# LUCIUS EDEN JAMES BYNUM • lucius@nyu.edu • NYC, New York • luciusbynum.com

# **EDUCATION**

Ph.D. Candidate, Data Science, New York University, Center for Data Science

2020-Present

Advisors: Julia Stoyanovich, Joshua R. Loftus | Area: responsible AI, causal inference, algorithmic inequality | GPA: 3.9 In my research, I use causal inference and statistics to better understand bias and inequality in AI systems, machine learning, and algorithmic decision making. This work includes developing tools for inequality-aware decision making and more wholistic algorithmic fairness, leveraging counterfactual reasoning to improve model explainability and reduce pre-existing disparities, and reimagining how we use causal modeling formalisms to reason about social categories like race and gender.

B.Sc., Data Science, Harvey Mudd College

2014-2018

Superior Academic Performance (2014), Dean's List (2014 - 2017), Graduate with Distinction (2018) | GPA: 3.7

Henry A. Krieger Prize in Decision Sciences, Mathematics Department

2017

Annual award presented to rising senior students who show particular promise in probability, statistics, or operations research

L'Université de Toulouse / L'Institut d'études politiques de Toulouse, France (Study Abroad)

Spring 2017

# **FUNDING & AWARDS**

Microsoft Research PhD Fellowship, Microsoft Corporation

2022-Present

NRT FUTURE PhD Fellowship, New York University, Center for Data Science

2020-Present

## **PUBLICATIONS**

PEER-REVIEWED CONFERENCE PUBLICATIONS:

**Bynum, L.E.J.**, Loftus, J.R., & Stoyanovich, J. (2023). **Counterfactuals for the Future.** *Proceedings of the AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence (AAAI 2023).* 

Bell, A.; Bynum, L.E.J.; Drushchak, N.; Zakharchenko, T.; Rosenblatt, L.; & Stoyanovich, J. (2023). The Possibility of Fairness: Revisiting the Impossibility Theorem in Practice. *Proceedings of the 2023 ACM Conference on Fairness, Accountability, and Transparency (FAccT 2023)*.

**Bynum, L.E.J.**; Loftus, J.R.; and Stoyanovich, J. (2021). **Disaggregated Interventions to Reduce Inequality.** *Equity and Access in Algorithms, Mechanisms, and Optimization (EAAMO 2021).* 

Bynum, L.E.J.; Doster, T.; Emerson, T.H.; and Kvinge, H. Rotational Equivariance for Object Classification Using xView. 2020 IEEE International Geoscience and Remote Sensing Symposium (IGARSS 2020). Note: alphabetical order.

#### PEER-REVIEWED WORKSHOP PUBLICATIONS:

Bynum, L.E.J.; Arif Khan, F.; Konopatska, O.; Loftus, J.R.; and Stoyanovich, J. (2022). An Interactive Introduction to Causal Inference. VISxAI: Workshop on Visualization for AI Explainability (VISxAI 2022).

#### UNDER REVIEW:

Rosenblatt, L.; **Bynum, L.E.J.**; Bell, A.; and Stoyanovich, J. (2024). **A General Framework for Approximate Fairness.** Under Review. **Note:** equal contribution.

Bynum, L.E.J.; Loftus, J.R.; and Stoyanovich, J. (2024). A New Paradigm for Counterfactual Reasoning in Fairness and Recourse. Under Review.

Loftus, J.R.; Bynum, L.E.J.; and Hansen, S. (2024). Causal Dependence Plots. Under Review.

## RESEARCH & WORK EXPERIENCE

#### **Graduate Research Fellow**, Center for Responsible AI, New York University

2020-Present

Independent and collaborative research on causal inference, machine learning, and responsible AI (fairness, transparency, etc.)

#### Post-Baccalaureate Research Associate, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory

2018-2020

Mathematical research across several government-sponsored projects in the Applied Statistics and Computational Modeling Group for the National Security Directorate of the US Department of Energy

- Designed convex optimization solution for a waste-to-fuel bioconversion problem (hydrothermal liquefaction)
- Trained/tested convolutional neural networks (PyTorch) using PNNL's GPU and high performance computing clusters
- Built custom data visualization tools and dashboards (R Shiny, Jupyter) for internal and external clients

#### Senior Thesis in Mathematics, Advisor: Susan E. Martonosi, Harvey Mudd College

2017-2018

Developed custom clustering and regression techniques applicable to professional basketball data

- Presented research at Harvey Mudd and SOCAMS 2018 Conference (at UCSB)
- Work used as the foundation for a Summer 2018 REU project at Harvey Mudd

#### Software Engineering Intern, Civis Analytics, Chicago, IL

Summer 2017

Developed a Python library for statistical database matching across disparate data sources | 6-person team

• Product used by Civis' data scientists and external clients to match and de-duplicate datasets

#### Team Lead - Research in Industrial Projects for Students, IPAM, UCLA

Summer 2016

Led a team of students conducting industry-sponsored mathematical research for Advanced Micro Devices, Inc. | 4-person team

- Studied the mathematics behind statistical power side-channel attacks and countermeasures against them
- Presented research at UCLA, Advanced Micro Devices, Inc. (AMD), and MAA Joint Math Meetings 2017 Conference

# **TEACHING & MENTORING**

**Research Advisor**, R/AI Ukrainian Research Program, NYU + Ukrainian Catholic University

2022-Present

Advising undergraduate and master's students on independent research projects across responsible AI topics

### Teaching Assistant / Section Leader — Responsible Data Science, New York University

Spring 2023

Taught lab sessions, held office hours, and graded homework assignments. Topics covered include algorithmic fairness, the data science life cycle, data protection, and algorithmic transparency/interpretability

#### **Instructor** — We Are AI, New York University + Queens Public Library

Spring 2022

Co-taught an AI education course to improve AI literacy in the general public, run in partnership with Queens Public Library

#### **Operations Research Mathematics Grader**, Harvey Mudd College

2017-2018

Graded homework assignments covering linear programming, network optimization, and integer programming

# Writing Center Consultant, Harvey Mudd College

2015-2018

Provided one-on-one writing consultation with students from various disciplines to improve writing structure and technique

#### Academic Excellence Mathematics Tutor, Harvey Mudd College

2016-2017

Recommended by department faculty to work with students to improve skills in Calculus, Differential Equations, Discrete Math, Linear Algebra, Multivariable Calculus, and Probability/Statistics

#### Student Mentor, Harvey Mudd College

2016-2017

Served on the Residential Life team, mentoring first year students, hosting social events, facilitating new student orientation

## **SKILLS**

Programming Languages: (Fluent:) Python, R; (Familiar:) Java, C++, SQL, HTML/CSS, Javascript, Racket, Prolog

**Software and libraries:** Git, LaTeX, MATLAB, Numpy, Pandas, Pyro, PyTorch, etc. **Spoken languages:** fluent English, intermediate French, basic Seychellois Creole