

JOHN D. LAFFERTY — BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Address

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Department of Computer Science
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Education

1982–1986, Princeton University
Ph.D. in Mathematics, 1986, M.A. in Mathematics, 1984
Member of the Program in Applied and Computational Mathematics
Thesis advisor: Edward Nelson

1981–1982, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Undergraduate work in mathematics and statistics. Beinecke Fellowship.

1978–1981, Middlebury College
B.A. 1982 *summa cum laude* with highest honors in Mathematics.

Academic and Industrial Positions

2011–Present, University of Chicago
Louis Block Professor of Statistics and Computer Science

2013–Present, Toyota Technological Institute at Chicago
Adjoint Professor

2004–2011, Carnegie Mellon University
Professor of Computer Science, Machine Learning, and Statistics
2005–2008, Co-Director, Ph.D. Program in Machine Learning

1998–2004, Carnegie Mellon University
Associate Professor of Computer Science

1994–1997, Carnegie Mellon University
Assistant Research Professor, Computer Science Department

1988–1994, IBM Thomas J. Watson Research Center, Yorktown Heights, NY
Research Staff Member, Department of Computer Sciences

1986–1987, Harvard University
Assistant Professor, Benjamin Pierce Lecturer on Mathematics

Selected Publications

1. M. Xu, M. Chen and J. Lafferty, “Faithful variable selection for high dimensional convex regression,” to appear in *Ann. Stat.*, 2016 (arxiv:1411.1805).
2. Y. Zhu and J. Lafferty, “Quantized estimation of Gaussian sequence models in Euclidean balls,” *Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems* 28, 2014.
3. Q. Zheng and J. Lafferty, “A convergent gradient descent algorithm for rank minimization and semidefinite programming from random linear measurements,” *Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems (NIPS)* 28, 2015 (arxiv:1506.06081)
4. P. Ravikumar, M. Wainwright and J. Lafferty, “High dimensional Ising model selection using ℓ_1 regularized logistic regression,” *Annals of Statistics* Volume 38, Number 3 (2010), 1287–1319.
5. H. Liu, J. Lafferty, and L. Wasserman (2009). The Nonparanormal: Semiparametric estimation of high dimensional undirected graphs. *J. Machine Learning Research*, Vol. 10, pp. 2295–2328, 2009.
6. D. Blei and J. Lafferty, “A correlated topic model of *Science*,” *Annals of Applied Statistics*, Vol. 1, No. 1, 17–35, 2007.
7. P. Ravikumar, J. Lafferty, H. Liu, and L. Wasserman, “Sparse additive models,” *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society: Series B*, Volume 71, part 5, pages 1009–1030, 2009.
8. S. Zhou, J. Lafferty and L. Wasserman, “Compressed and privacy sensitive sparse regression,” *IEEE Trans. Information Theory*, Vol. 55, Number 2, February 2009, pages 846–866.
9. J. Lafferty and L. Wasserman, “Rodeo: Sparse, greedy nonparametric regression,” *Annals of Statistics*, Vol. 36, No. 1, pages 28–63, 2008.
10. X. Zhu, Z. Ghahramani and J. Lafferty, “Semi-supervised learning using Gaussian fields and harmonic functions,” *Proceedings of the International Conference on Machine Learning*, pp. 912–919, 2003.

Professional Activities

Member of the board of the NIPS Foundation, 2010–present.

Member of the Committee on Applied and Theoretical Statistics (CATS), National Research Council of the National Academy of Sciences, 2011–present.

Co-chair of National Research Council “Workshop on Training Students to Extract Value from Big Data,” April 2014.

Member of NORC Advisory Committee on Statistics, Machine Learning and High Performance Computing, 2014–present.

IMS Medallion Lecture, July 2015.

University Service

Member of Committee on Computation Strategy, 2013–2014.

Member of Provost’s Committee on On-Line Education, 2012–2013.

Chair of Standing Committee on Academic Fraud, 2014–2015.

Member of College Council, 2014–2016.