph neural networks, reasoning over knowledge graphs, and algorithms for large-scale networks

Research mentor, Stanford University 2020-present
- Mentoring students (PhD, masters, undergrad) in Prof. Leskovec's lab on research projects related to COVID-19 modeling

Mentor, Stanford Engineering, Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship 2021

Mentor, Stanford Computer Science, Undergraduate Mentoring Program 2020

Instructor, Girls Who Code, Summer Immersion Program 2019
- Served as the primary teacher for a classroom of 20 high school girls
- Taught a 7-week curriculum including Python, HTML, CSS, JavaScript, and Arduino

Workshop organizer, NYC Digital Humanities Week 2019
- "Beyond Bechdel: Using Computation to Analyze Gender in Film," co-organized and co-taught with Kara Schechtman
- Introduced techniques in natural language processing and data science to analyze movies; provided sample code and data

Instructional assistant, Columbia University, Data Structures in Java (COMS 3134) 2017

Peer tutor, Columbia University, Computer Science Theory (COMS 3261) 2017

WORK EXPERIENCE

Software Engineering Intern, Google, Geo Assistant 2018
- Built a new, user-facing feature for Google Search and Assistant
- Implemented backend to parse queries in Search, worked with UX designer and PM to create frontend

Engineering Practicum Intern, Google, Search Site Reliability Engineering (SRE) 2017
- Improved internal tools for monitoring and tracking requests to Google Now

INVITED TALKS

Stanford, Fundamental Concepts in MS&E (MS&E 302), Guest Lecture 2021
Cornell Tech, Urban Data (INFO 5430), Guest Lecture 2021
OECD-ODISSEI Webinar on Open Data Infrastructure 2021
Data Science Connect Conference 2021
March for Science Podcast 2021
PathCheck Global Health Innovators Seminar 2021
Stanford, Networks (MS&E 135), Guest Lecture 2021
Diaries of Social Data Research Podcast 2021
Stanford, Big Data Methods for Behavioral, Social, and Pop. Health (EPI 270), Guest Lecture 2021
Stanford San Diego Alumni Club, Speaker Event 2021
NeurIPS, COVID-19 Symposium 2020
AI Science Spotlight Series 2020
The Octavian Report Podcast 2020
Placekey Community Seminar 2020
Stanford, Stats ML Retreat 2020
Columbia, NLP Seminar 2019
Columbia, Emerging Scholars Program (COMS 1404), Guest Lecture 2018

SERVICE

Journal reviewer for:
- Nature Human Behavior
- American Journal of Sociology
- ACM Transactions on Spatial Algorithms and Systems
- npj Urban Sustainability

Conference reviewer for:
- 2022: ACL Rolling Review
- 2021: Machine Learning for Health (ML4H) Symposium, ACL (NLP for Social Good Theme), ACL NLP for Positive Impact Workshop, ICLR AI for Public Health Workshop

LEADERSHIP

Womxn in CS (WiCS), Columbia University, Academic Chair 2016-2019
- Founded WiCS Lightning Talks, a series for student researchers to share their research with student audiences
- Organized panels with faculty and mentorship events with upperclassmen to help students navigate academics in CS

Lean In at Columbia, Columbia University, Co-President & Senior Advisor 2016-2019

- Grew active membership by 5x to reach over 100 committed members attending weekly meetings
- Founded a mentorship program that connected over 70 student-mentor pairs
- Organized the first Lean In at CU conference, sponsored by Microsoft, Facebook, IBM, and others

Intercollegiate Chamber Music Festival (ICMF), NYC 2017-2019

- Co-founded with Cindy Liu and Dean Deng, in collaboration with the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center
- ICMF is an annual, weekend-long music festival for collegiate chamber musicians; events include a performers' showcase at Lincoln Center, masterclasses with world-renowned artists, and talks with industry leaders

ACTIVITIES

Music Performance Program (MPP), Columbia University 2015-2019

- Took lessons in chamber music and piano
- Selected 3 times to perform in MPP's end-of-year concert at Carnegie Weill Hall

Precollege Program, Manhattan School of Music (MSM) 2003-2015

- Took lessons in piano, violin, chamber music, orchestra, music theory, and ear training
- Recipient of the Rosetta Goodkind Scholarship and the Ralph Zola Scholarship
- Multi-time winner of MSM's concerto and chamber music competitions
- Featured on NPR's *From The Top*; recipient of the National YoungArts Merit Award; winner of international piano competitions including American Protégé, American Fine Arts Festival, and New York International Artists Association