

Kevin O'Connor

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EDUCATION

University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

Ph.D. Candidate in Statistics and Operations Research

Advised by Andrew B. Nobel and Kevin McGoff

Chapel Hill, NC

2017 – 2021 (*Expected*)

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 B. Nobel. Estimation of stationary optimal transport plans. *In preparation*, 2021.

Kevin O'Connor, Bongsoo Yi, Kevin McGoff, and Andrew B. Nobel. Graph optimal transport with transition couplings of random walks. *In preparation*, 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[†], **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

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Quantitative Researcher

Optiver

Chicago, IL

Starting in 2022

Quantitative Research Intern

Optiver

Chicago, IL

2021

Data and Policy Analyst

Acumen, LLC

Burlingame, CA

2016 – 2017

PROGRAMMING LANGUAGES

Proficient: R, Python, Matlab, \LaTeX

Competent: Tensorflow

Familiar: Java

SOFTWARE PACKAGES

Primary developer: OTC (Matlab), GraphOTC (Matlab)

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

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

Comparison and Alignment of Weighted Networks <i>UNC Computational Medicine, Research in Progress</i>	Contributed Talk <i>October 2021</i>
Stationary OT for Markov Chains with Applications to Graph Alignment <i>Joint Statistical Meetings, 2021</i>	Invited Poster <i>August 2021</i>
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>

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

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Editorial board reviewer for *Journal of Machine Learning Research* 2020-Present
Referee for *Journal of Machine Learning Research* 2 times

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

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