

# 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 B. 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 B. Nobel. Estimation of stationary optimal transport plans. *Submitted*, 2021.

**Kevin O'Connor**, Bongsoo Yi, Kevin McGoff, and Andrew B. Nobel. Graph optimal transport with transition couplings of random walks. *Submitted*, 2021.

**Kevin O'Connor**, Kevin McGoff, and Andrew B. Nobel. Optimal transport for stationary Markov chains via policy iteration. *Journal of Machine Learning Research*, 2021+.

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

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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**Quantitative Research Intern**

*Optiver*

**Chicago, IL**

2021

**Data and Policy Analyst**

*Acumen, LLC*

**Burlingame, CA**

2016 – 2017

## PROGRAMMING LANGUAGES

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Proficient: R, Matlab,  $\LaTeX$

Competent: Python, Tensorflow

Familiar: Java

## SOFTWARE PACKAGES

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Primary developer: OTC (Matlab)

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

## 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>Stationary OT for Markov Chains with Applications to Graph Alignment</b> <i>Joint Statistical Meetings, 2021</i>	<b>Invited Poster</b> <i>August 2021</i>
<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>

## 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

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

## PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

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

## PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

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American Statistical Association, Student Member	2019 – Present
Institute of Mathematical Statistics, Student Member	2018 – Present