Susan Vanderplas

Curriculum Vitae

349a Hardin Hall North Wing
3310 Holdrege Street
Lincoln, NE 68483-0961
402-472-7290
✉ *susan.vanderplas@unl.edu*
srvanderplas

Education

2015 **PhD**, *Statistics*, Iowa State University.
Dissertation: The Perception of Statistical Graphics

2011 **MS**, *Statistics*, Iowa State University.

2009 **BS**, *Psychology & Applied Mathematical Sciences*, Texas A&M University.

Professional Experience

2020 **Assistant Professor**, *Statistics Department*, University of Nebraska, Lincoln.

2018–2019 **Research Assistant Professor**, *Center for Statistics and Applications in Forensic Evidence*, Iowa State University.

2018–2019 **Statistical Consultant**, *Nebraska Public Power District*.
Provided individual mentoring and project leadership to continue the Business Intelligence Embedded Agent program and provide support for R-related projects.

2015–2018 **Statistical Analyst**, *Nebraska Public Power District*.

2015 **Postdoc**, *Iowa State University Office of the Vice President for Research*.

Scholarship

Contribution percentages estimated from git contributions using `git fame` where possible. Not all projects have github repositories for which this is meaningful.

Journal Publications

14. 2020 **Vanderplas**, **S.**, Röttger, C., Cook, D. & Hofmann, H. Statistical Significance Calculations for Scenarios in Visual Inference. *Stat*.
Contribution: Programming and analysis (30%), Writing (65%).

14. 2020 **Vanderplas**, **S.**, Carriquiry, A., Hofmann, H., Hamby, J. & Tai, X. H. in *Handbook of Forensic Statistics* (eds Banks, D., Kafadar, K., Kaye, D. & Tackett, M.) (New York: Chapman and Hall/CRC). https://doi.org/10.1201/9780367527709.
Contribution: Writing (50%).

14. 2020 **Vanderplas**, **S.**, Nally, M., Klep, T., Cadevall, C. & Hofmann, H. Comparison of three similarity scores for bullet LEA matching. *Forensic Science International*. doi:10.1016/j.forsciint.2020.110167.
Contribution: Programming and analysis (20%), Writing (55%).

14. 2020 **Vanderplas**, **S.**, Cook, D. & Hofmann, H. Testing Statistical Charts: What Makes a Good Graph? *Annual Review of Statistics and Its Application* **7,** 13.1–13.28.
Contribution: Writing (85%).

14. 2019 Rutter, L., **VanderPlas**, **S.**, Cook, D. & Graham, M. ggenealogy: An R Package for Visualizing Genealogical Data. *Journal of Statistical Software* **89,** 1–31. ISSN: 1548-7660.

14. 2019 **VanderPlas**, **S.**, Goluch, R. & Hofmann, H. Framed! Reproducing and Revisiting 150 year old charts. *Journal of Computational and Graphical Statistics*. https://doi.org/10.1080/10618600.2018.1562937.
Contribution: Programming and analysis (60%), writing (50%).

14. 2019 Sievert, C., **VanderPlas**, **S.**, Cai, J., Ferris, K., Khan, F. U. F. & Hocking, T. D. Extending ggplot2 for linked and animated web graphics. *Journal of Computational and Graphical Statistics* **28,** 299–308.

14. 2017 **Vanderplas**, **S.** & Hofmann, H. Clusters Beat Trend!? Testing Feature Hierarchy in Statistical Graphics. *Journal of Computational and Graphical Statistics* **26,** 231–242.
Contribution: Programming and analysis (90%), writing (50%).

14. 2017 *Submitted as an invited response to Donoho's "50 years of Data Science"*.
Hofmann, H. & **Vanderplas**, **S.** All of This Has Happened Before. All of This Will Happen Again: Data Science. *Journal of Computational and Graphical Statistics* **26,** 775–778.
Contribution: Writing (75%).

14. 2016 **Vanderplas**, **S.** & Hofmann, H. Spatial Reasoning and Data Displays. *IEEE Transactions on Visualization and Computer Graphics*. https://doi.org/10.1109/TVCG.2015.2469125.
Contribution: Programming and analysis (90%), writing (75%).

14. 2015 **Vanderplas**, **S.** & Hofmann, H. Signs of the Sine Illusion - why we need to care. *Journal of Computational and Graphical Statistics* **24,** 1170–1190.
Contribution: Programming and analysis (50%), writing (60%).

14. 2010 Towfic, F., **VanderPlas**, **S.**, Oliver, C. A., Couture, O., Tuggle, C. K., Greenlee, M. H. W. & Honavar, V. Detection of gene orthology from gene co-expression and protein interaction networks. *BMC bioinformatics* **11,** S7.

14. 2009 Hull, R., Bortfeld, H. & **Koons**, **S.** Near-infrared spectroscopy and cortical responses to speech production. *The open neuroimaging journal* **3,** 26.

Other Publications

3. 2019 Carriquiry, A., Hofmann, H., Tai, X. H. & **VanderPlas**, **S.** Machine learning in forensic applications. *Significance* **16,** 29–35.
Contribution: Writing (50%).

3. 2013 Budrus, S., Vanderplas, S. & Cook, D. In tennis, do smashes win matches? *Significance* **10,** 35–38.

In Progress

Perception of Log Scales Assessment of perception and use of log scales to display exponential growth. Data collection stage.

A Convolutional Neural Network for Outsole Recognition Use CNNs to automate identification of class characteristics in images of footwear outsoles. Submitted to Journal of Statistics and Data Mining, April 2020.

Longitudinal Shoe Database Design a database for sharing longitudinal shoe wear data, including powder prints, 2D scans, 3D scans, pictures, and crime-scene style casts and prints. Submitted to Forensic Science International, Oct 2020.

Bullet Signature Resampling Method for resampling bullet signatures used to calculate match and non-match score distributions.

Grants

2020–2025 **NIST**, *Center for Statistics and Applications in Forensic Evidence*, PI, Funded ($20 million total, $456,930 sub-award).

2020–2023 **USDA CIGOFF**, *Improving the Economic and Ecological Sustainability of US Crop Production through On-Farm Precision Experimentation*, PI, Funded ($4,000,000 total).

2020 **USDA NIFA AFRI**, *Corn Residue Adaptive Grazing Strategies*, Collaborator, Submitted April 2020, $300,000.

2020 **USDA NIFA AFRI**, *Practical Framework to Facilitate Adoption of In-Season N Management Technology in Commercial Fields*, Collaborator, Submitted April 2020, $300,000.

2020 **NSF**, *AI Institute: AgroAI: The Institute for Advancing Agriculture and Food in a Changing World Using AI*, Collaborator, Not Funded, UNL subcontract request $3,555,327.

2020–2021 **NIJ R&D in Forensic Science**, *Automatic Acquisition and Identification of Footwear Class Characteristics*, PI, Funded for 2020-2021 ($386,984 total); paused during transfer to UNL.

2019 **USDA AFRI-SAS**, *A Cyber-Physical System for Data-Intensive Farm Management*, PI, Not funded, $3,000,000 total.

2019 **NSF**, *Overcoming the Rural Data Deficit to Improve Quality of Life and Community Services in Smart & Connected Small Communities*, PI, Funded for 2020-2023 ($1,500,000 total, $123,445 subcontract).

2019 **NIJ R&D in Forensic Science**, *Statistical Infrastructure for the Use of Error Rate Studies in the Interpretation of Forensic Evidence*, Collaborator, Funded for FY 2019, $197,699 total, $57,596 ISU sub-award.

2018 **NIJ R&D in Forensic Science**, *Passive Acquisition of Footwear Class Characteristics in Local Populations*, PI, Not funded, $383,104.

2018 **NIJ R&D in Forensic Science**, *Evaluating Photogrammetry for 3D Footwear Impression Recovery*, PI, Not funded, $281,755.

Invited Talks

2020 **Do You See What I See? Leveraging Human Perception in Computer Vision Tasks.**, *JSM*, Section on Statistical Graphics, Online.
Session Cancelled

2020 **Perception and Visual Communication in a Global Pandemic**, *Data Science, Statistics, and Visualization*, SAMSI, Online.

2020 **One of these things is not like the others: Visual Statistics and Testing in Statistical Graphics**, *Data Science Symposium*, South Dakota State University, Brookings, SD.

2020 **Big Data, Big Experiments, and Big Problems**, Plant and Animal Genome, San Diego, CA.

2019 **Statistical Lineups for Bayesians**, *JSM*, Section on Statistical Graphics, Denver, CO.

2018 **Clusters Beat Trend!? Testing Feature Hierarchy in Statistical Graphics**, *SDSS*, Reston, VA.

2015 **Animint: Interactive Web-Based Animations Using Ggplot2's Grammar of Graphics**, *JSM*, Seattle, WA.

2014 **The curse of three dimensions: Why your brain is lying to you**, *JSM*, Section on Statistical Graphics Student Paper Session, Boston, MA.

Contributed Talks

2018 **Framed! Reproducing 150 year old charts**, *JSM*, Vancouver, BC.

2017 **A Bayesian Approach to Visual Inference**, *JSM*, Baltimore, MD.

2016 **Clusters Beat Trend!? Testing Feature Hierarchy in Statistical Graphics**, *JSM*, Chicago, IL.

2015 **Visual Aptitude and Statistical Graphics**, *InfoVis*, Chicago, IL.

2015 **Animint: Interactive, Web-Ready Graphics with R**, *Great Plains R User Group*, Sioux Center, IA.

2014 **Do You See What I See? Using Shiny for User Testing**, *JSM*, Boston, MA.

2013 **Signs of the Sine Illusion – why we need to care**, *JSM*, Montreal, ON.

Software

2020 `vinference`, *Analysis of visual inference experiments*.

2019 `ShoeScrubR`, *Cleaning shoe print data for future statistical analysis*.

2019 `groovefinder`, *Identification of grooves in scans of bullet land engraved areas*.

2018 `ShoeScrapeR`, *Acquisition of Shoe Images and Metadata from Online Retailers*.

2018 `bulletxtrctr`, *Automated matching of 3d bullet scans*.

2018 `x3ptools`, *Reading, manipulating, and visualizing x3p files*.

2013–2015 `animint`, *animated, interactive web graphics for R using d3.js*.

Teaching

2020 **Stat 850 - Computing Tools for Statisticians**, *University of Nebraska, Lincoln*, Course materials: https://srvanderplas.github.io/unl-stat850/.

2020 **Stat 218 - Introduction to Statistics**, *University of Nebraska, Lincoln*.
Mean evaluation: 4.2, Median: 4.0

2019 **Stat 585 - Data Technologies for Statistical Analysis**, *Iowa State University*.
Co-taught, assisted with curriculum development. Mean evaluation: 4.92, Median: 5.0

2017–2018 **Business Intelligence Embedded Agent Program**, *Nebraska Public Power District*.
Design and implement a program to mentor employees, providing instruction in data science and opportunities to apply new skills within the company. Lead one-on-one and group mentoring sessions to create a sense of community and reinforce skills learned through online courses. Class size: 16

2017 **R Workshop**, *Nebraska Public Power District*.
3-day internal course on using R for data analysis.

2013–2014 **R Workshops**, *Iowa State*.
Introduction to R, ggplot2, data management and cleaning, package development, literate programming, and Shiny.

2011–2013 **Statistical Methods for Research**, *Iowa State*, TA.

2012

2013

2011

Introduction to Business Statistics II, *Iowa State*, TA.

Empirical Methods for Computer Science, *Iowa State*, TA.

Mentoring and Advising

Graduate Students

2020

Emily Robinson, *Statistics*, Ph.D.

Perception and Visual Inference. Co-advised with Reka Howard.

2020

Denise Bradford, *Statistics*, Ph.D.

Data Science and Interactive Graphics.

2019

Joseph Zemmels, *Statistics*, MS, Ph.D.

Analysis and Matching of Cartridge Cases. Completed MS (Spring 2020). Co-advised with Heike Hofmann.

2019 – 2020

Eryn Blagg, *Statistics*, MS, Ph.D.

Analysis of Wear Development in Three-Dimensional Shoe Scans. Completed MS (Spring 2020). Co-advised with Heike Hofmann

2018 – 2019

Miranda Tilton, *Statistics*, MS.

Footwear Class Characteristics and Computer Vision. Completed MS (Spring 2019).

Undergraduate Students

2019

Jason Seo, *Computer Science and Statistics*, Undergraduate Research.

R package for visualization of neural networks using the python library keras-vis.

2018 – 2019

Talen Fisher, *Computer Engineering*, Undergraduate Research.

Tools for working with x3p files, database design for storing bullet scans and intermediate analysis products.

Summer Research Programs

2019

Molly McDermott and Andrew Maloney, *Research Experience for Undergraduates*, Summer 2019.

Bullet Scan Quality and Machine Learning

2019

Syema Ailia, Emmanuelle Hernandez Morales, Tiger Ji, *Research Experience for Undergraduates*, Summer 2019.

Rapid Quality Control Tools for Confocal Microscopy Scans

2018

Ben Wonderlin and Jenny Kim, *Young Engineers and Scientists*, Summer 2018.

Footwear Class Characteristics and Computer Vision

Service

2020

Graphics Section Program Chair, *ASA*.

2020

Program Committee (Graphics), *Symposium on Data Science and Statistics 2020*.

2019 – 2021

Gertrude Cox Scholarship Committee Member, *ASA*.

Assisted with selection of the Gertrude Cox Scholarship recipients and honorable mentions.

2019

Uncoast Unconference Organizing Committee, Des Moines, IA.

Organized the first R Uncoast Unconference to bring R developers in flyover country together for a 3-day event. Over 50% of the participants at the conference were women or minorities, and participants included students, academics, and industry R programmers with a variety of experience levels in R programming.

2017 – 2019

Graphics Section Representative to the Council of Sections, *ASA*.