

Kevin O'Connor

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EDUCATION

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

Optimal transport

Stochastic processes

Statistical machine learning

PUBLICATIONS

Kevin O'Connor, Kevin McGoff, and Andrew Nobel. Estimation of optimal stationary couplings of stationary stochastic processes. *In preparation*.

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

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

[†]denotes equal contribution

WORKSHOP PUBLICATIONS

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

[†]denotes equal contribution

AWARDS and FUNDING

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

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

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Quantitative Research Intern <i>Optiver</i>	Chicago, IL <i>2021</i>
Research Assistant <i>University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill</i>	Chapel Hill, NC <i>2018 – 2020</i>
Data and Policy Analyst <i>Acumen, LLC</i>	Burlingame, CA <i>2016 – 2017</i>

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

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

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

PROGRAMMING LANGUAGES

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

SOFTWARE PACKAGES

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