

# Kevin O'Connor

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🔗 oconnor-kevin

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## EDUCATION

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**University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill**

*Ph.D. Candidate in Statistics*

Advised by Andrew Nobel and Kevin McGoff

**Chapel Hill, NC**

*2017 – Present*

**University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill**

*M.S. in Statistics and Operations Research*

**Chapel Hill, NC**

*2017 – 2020*

**University of Chicago**

*B.A. in Physics and Statistics*

**Chicago, IL**

*2012 – 2016*

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

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Optimal transport

Stochastic processes

Statistical machine learning

## PUBLICATIONS

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**Kevin O'Connor**, Kevin McGoff, and Andrew Nobel. Statistical optimal transport for stationary processes. *In preparation*, 2020.

**Kevin O'Connor**, Kevin McGoff, and Andrew Nobel. Optimal transport for stationary Markov chains via policy iteration. *Submitted*, 2020.

Christopher Bender<sup>†</sup>, **Kevin O'Connor**<sup>†</sup>, Yang Li, Juan Jose Garcia, Manzil Zaheer, and Junier Oliva. Exchangeable generative modeling with flow scans. *AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence*, 2020.

<sup>†</sup>*denotes equal contribution*

## WORKSHOP PUBLICATIONS

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Christopher Bender<sup>†</sup>, **Kevin O'Connor**<sup>†</sup>, Yang Li, Juan Jose Garcia, Manzil Zaheer, and Junier Oliva. Exchangeable generative modeling with flow scans. *NeurIPS Workshop on Sets and Partitions*, 2019.

<sup>†</sup>*denotes equal contribution*

## AWARDS and FUNDING

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Funded Participant at MSRI Workshop on Optimal Transport (UNC)

2020

Raj Chandra Bose Graduate Student Travel Award (UNC)

2020

BD2K Funded Fellow (UNC)

2018 – 2019

Odyssey Scholar (UC)

2012 – 2016

Dean's List (UC)

2012 – 2016

Dean's Fund for Student Life Grant Recipient (UC)

2013

## PRESENTATIONS

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<b>Optimal Transport for Stationary Markov Chains via Policy Iteration</b> <i>UNC Charlotte October Math Day Symposium, 2020</i>	<b>Contributed Talk</b> <i>October 2020</i>
<b>Optimal Transport for Stationary Markov Chains via Policy Iteration</b> <i>UNC STOR Graduate Student Seminar</i>	<b>Contributed Talk</b> <i>September 2020</i>
<b>Optimal Transport for Stationary Markov Chains</b> <i>Joint Statistical Meetings, 2020</i>	<b>Contributed Poster</b> <i>August 2020</i>
<b>Optimal Transport for Stationary Markov Chains</b> <i>SIAM Annual Meeting, 2020</i>	<b>Invited Talk</b> <i>July 2020</i>

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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<b>STOR 565: Machine Learning (Instructional Assistant)</b> <i>University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill</i>	<b>Chapel Hill, NC</b> <i>2021</i>
<b>STOR 320: Introduction to Data Science (Instructional Assistant)</b> <i>University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill</i>	<b>Chapel Hill, NC</b> <i>2020</i>
<b>STOR 155: Data Models and Inference (Instructional Assistant)</b> <i>University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill</i>	<b>Chapel Hill, NC</b> <i>2017 – 2018</i>

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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<b>Research Assistant</b> <i>University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill</i>	<b>Chapel Hill, NC</b> <i>2018 – 2020</i>
<b>Data and Policy Analyst</b> <i>Acumen, LLC</i>	<b>Burlingame, CA</b> <i>2016 – 2017</i>

## PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

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Editorial board reviewer for <i>Journal of Machine Learning Research</i>	<i>2020-Present</i>
Referee for <i>Journal of Machine Learning Research</i>	<i>2 times</i>

## PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

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American Statistical Association, Student Member	<i>2019 – Present</i>
Institute of Mathematical Statistics, Student Member	<i>2018 – Present</i>

## PROGRAMMING LANGUAGES

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Proficient: R,  $\LaTeX$   
Competent: Python, Tensorflow  
Familiar: Java

## SOFTWARE PACKAGES

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Contributed: flowscan (Python/Tensorflow), Differential-Correlation-Mining (R)