Aaron R. Kaufman

Contact Information

Aaron R Kaufman
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Research Interests

American political behavior, state and local politics, campaigns and elections, judicial politics; machine learning, natural language processing, causal inference, political networks, measurement

Education

Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts USA

Ph.D. Candidate, Government, expected May 2019

- Dissertation Topic: "Three Essays on The Applications of Machine Learning for Causal Inference on American Political Behavior"
- Advisors: Gary King (chair), Ryan Enos, Luke Miratrix, Maya Sen

A.M., Statistics, awarded December 2015

University of California, Berkeley, Berkeley, California USA

B.A., Political Science and Public Policy, May, 2013

Honors and Awards

Foundations of Human Behavior Research Grant 2017

Institute for Quantitative Social Science Research Grants 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017

Center for American Political Studies Seed Grant 2014

William Yandell Elliott Graduate Fellowship, Harvard University, 2013

Institute for Governmental Studies & Charles H. Percy Undergraduate Grant for Public Affairs Research 2013
Title: Looking Up Your Representative's Vote: C For Effort?

UC Berkeley Center for the Study of Value Personal Integrity Prize 2012
Title: Irrational Actors, False-Positive Psychology, and the Limits of Causal Inference: If you torture the numbers enough, they'll talk.

Academic Experience

Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts USA

Researcher, Institute for Quantitative Social Science, Harvard University **May 2013 - present**
Data analysis in R and Python, database management in SQL, NoSQL, and Python, web design for data collection in HTML and Python, and web scraping in Chinese using Python.

Research Assistant, Institute for Governmental Studies, UC Berkeley **Jan. 2012 - May 2013**
Data analysis in Stata and R and survey design in Qualtrics.

Summer Research Intern, California Common Cause **May, 2011 - July 2011**
Data analysis in Excel and social media analysis focusing on the 2010 redistricting cycle in California.

Publications

Yuan, L.H., L. Bornn, A. Franks, **A.R. Kaufman**, A. Liu, P. Bull, L.H. Yuan, A. Reece, S. Wang, A. Yeh, and D. Ilushin. A Mixture-of-Modelers Approach to Forecasting NCAA Tournament Outcomes. *Journal of Quantitative Analysis in Sports* 11.1 (2015).

Kaufman, A.R. Review of "Multiple Factorial Analysis by Example Using R". *Journal of the American Statistical Association*, 110.512 (2015).

Papers in preparation

Kaufman, A.R., P. Kraft, and M. Sen. Improving Supreme Court Forecasting Using Boosted Decision Trees. *Revise and Resubmit at* Political Analysis. Draft available at `http://www.aaronrkaufman.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/court_preds.pdf`.

Enos, R., **A.R. Kaufman**, and M. Sands. Can Violent Protest Change Local Policy Support? Evidence from the Aftermath of the 1992 Los Angeles Riot. *Revise and Resubmit at* American Political Science Review. Draft available at `http://www.aaronrkaufman.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/riots_draft.pdf`

Kaufman, A.R., G. King, and M. Komisarchik. How to Measure Legislative District Compactness If You Only Know it When You See it. *Under review.* Draft available at `http://www.aaronrkaufman.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/compact.pdf`.

R. Deliberato, S. Ko, T. Sundaresan, **A.R. Kaufman**, and L.A. Celi. Sequential Modeling using Different Machine Learning Approaches to Improve Mortality Prediction in the Intensive Care Unit. *Under review.*

Mozer, R., L. Miratrix, **A.R. Kaufman**, and L.J. Anastasopoulos. Matching with Text Data: An Experimental Evaluation of Methods for Matching Documents and of Measuring Match Quality. Draft available at `https://arxiv.org/abs/1801.00644`.

Kaufman, A.R. and J. Rogowski. The Unilateral Presidency, 1933-2017.

Kaufman, A.R. Estimating the Partisan Bias of Survey Questions.

Kaufman, A.R. and M. Sen. "Jiggery-Pokery": Testing Theories of Judicial Behavior Using Text Networks.

Barberá, P. and **A.R. Kaufman**. And Yet They Move: Candidates' Ideological Repositioning During Primary and General Election Campaigns.

Kaufman, A.R. and M. Kim. SeqBlock: Open-Source Software for Sequential Optimal Blocking in Online Survey Experiments

Bonvini, M., L. Celi, D. Ramazzotti, R. Stretch, and **A.R. Kaufman**. Comparison of Imputation Methods to Predict Baseline Serum Creatinine.

Kaufman, A.R., D.E. Broockman, and G. Lenz. Conservationism is not Conservativism: Do Interest Group Endorsements Inform Voters?

Conference Presentations

Kaufman, A.R. and J. Rogowski. Measuring the Significance of Executive Actions using Text. 2017 Meeting of the American Political Science Association, San Francisco, CA, September 2017.

Kaufman, A.R., G. King, and M. Komisarchik. How to Measure Legislative District Compactness If You Only Know it When You See it. 2017 Summer Meeting of the Society for Political Methodology, Madison, Wisconsin, July 2017.

Barberá, P. and **A.R. Kaufman**. And Yet They Move: Candidates' Ideological Repositioning During Primary and General Election Campaigns. 2017 Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL, April 2017.

Kaufman, A.R., R. Enos, and M. Sands. The Salience of Intergroup Tensions and Discrimination in Public Goods Distribution: Evidence from the Aftermath of the 1992 Los Angeles Riot. 2016 Meeting of the American Political Science Association, Philadelphia, PA, August 2016.

Kaufman, A.R. and P. Barberá . And Yet They Move: Candidates' Ideological Repositioning During Primary and General Election Campaigns. 2016 Meeting of the European Political Science Association, Brussels, BEL, June 2016.

Kaufman, A.R. and M. Sen. Predicting Supreme Court Justice Votes Using Text Networks. 2015 Summer Meeting of the Society for Political Methodology, Rochester, New York, July 2015.

Enos, R. and **A.R. Kaufman** 2014. Measuring the Impact of Neighborhood Context on Political Participation Using an Online Marketplace. 2014 Meeting of the American Political Science Association, Washington, D.C., August 2014.

Kaufman, A.R. Estimating the Partisan Bias in Survey Questions. 2014 Summer Meeting of the Society for Political Methodology, Athens, Georgia, July 2014.

Invited Talks

Kaufman, A.R.. Machine Learning and Data Security. Technical University of Madrid, Madrid Critical Care Datathon, December 2017.

Kaufman, A.R., G. King, and M. Komisarchik. How to Measure Legislative District Compactness If You Only Know it When You See it. Harvard University, Applied Statistics Workshop, September 2017.

Barberá, P. and **A.R. Kaufman**. And Yet They Move: Candidates' Ideological Repositioning During Primary and General Election Campaigns. University of Massachusetts, Amherst Computational Social Science Institute Seminar, April 2017.

Enos, R., **A.R. Kaufman**, and M. Sands. Can Violent Protest Change Local Policy Support? Evidence from the Aftermath of the 1992 Los Angeles Riot. University of Southern California NetDem Seminar, March 2017.

Bonvini, M., L. Celi, D. Ramazzotti, R. Stretch, and **A.R. Kaufman**. Comparison of Imputation Methods to Predict Baseline Serum Creatinine. Society for Critical Care in Medicine, January 2017.

Kaufman, A.R., M. Bonvini, and A. Gelman. A Machine Learning Approach to Multiple Imputation with Chained Equations. MIT Department of Health Sciences and Technology, March 2016.

Teaching

Applied Statistics Workshop, Fall 2015 and Spring 2016.

Research Practice in Quantitative Methods, Spring 2016.

Statistical Computing and Simulation-Based Analysis, Spring 2016 and Spring 2017.

American Politics, A New Perspective, Fall 2015, Fall 2016, Summer 2017, Fall 2017, Spring 2018.

The Road to the White House, Fall 2016.

Statistical Inference, Spring 2018.

Computer Skills

- Statistical Packages: R, R Shiny, Stata
- Languages: Python, Scala, XML, JSON, Julia, SQL, PHP
- Applications: ArcGIS, LaTeX, MapReduce
- Operating Systems: Unix/Linux, Windows