STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

I bring statistics and machine learning together with critical perspectives from social science to consider when, how, and why data and modeling succeed in their aims—and when, how, and why they can fail. I am passionate about improving practice towards more responsible, robust, effective, and just uses of data and modeling, as well as engaging in outreach to help practitioners in policy, government, law, journalism, social science, business, civil society, and elsewhere understand and adopt machine learning and data science.

EDUCATION

School of Computer Science, Carnegie Mellon University, Aug 2013–Aug 2018
PhD in Societal Computing (Institute for Software Research) and MS in Machine Learning (Machine Learning Department). Research on social media and sensor data. ARCS Foundation award. Dissertation: “Bias and beyond in digital trace data.” Committee: Jürgen Pfeffer and Anind Dey (Co-advisors), Cosma R. Shalizi (Department of Statistics), and David Lazer (Northeastern University).

Oxford Internet Institute, University of Oxford, Oct 2011–Sep 2012

Department of the History of Science, Harvard University, Sep 2004–Mar 2009

WORK AND RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Data Science Postdoctoral Fellow, Berkman Klein Center for Internet & Society at Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, Sep 2018–present
Statistical learning and network modeling for data in Media Cloud and other projects; technical advising and tutoring for scholars and practitioners in social science, journalism, law, and policy; building in-house data science capacity; forging stronger university-wide ties between social and data science; and research into conceptual, ethical, theoretical, and practical challenges of deploying data science.

Data Science for Social Good Fellow, Lisbon, Portugal, Summer 2017
Project for Tuscan agencies applying machine learning and network analysis to urban data for sustainable tourism in Florence. Run by the Center for Data Science and Public Policy, University of Chicago, and Nova School of Business and Economics, Universidade NOVA de Lisboa.

Graduate research assistant, Ubicomp Lab, Pittsburgh, PA, 2016–2018
Research under Dr. Anind Dey (Human-Computer Interaction Institute and University of Washington) on mobile phone sensor collection of social network data. Ran 3-month S3-subject study, collecting mobile phone sensor data alongside social network survey responses.

Graduate research assistant, Pfeffer Lab, Pittsburgh, PA, 2013–2018
Research under Dr. Jürgen Pfeffer (Institute for Software Research and Technical University of Munich) on biases in social media data (representativeness, data access, effect of platform constraints on behavior), and news media and social media. Use of Twitter 10% sample.

Research for 2013 book by Prof. Viktor Mayer-Schönberger (Oxford Internet Institute) and Kenneth Cukier (The Economist). History of statistics and data management, historical and modern case studies, fact-checking, idea development, and editing draft material.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS


