# DR. KOBI ABAYOMI drkobiabayomi@re-search.website

DATA SCIENCE EXECUTIVE, AUTHOR, AND CONSULTANT IN HIGH DIMENSION DATA, MACHINE LEARNING & ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE, MEASURES OF DEPENDENCY & DETERMINISTIC/STOCHASTIC OPTIMIZATION. I have more than 20 years of experience leading Data Science teams to consult, publish & produce. I created and led Data Science at Warner Music Group where my team and I instantiated models which accelerated music demand & asset monetization. I created and led the Data Science team at Barnes & Noble Education (BNED) yielding their first D2C product; I led the ad inventory monetization group at WarnerMedia which created the methodology for WM's linear ad-household-addressability.

EXTENSIVE AND VARIED PUBLICATION DOSSIER; EFFECTIVE EDUCATOR, PROFESSOR, COLLABORATOR AND COMMUNICATOR. I have a record of achieving exceptional results via innovative and specialized approaches to business imperatives & research questions. I have led multifunction teams from project inception to completion to viable production for: credit scoring, e-commerce, retail & multi-media corporations. I have collaborated and supervised professionals which has won my teams a proven record of impactful, efficient work.

INNOVATIVE RESEARCHER, PROBABILIST & THEORETICAL METHODOLOGIST WITH A PROVEN ABILITY TO LEAD MULTIDISCIPLINARY TEAMS. I have authored widely cited, novel work in Statistics, Econometrics, Probability & Information Theoretic Measures for Machine Learning & Artificial Intelligence, and Demand for Digital Media Inventories. I serve on: the Data Science Advisory Council at Seton Hall University, the Advisory Board for the Ivan Allen College at the Georgia Institute of Technology, the Advisory Board at Barnes & Noble Education & on the advisory board at Modal Education.

FLUENT IN COMPUTATION: I program chiefly in R, Python, and (Hive/Hadoop/Snowflake) SQL. I am fluent in Maple, Mathematica, Matlab, Neo4j, SAS, SPSS, SQL, C++, Java, Gtk, RGtk, & Visual Basic. Conversant in Julia & Clojure. My teams have worked in AWS/Sagemaker, Azure, Databricks, Dataiku, Condor/HTCondor, etc.

EDUCATION	
Postdoc	Stanford University; Palo Alto, CA
	Markov Models, Distributions with Fixed Marginals, Copula Models
Postdoc	DUKE UNIVERSITY/SAMSI; Durham, NC
	Multivariate Data, Extreme Valued Data, Bayesian Methods
Ph.D.	COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY; NY, NY
	Probability, Statistics & Environmental Engineering
M.Phil	COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY; NY, NY
	Probability
M.A.	COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY; NY, NY
	Statistics
B.S.	GEORGIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY; Atlanta, GA
	Industrial Engineering & Public Policy

### SELECTED PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

## Gumbel Demand Acceleration, Head of Science

2023-present

SaaS (software-as-a-service) company for demand acceleration in digital media for content holders. Pricing and demand modeling for content rights speculation, artist & content-tranche level deal modeling.

## Dynamic metering of Demand Affinity on Segmented Audiences: Patent Pending

o Via a novel process on listening demand data - we've created "Metering Engine" that yields informative metricization of sound and audience features as demand affinities. This "Metering Engine" is packageable as enterprise level software, as a consumer-facing app, within hand-held hardware or as a metadata generating process in a sound curation and delivery pipeline with automated SQL/ETL.

## Enhanced lyric transcription via genre and sound awareness: Patent Pending

o By parsing and modeling genre and audience, as well as sound, information we've created a precise and quick method for lyric transcription with automated SQL/ETL.

## Warner Music Group, Senior Vice President - Data Science

2020-2023

Global Music Recording & Publishing company; home to artists, songwriters & musicians across many genres. I created and led WMG's Data Science group: a team of Statisticians, Operations Researchers, Psychometricians and Economists & Data Engineers.

## Instantiated Agile Product Process Discipline

o Instantiated Jira/Roadmunk documented production process. Ported siloed workstreams to cloud-based testing, development & display environments using Databricks, RStudioServer, Looker, Shiny & Tableau. Created stable documentation and code repositories in Git/Jira/Confluence. This created regular procedures for SQL/ETL, a persistent work repository to refactor workstreams as iterative scientific investigations and streamlined the R+A group into a modern data science benefit to WMG.

#### Created & Productionized Demand Forecast Model

o My team created and instantiated fully Bayesian, productionized Hierarchical Linear Model to forecast track level music demand in the presence of a suite of features that we derive from aural, temporal, ambient & marketing information. The model yields a sophisticated context for understanding who listens to what, where, when and how and automated SQL/ETL. The framework is adjustable, posterior estimation focused, and sensitive to short-term change points; when the data or patterns that affect listening demand change – the framework adjusts (including SQL/ETL) flexibly and automatically.

## Created & Productionized Networked Listening/Similarity Models

My team created and instantiated a networked (graphical) model for artist/track similarity. The model yields a straightforward and computationally inexpensive way to segment streaming data for precise forecasting. The model topology allows models to be fit via graph traversal on small neighborhoods; the topology itself is learned from multivariate semantic embeddings of aural characteristics and listening demands.

## Created & Productionized Release Scheduling Model

o My team suffixes expected song streaming/listening demand with nuanced and specific (by territory, publisher, listening segment, etc.) scheduling, marketing & playlisting recommendations using a stochastic programming model that adjusts marketing and promotional recommendations 'on the fly' with automated SQL/ETL.

## Created & Productionized Deep Learning IDE for asset augmentation

My team placed WMG inventory (tracks, songs, etc.) in an augmented repository. We used deep learning/Neural Network class models to create representations and extract and modify audio stems (vocal, instrumental, lyrical). These metadata power use cases in demand acceleration: finding the best sync opportunities, creating 'music-as-utility' assets, and predicting listening demand from sound. As well, this repository is training data for my team's work in generative AI: creating videos, sounds, & album art from our sounds quickly and scalably with automated SQL/ETL.

## Two Patents Pending

- Systems, Methods & Media for Transcribing Lyrics
- Dynamic Metering of Demand Affinity on Segmented Audiences

## WarnerMedia, Director - Data Science

2019-2020

Linear, Digital & Multimedia company comprised of multiple legacy television networks and motion picture studios as well as digital entertainment and news portals, including: CNN, HBO, TNT, TBS, Bleacher Report, etc. I directed Data Science for the Monetization and Cross-Platform Measurement groups. I led a team of U.S. based Statisticians, Operations Researchers & Operations Analysts tasked with maximizing revenue from ad placement and audience targeting. We worked in R, Python, CPLEX, and in C++ and SQL for ETL. We reported in R/Shiny, PowerBI, Tableau & Looker.

## **Instantiated Agile Product Processes**

o Instantiated Jira/Roadmunk documented production process. Ported siloed workstreams to cloud- based testing and development environments using Domino. Created stable documentation and code repositories in Domino/Git. This created regular procedures and a persistent work repository for redundancy and automated SQL/ETL.

## **Revised Forecasting Model Suite**

o Replaced Random Effects model for schedule forecasts (Linear/TV for Turner Networks – TNT, TBS, CNN, Etc.; Digital - Bleacher Report, NBA Digital, CNN Digital) with Hierarchical/Multilevel Bayesian, time-dependent & stochastic process predictive models. This innovation improved forecast precision (Mean Average Percent Error – MAPE) by 30-40% with an estimated incremental yield to business on order of \$100M yearly revenue.

## Revised Optimization Model Suite

o I replaced LP/MIP class of discrete programming models with 2-stage LP and fully stochastic programming models. This innovation reduced scheduling error, reduced ad hoc schedule manipulation – raising FTE equivalent efficiency. This yields an estimated incremental impact on the order of \$10Ms - yearly - for a business unit on order of \$100Ms annual revenue.

## Barnes & Noble Education, Head - U.S. Data Science

2018-2019

Education retail, services, publishing & technology company that provides - inter alia - predictive services to undergraduate/graduate universities using Student Information System (SIS) and Learning Management System (LMS) data. I led data science initiatives in the United States and managed a team of outsourced data scientists based in Mumbai, India. We worked in R, Python, Elastic Search, Kibana and Javascript with automated SQL/ETL.

## Instantiated Standardized `Tear Sheet` Reporting Format.

- o I designed in-term and end-of-term reporting schema for model accuracy and discovery rates.
- I created an automated process to ingest discovery rate data and compile LaTeX to PDF documents which illustrate model accuracy and discovery rates.

Streamlined reporting process and reduced utilization of data scientists on reporting tasks by half.

## Created text mining methodology for course title / textbook mapping.

- o I created mappings between courses titles and subject area textbook information (from publishers) using Naïve Bayes classifications on syntactic tokenizations of course title and textbook subject corpuses.
- o Standardized *ad hoc* procedure for OER resource creation

## Created Enterprise Level Data-Lake

- o I created, using Elastic Search, a repository for SIS/LMS data across university entities with unique, anonymized, GDPR compliant indexing
- Instantiated a stable code-base for regularized data ingest, model training, and model fitting: functionalized, portable, & able to ingest, identify and map exogenous predictors.

#### Dun & Bradstreet, Sr. Data Scientist

2016-2018

Business services company that provides commercial data to businesses on credit history, business-to-business sales and marketing, counterparty risk exposure, and social identity matching. I reported to the CEO's office in a direct line from the Chief Data Scientist. I worked with teams of diverse specialists on project bases. Here my team and I worked in: R, Python, Hive/Hadoop, SQL, SAS & Mathematica.

## Confounding Characteristics of Language in Unstructured Data.

- o I designed research and led a team to quantify the presence of semantic ambiguities in short and long form unstructured data.
- o I developed a model for quantification of confoundedness via Grammar & Usage, Neologism & Sarcasm in English natural language.
- o I augmented Python based toolkits and created a Markovian Process Model to quantify and classify these characteristics.
- o I led a team in the creation of a Mathematica based tool with a Python back end to score unstructured text.

## Briefed NSTAC (National Security Telecommunications Advisory Committee): Analytics/Emerging Technologies, 10.18.2016

o Delivered prospective brief on role of Quantum Computing and Algorithms in credit scoring and anomaly discovery in business analytics.

## Multivariate Hidden Markov Process for Match/Inquiry Assessment.

- o I created a Markov Process model to assess abnormality in mappings from a discrete `grading scheme' to ordinal goodness measures for validation of customer inquiries.
- o I directed a team in the instantiation of the model to a cloud-based tool with automated SQL/ETL.

## Patent Pending for Discovery of Malfeasant Actors via Networked/Graphical Models.

o I created a model-diagnostic based method to segregate malfeasant actors in predictive models for behavior (payment latency) on graphical structures for networked data

#### Multivariate Models for Machine Learning:

o I instantiated an AWS (Amazon Web Services)/R/Elastic-Search environment to perform unsupervised classification and identification of anomalies in business data.

## Patent Pending for Demand Based Marketing Recommendation Engine

I created a methodology, via exploitation of customer inquiry data, to classify and recommend prospective future customers. This is a recommendation engine embedded in a clustered network data model with automated SQL/ETL.

- Briefed NSTAC (National Security Telecommunications Advisory Committee): Cybersecurity/Emerging Technologies, 8.15.2017
  - o I prepared prospective brief on role of Quantum Computing and Algorithms in response to DDoS & Cryptographical attacks.

### SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

## How & Why to Use Audience Segmentation to Maximize (Listener) Demand Across A Digital (Music) Portfolio

2024

#### MAA 2024

- A First Principles derivation of distribution of listening demand and representation as utility curves
- A Bayesian workflow for effect estimation and demand maximization

## Open Set Recognition for Music Genre Classification

2022

#### **ISMIR 2022**

- An algorithm for music genre classification
- Explores boundary detection, via first principles methods on type III EVD (extreme-valued distributions), to quantify sound content & audience segment set origination.

## Methodologies and Model for the Detection of DDoS Attacks on Cloud Computing Environment 2016

## Advances in Intelligent Systems and Computing

- A hybrid statistical and probabilistic method to detect DDOS attacks.
- Developed novel statistics, based on probabilistic dependency measures, to quantify distributions for multivariate feature dependence.

## Statistics for Re-Identification in Network Models

2015

#### Network Links: Network Analysis

- A 1<sup>st</sup> Principles Probabilistic derivation of statistics for re-identification on Network/Graph Topologies
- Derived network similarity scores for graph models of various generative types: Barabási-Albert, Random, etc.
- Yielded hypothesis testing statistics for similar entity behavior in network models, i.e. under relational dependency.

# Monitoring the UNDP Millennium Goals

2013

# Social Indicators Research

- Generalized Bayesian Methodology for Indexes the UNDP MDGs are the special case.
- Introduced a unique, Probabilistic technique for constructing administrative indexes which yields ranked lists with confidence intervals.
- Modeled health, infant mortality, morbidity and fecundity outcomes for the MDG countries.

## Using Lorenz Curves to Examine ITQ Consolidation in New Zealand Commercial Fishing Marine Resource Economics

2013

- The Lorenz Curve a homeomorphism of the Cumulative Distribution Functions, and an inverse mapping of the Gini Coefficient - can be partitioned across discrete groups using the theory of differential equations. The method is derived and illustrated.
- Demonstrated the presence of consolidation in fishing rights over a 20 year period in New Zealand, indicating the presence of market monopolization.

## Copula Based Multi-State Hazard Model:

2011

### An Inferential Methodology for the Innocence Project:

## Proceedings of the American Statistical Association

- Extended the Multi-State Hazard Model a generalization of Survival Analysis to allow flexible conditional dependency between states.
- Used the Copula equivalence for the Chapman-Kolmogorov equations to parameterize conditional dependence among states, which yields system sojourn time and probability.
- Demonstrated best practices for Innocence Network lawyers and interns with respect to case intake, retention and flow procedures.

## Diagnostics for Multivariate Imputation Journal of the Royal Statistics Society

2008

- Created a methodology to assess and test the propriety of imputed data, at the time an open question in data analysis. The methodology has been implemented in **R** and SAS.
- Illustrated the technique on the 2002 Environmental Sustainability Index (ESI).

# El Niño & Drought in Southern Africa

2003

#### The Lancet

- Used GIS data to classify drought via percentage of precipitation vs. administrative declaration.
- Probit/Logit linear models with drought classification and functions on Sea Surface Temperatures (SST) demonstrated co-dependency among the El Niño phenomenon and drought classification: most notably in Southern Africa.
- Demonstrated the effect of El Niño on drought incidence, health status & morbidity of populations.

#### SELECTED ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

## Adjunct Professor of Statistics

2016-present

SETON HALL UNIVERSITY, SOUTH ORANGE, NJ, USA

Statistics for Biologists, Mathematical Statistics for Data Scientists, Mathematical Statistics, Deterministic Operations Research for Data Science. Suite of classes from intermediate to graduate level with an R based curriculum, the first in the department. Teacher of the Year in 2017.

# Visiting Professor of Probability & Statistics

2014-2016

Universidad de cuenca, Cuenca, Ecuador

- Designed first 'Postgrado' class in Algorithms, Data & Computation for Facultad de Ingenería.
- Designed new program in Applied Mathematics and new classes in Statistics, Probability and Optimization.

## SUNY Faculty Fellow Professor of Mathematics & Environmental Science

2012-2015

BINGHAMTON UNIVERSITY, BINGHAMTON, NY, USA

### Assistant Professor of Statistics & Industrial Engineering

2008-2012

GEORGIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, ATLANTA, GA, USA

- Designed Graduate course in Theoretical & Applied Dependency. Consistently had highest teaching marks among Statistics faculty.
- Authored/Co-Authored eighteen published journal papers in three years.

### SERVICE, HONORS & AWARDS

MAA Chan-Stanek Lecture

Distinguished Alumni of the Year, Georgia Institute of Technology

Board Member, Modal Learning

Board Member, Barnes & Noble Education

Board Member, Georgia Institute of Technology: Ivan Allen College

Panelist, Division of Mathematical Sciences, National Science Foundation

Member, Georgia Tech Institutional Review Board

Session Chair, INFORMS

Faculty Council Chair, Barnes & Noble Education

Data Science Advisory Council, Seton Hall University

Class of 1969 Teaching Fellow, Georgia Tech

**GT-FIRE** Program to Support Innovative Research

Young Practitioner INFORMS

VIGRE Fellow, Stanford University Statistics Department

SAMSI Postdoctoral Fellow, Statistical and Applied Mathematical Sciences Institute

CFD Predoctoral Fellow, Haverford College

NSF IGERT in the Mathematical and Earth Sciences.

Best Algorithm, CAARMS