

Randi H Griffin

Boston, MA

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SKILLS

Programming: Python (pandas, scikit-learn, matplotlib, statsmodels); R (ggplot2, tidyverse, caret), SQL

Statistics: Generalized linear models, survival analysis, time series analysis, network analysis

Machine learning: Classification, regression, clustering, forecasting, feature engineering, NLP

Tools & techniques: git, bash, Airflow, R Shiny

PROFESSIONAL DATA SCIENCE EXPERIENCE

KAYAK Software Corporation, Data Scientist (Performance Marketing) Cambridge, MA, Nov 2018 – Present

- Regularly contributed production-grade Python and SQL code for ETLs and ad bidding algorithms.
- Developed a rigorous experimentation framework for assessing the effectiveness of ad bidding algorithms.
- Identified and corrected a flaw in our system for evaluating forecasting methods, which was causing neutral changes to masquerade as up to 20% gains in accuracy.

Insight Data Science, Data Science Fellow Boston, MA, Sep 2018 – Nov 2018

- Developed a logistic regression pipeline in Python to predict which users will subscribe to a babysitting app.
- Generated novel features by geocoding 4K user addresses and linking them with geospatial census data.
- Built a dash app that allows the company to estimate the probability that new users will subscribe.

Duke University, NSF Graduate Research Fellow Durham, NC, Sep 2013 – 2018

- Used multivariate GLMs to identify ecological predictors of primate skull morphology based on CT scans.
- Conducted simulation studies to evaluate statistical methods for estimating evolutionary ancestral states.
- Wrangled 10 years of longitudinal data and used Cox survival models to provide the first demonstration that tapeworms reduce mortality in wild primates.
- Demonstrated fine-scale habitat segregation in mosquito communities using GLMMs and PCA, providing a recommendation of <20 meters for the minimum resolution of spatial data in mosquito-borne disease models.

Harvard University, Research assistant Cambridge, MA, Sep 2011 – 2013

- Maintained MySQL database with ~20K records of parasites reported in wild mammals.
- Performed formal meta-analysis of 14 published studies and 164 effect sizes, with results contradicting the popular claim that elevated parasite loads in wild animals are driven by human-caused habitat disturbance.
- Simulated pathogen transmission on social networks and identified network characteristics (clustering, centrality) that increase susceptibility to epidemic and endemic pathogens.

INDEPENDENT DATA SCIENCE PROJECTS

'btw' R package: An R wrapper for BayesTraits, an executable C++ program for Bayesian phylogenetic models.

<https://github.com/rgriff23/btw>

Web scraping Olympic history data: Scraped data on 135k Olympians from www.sports-reference.com and shared the dataset and my analysis on Kaggle. The dataset has been downloaded >45k times on Kaggle as of Jan, 2019.

<https://www.kaggle.com/heesoo37/olympic-history-data-a-thorough-analysis>

Twitterstorm analysis: Compiled data on 4.5k users and 5k tweets in a politically-charged Twitterstorm, then used social network and sentiment analysis to identify liberal and conservative clusters.

https://github.com/rgriff23/Katie_Hinde_Twitter_storm_text_analysis

StackOverflow developer survey analysis: Won a \$1000 Kaggle Kernel award for identifying relationships between age, gender, and sexual orientation that influence feelings of membership in the programming community.

<https://www.kaggle.com/heesoo37/stack-overflow-2018-survey-age-gender-sexuality>

EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Human Evolutionary Biology, Duke University

May 2018

B.A. in Human Evolutionary Biology, Harvard University

May 2010

DATA SCIENCE TEACHING

Northeastern University, Lecturer (Masters in Analytics)

Boston, MA, Feb 2019 – Present

- Developed original materials and taught three quarters of Data Mining in R with excellent teacher ratings.

AnthroTree Workshop, Organizer and Lecturer

Multiple cities, 2012 – 2015

- Participated in every aspect of organizing an annual workshop on specialized statistical methods for PhD students, post-docs, and faculty in evolutionary biology
- Developed tutorial materials and lead a 3 hour workshop introducing the application of Generalized Linear Models to evolutionary datasets using R

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

- Fox, S.D., **Griffin, R.H.**, Pachankis, J.E. 2020. Minority Stress, Social Integration, and the Mental Health Needs of LGBTQ Asylum Seekers in North America. *Social Science & Medicine*, 246, 112727.
- Schneider-Crease, I.A., **Griffin, R.H.**, Gomery, M.A., Bergman, T.J., and J.C. Beehner. 2017. High mortality associated with parasitism in geladas (*Theropithecus gelada*) in the Simien Mountains National Park, Ethiopia. *American Journal of Primatology*, 79(9).
- Schneider-Crease, I.A., **Griffin, R.H.**, Dorny, P., Noh, J.C., Handali, S., Chastain, H.M., Wilkins, P.P., Nunn, C.L., Snyder-Mackler, N., Beehner, J.C., and T.J. Bergman. 2017. Identifying wildlife reservoirs of neglected taeniid tapeworms: non-invasive diagnosis of endemic *Taenia serialis* infection in wild primates. *PLOS Neglected Tropical Diseases*, 11(7): p.e0005709.
- Griffin, R.H.**, and G.S. Yapunich. 2017. A critical comment on the ‘multiple variance Brownian motion’ model of Smaers et al. (2016). *Biological Journal of the Linnean Society*, 121(1): 223-228.
- Reiskind, M., **Griffin, R.H.**, Janairo, M.S., and K.A. Hopperstad. 2016. Mosquitoes of Field and Forest: The Scale of Habitat Segregation in a Diverse Mosquito Assemblage. *Medical & Veterinary Entomology*, 31(1): 44-54.
- Griffin, R.H.**, and G.S. Yapunich. 2015. The Independent Evolution method is not a viable phylogenetic comparative method. *PLoS ONE* 10(12): e0144147.
- Coburn, R.A., **Griffin, R.H.**, & S.D. Smith. 2015. Genetic basis for a rare floral mutant in an Andean species of Solanaceae. *American Journal of Botany* 102(2): 264-272.
- Young, H., **Griffin, R.**, Wood, C.L., and Nunn, C.L. 2013. Does habitat disturbance increase infectious disease risk for primates? *Ecology Letters*, 16(5): 656-663.
- Cooper, N., **Griffin, R.**, Franz, M., Omotayo, M., and Nunn, C.L. 2012. Phylogenetic host specificity and understanding parasite sharing in primates. *Ecology Letters* 15(12): 1370-77. [Science Daily press release](#)
- Griffin, R.H.**, Matthews, L.J., and Nunn, C.L. 2012. Evolutionary Disequilibrium and Activity Period in Primates: A Bayesian Phylogenetic Approach. *American Journal of Physical Anthropology* 147:409-416.
- Griffin, R.H.** and Nunn, C.L. 2011. Community structure and the spread of infectious disease in primate social networks. *Evolutionary Ecology* 26(4): 779-800.

ATHLETIC ACHIEVEMENT

South Korean 2018 Olympic Team and Women’s Ice Hockey National Team Player, 2015-2018.

<https://today.duke.edu/2018/03/duke-olympian-will-soon-defend-her-phd>

USA Hockey Certified Coach. Completed 4 years of training to attain the highest coaching certification provided by USA Hockey, and have coached youth teams ranging from the 12U to 19U age groups.