Jingyi Kenneth Tay

Curriculum Vitae

✉ *kjytay@gmail.com*
🖳 *kjytay.github.io/*
🔗 *kjytay*
🌐 *kjytay*

Education

2016-2021 **Ph.D. in Statistics**, *Stanford University*, Stanford, CA.
Advised by Robert Tibshirani. Jerome H. Friedman Applied Statistics Dissertation Award.

2016-2019 **M.S. in Statistics**, *Stanford University*, Stanford, CA.

2006-2010 **A.B. in Mathematics**, *Princeton University*, Princeton, NJ.
Summa Cum Laude. Certificates in Program of Applied & Computational Mathematics, Program of Finance.

2004-2005 **GCE 'A' Levels**, Anglo-Chinese Junior College, Singapore.
4 As, 2 Special Paper Distinctions.

Research

Publications

1. C. Wei, B. Zelditch, J. Chen, A. A. S. T. Ribeiro, **J. K. Tay**, B. O. Elizondo, K. Selvaraj, A. Gupta, and L. B. De Almeida. Neural Optimization with Adaptive Heuristics for Intelligent Marketing System. *Proceedings of the 30th ACM SIGKDD Conference on Knowledge Discovery and Data Mining*, 2024: 5938-5949. URL https://dl.acm.org/doi/10.1145/3637528.3671591.

2. E. Tuzhilina, T. J. Hastie, D. J. McDonald, **J. K. Tay**, and R. Tibshirani. (2023). Smooth multi-period forecasting with application to prediction of COVID-19 cases. *Journal of Computational and Graphical Statistics*, 2023. URL https://doi.org/10.1080/10618600.2023.2285337.

3. **J. K. Tay**, B. Narasimhan and T. Hastie. (2023). Elastic net regularization paths for all generalized linear models. *Journal of Statistical Software*, 2023, 106(1):1-31. URL https://doi.org/10.18637/jss.v106.i01. R package `glmnet`.

4. **J. K. Tay**, N. Aghaeepour, T. Hastie, and R. Tibshirani. (2021). Feature-weighted elastic net: using "features of features" for better prediction. *Statistica Sinica*, 2021. URL https://doi.org/10.5705/ss.202020.0226. R package `fwelnet`.

5. D. Shung, J. Huang, E. Castro, **J. K. Tay**, M. Simonov, L. Laine, R. Batra and S. Krishnaswamy. (2021). Neural network predicts need for red blood cell transfusion for patients with acute gastrointestinal bleeding admitted to the intensive care unit. *Scientific Reports*, 2021, 11:8827.

6. **J. K. Tay**, J. Friedman, and R. Tibshirani. (2021). Principal component-guided sparse regression. *Canadian Journal of Statistics*, 2021. URL https://doi.org/10.1002/cjs.11617. R package `pcLasso`.

7. D. Shung, C. Tsay, L. Laine, D. Chang, F. Li, P. Thomas, C. Partridge, M. Simonov, A. Hsiao, **J. K. Tay**, and A. Taylor. (2021). Early identification of patients with acute gastrointestinal bleeding using natural language processing and decision rules. *Journal of Gastroenterology and Hepatology*, 2021, 36(6):1590-7.

8. **J. K. Tay**, and R. Tibshirani. (2020). Reluctant generalized additive modeling. *International Statistical Review*, 2020, 88(S1):S205-S224. R package `relgam`.

9. D. L. Shung, B. Au, R. A. Taylor, **J. K. Tay**, S. B. Laursen, A. J. Stanley, H. R. Dalton, J. Ngu, M. Schultz, and L. Laine. (2020). Validation of a machine learning model that outperforms clinical risk scoring systems for upper gastrointestinal bleeding. *Gastroenterology*, 2020, 158(1):160-7.

Conferences and Workshops

1. A. Gupta, S. S. Keerthi, A. Acharya, M. Cheng, B. O. Elizondo, R. Ramanath, R. Mazumder, K. Basu, **J. K. Tay**, R. Gupta. (2023). Practical Design of Performant Recommender Systems using Large-scale Linear Programming-based Global Inference. In *KDD 2023*.

Software

1. Contributor to `dualip` Scala package (Linkedin's open-source package for performing large-scale linear programming).
2. Author of `cvwrapr` R package. Tools for performing cross-validation.
3. Contributor to `glmnet` R package. v4.0: Extended `glmnet` to efficiently fit any generalized linear model with the elastic net penalty. v4.1: Added ability to fit stratified Cox models and Cox models for start-stop data, opening the way to fit a wide array of regularized Cox models (e.g. time-dependent covariates, left truncation, multiple events per subject).

Preprints and Theses

1. **J. K. Tay**. (2021). Extending the reach of the lasso and elastic net penalties: Methodology and practice. PhD Thesis. Advisor: Robert Tibshirani.
2. **J. K. Tay**, and R. Tibshirani. (2018). A latent factor approach for prediction from multiple assays. *arXiv:1807.05675 [stat.ME]*, 2018. URL https://arxiv.org/abs/1807.05675.
3. **J. K. Tay**. (2010). Maximizing expected logarithmic utility in a regime-switching model with inside information. Senior Thesis. Advisor: Ramon van Handel.
4. **J. K. Tay**. (2009). Construction of space-time block codes from a decoding point of view. Junior Independent Work. Advisor: Robert Calderbank.

Teaching

Course Instructor

Autumn 2019-20	STATS 32, Introduction to R for Undergraduates	Stanford University
Autumn 2018-19	STATS 32, Introduction to R for Undergraduates	Stanford University
Summer 2017-18	STATS 302, Qualifying Exams Workshop (Applied Statistics)	Stanford University
Autumn 2017-18	STATS 32, Introduction to R for Undergraduates	Stanford University

Teaching Assistant

Winter 2020-21	CS 229M/STATS 214, Machine Learning Theory	Stanford University
Autumn 202-21	STATS 200, Introduction to Statistical Inference	Stanford University
Spring 2019-20	STATS 315B, Modern Applied Statistics: Data Mining	Stanford University

Winter 2019-20	STATS 216, Introduction to Statistical Learning	Stanford University
Winter 2018-19	STATS 191, Introduction to Applied Statistics	Stanford University
Summer 2017-18	STATS 216V, Introduction to Statistical Learning	Stanford University
Spring 2017-18	STATS 305C, Methods for Applied Statistics II: Applied Multivariate Statistics	Stanford University
Winter 2017-18	STATS 216, Introduction to Statistical Learning	Stanford University
Summer 2016-17	STATS 116, Theory of Probability	Stanford University
Winter 2016-17	STATS 290, Paradigms for Computing with Data	Stanford University
Autumn 2016-17	STATS 116, Theory of Probability	Stanford University

Work Experience

11/2022 - 12/2024 — **Senior Data Scientist (Optimization, Foundational Artificial Intelligence Technologies)**, *LinkedIn*, Mountain View, CA.
- Tech lead for the development and use of large-scale constrained optimization and contextual bandits.
  - Led the creation of an internal python package for contextual bandits as a stepping stone towards a component within LinkedIn's machine learning training framework. This halved the time needed to add contextual bandit capability to a model.
  - Thought leader on how to apply contextual bandits to production systems. Crafted internal runbook for adding contextual bandit capability to LinkedIn's models with an emphasis on practical guidance not found in external literature.
  - Spearheaded engagements with Ads and GTM teams to deploy optimization solutions in production systems. Application to LinkedIn's email marketing system led to one of the largest metric improvements in LinkedIn's algorithmic marketing.
  - Mentored new team member in an application of constrained optimization to job scheduling, offline simulation showed 10% gain in metric of interest.

09/2021 - 11/2022 — **Senior Data Scientist (Experimentation Science, Data Science & Research Productivity)**, *LinkedIn*, Mountain View, CA.
- Methods lead for the use of observational causal inference within LinkedIn.
  - Spearheaded creation and development of internal R package for observational causal inference, with an emphasis on simple API and clear communication of results to lower the barrier for data scientists. This also streamlined the design of the internal causal inference platform, greatly reducing maintenance overhead and accelerating addition of new methods.
  - Led internal group of experts to review observational causal inference studies across LinkedIn, from study design to analysis, so as to raise the standard of internal studies.
  - Developed and implemented novel validation checks for causal inference to improve robustness of analyses.
  - Worked with product data scientists to diagnose and fix issues faced with online A/B tests.

06/2020 - 09/2020 — **Data Scientist Intern (Payments Data Science)**, *Google*, Sunnyvale, CA.
- Developed novel method and internal R package for computing variance for post-stratified estimator in potential outcomes setting. In one application, confidence interval width was reduced by 11%, enabling tighter uncertainty quantification for A/B test treatment effects.
- Built a statistically valid algorithm that reports an experiment's heterogeneous

treatment effect concisely. This work enables analysts to quickly understand how the treatment varies along dimensions of interest, accelerating subgroup analysis and further experimentation.

06/2019 - **Applied Scientist Intern (Search Relevance)**, *A9.com, Amazon Search*, Palo Alto,
09/2019   CA.
- Conceptualized and constructed data pipelines for new, granular metrics to improve predictive performance of Amazon search relevance models. Processed ~1B queries and ~20B item responses to obtain dataset for predictive modeling.
- Built a model based on these pre-experiment metrics to predict performance on live customer traffic, so that experimental bandwidth can be allocated more efficiently. Model improved test performance metric by 20% over baseline.

10/2015 - **Data Scientist (Data Science Division)**, *Infocomm Development Authority of*
08/2016   *Singapore*, Singapore.
- Spearheaded data analytics initiatives with a wide array of government agencies (economic, transport, social sectors) to support public policy making. Responsibilities included project scoping, data cleaning, visualization, statistical analysis (R and python) and presentation of results.
- Systematized and validated recruitment framework and assessment materials for all roles in the division, including data scientist, quantitative strategist and front-end developer.
- Authored division's operating policy for data management and statistical disclosure control.

04/2014 - **Staff Well-Being Committee Chair**, *Ministry of the Environment & Water*
03/2015   *Resources*, Singapore.
- Led team of 10 officers in conceptualizing and executing activities to improve staff welfare and morale.
- Managed and accounted for budget (20K+) for staff welfare.

09/2013 - **Assistant Director (Environmental Policy Division)**, *Ministry of the Environment &*
09/2015   *Water Resources*, Singapore.
- Drove progressive policies to ensure sustainability and efficiency of Singapore's waste management system.
- Facilitated Ministry's strategic planning by conceptualizing and organizing Policy Wing retreat.
- Evaluated usefulness of movement data in predicting spread of *Chikungunya* virus in Singapore.

04/2012 - **Infocomm Technologies Engineer**, *Ministry of Defense*, Singapore.
08/2013
- Evaluated operational performance of critical communications systems.
- Made operational effectiveness more transparent by developing and implementing a new reporting dashboard for senior management.
- Strengthened in-house user adoption of systems through crafting and delivering technical presentations.

Awards and Honors

2021   Jerome H. Friedman Applied Statistics Dissertation Award.

2019, 2020   Honorable Mention, American Statistical Association's Statistical Learning and Data Science Student Paper Competition.

2017, 2018   Departmental Teaching Assistant Award.

2017	Two Sigma Graduate Fellowship in Statistics.
2010	Election to Sigma Xi Honor Society.
2009	Early Induction to Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society (top 1% of cohort).
2007, 2008	Shapiro Prize for Academic Excellence, Princeton University.
2007	Second Prize, International Mathematics Competition.
2006, 2008	Honorable Mention, William Lowell Putnam Competition.
2006-2010	Public Service Commission Overseas Merit Scholarship (Open) (full-ride college scholarship), Public Service Commission, Singapore.
2006	Lee Kuan Yew Award for Mathematics & Science, Ministry of Education, Singapore.
2005	Gold Award (top score), Asian-Pacific Mathematical Olympiad.
2004, 2005	Silver Medal, International Mathematical Olympiad.
2003	Honorable Mention, International Mathematical Olympiad.