

Tristan Ballard

tballard@stanford.edu • linkedin.com/in/tristan-ballard • github.com/tristanballard • (508) 698-5545

SUMMARY

- Strong statistical background with several research projects implementing modern data science techniques
- Experience managing large geospatial datasets in R (e.g. weather datasets, climate models)
- Passion for developing data-driven solutions to global challenges

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- Ph.D. Student**, Stanford University 9/15-present
- Developed recurrent neural network for predicting daily river temperatures at 1,100 locations and estimated historical distributional shifts using quantile autoregression
 - Challenged a high-impact model of Gulf of Mexico water quality on statistical grounds
 - Modeled long-term climate impacts on nitrogen runoff across the U.S.
 - Developed a regression model for understanding drivers of California droughts
- Research Assistant**, Duke University 9/13-5/15
- Evaluated a Bayesian model averaging method for combining multiple climate model predictions
 - Forecast an Ethiopian precipitation intensification using climate models
- Research Assistant**, Duke University 1/14-5/14
- Designed error metrics for Markov chain Monte Carlo simulations of wind power
- Research Assistant**, Columbia University 6/13-8/13
- Modeled the relationship between drought and duck populations in the Great Plains

EDUCATION

- Stanford University**
- Ph.D. in Earth System Science Expected 6/21
 - M.S. in Statistics Expected 6/20
 - Activities: Stanford Datathon 2nd place, Collegiate Nationals Cycling competitor
- Duke University**
- B.A. in Statistics, B.S. Environmental Science, *magna cum laude* 2015

RELEVANT COURSEWORK

- Deep Learning
- Machine Learning
- Nonparametric Statistics
- Bayesian Statistics
- Stochastic Processes
- Time Series Analysis
- Data Systems
- Atmospheric Circulation

WORK EXPERIENCE

- Intern**, South Durban Community Environmental Alliance 6/14-8/14
- Researched sea level rise implications for the Durban marine port expansion
 - Collaborated on a small team to organize community outreach events

SKILLS

- Proficient in R (5+ years). Experience with Keras, SQL, Python, Unix, Matlab, Illustrator

PUBLICATIONS

- Ballard, T.**, A. Michalak, G. McIsaac, N. Rabalais, and R. Turner, 2019: Comment on “Legacy nitrogen may prevent water quality goals in the Gulf of Mexico.” *Science*, 365, 6455.
- Ballard, T.**, E. Sinha, and A. Michalak, 2019: Long-term changes in precipitation and temperature have already impacted nitrogen loading. *Environmental Science and Technology*, 53, 5080-5090.
- Swain, D.L., D. Singh, D.E. Horton, J.S. Mankin, **T. Ballard**, and N. Diffenbaugh, 2017: Remote linkages to anomalous winter atmospheric ridging over the northeastern Pacific. *JGR-Atmospheres*, 122, 12194-12209.
- Li, L., W. Li, **T. Ballard**, G. Sun, M. Jeuland, 2015: CMIP5 model simulations of Ethiopian Kiremt-season precipitation: Current climate and future changes. *Climate Dynamics*, 46, 2883-2895.
- Ballard, T.**, R. Seager, J.E. Smerdon, B.I. Cook, A.J. Ray, B. Rajagopalan, Y. Kushnir, J. Nakamura, and N. Henderson, 2014: Hydroclimate variability and change in the Prairie Pothole Region, the "Duck Factory" of North America. *Earth Interactions*, 18, no. 14, 1-28.