Sky (Kehan) Sheng

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Education

2020/9 – Present
University of British Columbia – Vancouver, BC, Canada
PhD in Applied Animal Biology X Data Science • GPA: 91%
Research Collaborator at TrustML

2017/9 – 2020/5
University of Wisconsin - Madison – Madison, WI, USA
BS in Animal Science, Minor in Computer Science • GPA: 3.97/4.0

Selected Publications

2026
"The Guardian is credible but leans towards opinion": Shadow mechanisms in GPT-5's web search and the politics of credibility
Terzis, P., **Sheng, K.**, Sax, M., van Drunen, M.,Sokol-Snyder, R.,de León, E.,Biega, A.
Submitted to ACM Conference on Fairness, Accountability, and Transparency (ACM FAccT)

2025
The erasure of intensive livestock farming in text-to-image generative AI
Sheng, K., Tuyttens, F.A.M., von Keyserlingk, M.A.G.
ACM FAccT, oral presentation. https://doi.org/10.48550/arXiv.2502.19771
Note: This work was also presented as poster + lightning talk at Vancouver Vision & Learning Workshop ICML 2025

2025
Redefining Lameness Assessment: Constructing Lameness Hierarchy using Crowd-Sourced Data
Sheng, K., Foris, B., von Keyserlingk, M.A.G., Timbers, T.A., Cabrera, V., Weary, D.M.
Computers and Electronics in Agriculture. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.compag.2025.110206

2025
AI for One Welfare: the role of animal welfare scientists in developing valid and ethical AI-based welfare assessment tools
Foris, B., **Sheng, K.**, Dürnberger, C., Oczak, M., Rault, J.L.
Frontiers in Veterinary Science, 12. https://doi.org/10.3389/fvets.2025.1645901

2024
Redefining dominance calculation: Increased competition flattens the dominance hierarchy in dairy cows
Sheng, K., Foris, B., Krahn, J., Weary, D.M., von Keyserlingk, M.A.G.
Journal of Dairy Science, 107(9): 7286-7298. https://doi.org/10.3168/jds.2023-24587

2023
Crowd sourcing remote comparative lameness assessments for dairy cattle
Sheng, K., Foris, B., von Keyserlingk, M.A.G., Gardenier, J., Clark, C., Weary, D.M.
Journal of Dairy Science, 106(8): 5715-5722. https://doi.org/10.3168/jds.2022-22737

Selected Research Funding & Awards

Total research funding secured: $74,975 CAD. Total scholarship awarded: $45,756 CAD

2025 ACM Conference on Fairness, Accountability, and Transparency (FAccT) Travel Grant ($1308.2 USD)

2022 EAAP Early Career Researcher Award – **First Place** in Oral Presentation

Selected Teaching Experience

2026 **Instructor, Python Vibe Coding Tutorial: AI Bias in Text-to-Image Generative AI**
UBC Extended Learning Course: Programming in Python for Data Science

2025 **Lecturer, UBC Master of Data Science Program**
DSCI 522: Reproducible Data Science Workflows; DSCI 571: Supervised Machine Learning. Designed workshops on responsible AI use and cloud computing.

2022 – 2025 **Instructor, Data Science Summer Camps**
Designed and taught camps covering AI-assisted programming, statistical inference, machine learning, and AI ethics for high school students.

2024 – 2025 **Teaching Assistant, UBC Master of Data Science Program**
DSCI 525 (Web & Cloud Computing), DSCI 553 (Statistical Inference II), DSCI 524 (Collaborative Software Development), DSCI 522 (Data Science Workflows), DSCI 552 (Statistical Inference I).

Example Research Mentorship

I've mentored 27 undergraduate and graduate students in conducting interdisciplinary research to solve real-world problems through data science.

2025 – 2026 **Rebecca Sokol-Snyder** (Master's Student in Data Science, UBC)
Supervised research on evaluating political bias in Large Language Model's web search process.

2023 **Charlie He** (Undergraduate Student in Computer Science, UBC)
Supervised fine-tuning YOLO-v8 for automatic cattle identification, achieving 98% accuracy. Currently pursuing PhD at UBC.

Technical Skills

Programming: Python (pandas, numpy, scikit-learn, matplotlib), R, SQL, bash
AI & ML Tools: OpenAI API, Stability AI API, Claude Code, Cursor
Infrastructure: Git, Docker, AWS, GNU Make
Research Areas: AI fairness, bias evaluation, crowdsourcing, statistical modeling