

Michael D. Ekstrand, Ph.D

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EDUCATION

- Ph.D (2014) Computer Science, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN. Advisers: John T. Riedl and Joseph A. Konstan
B.S. (2007) Computer Engineering (With Distinction), Iowa State University, Ames, IA.

APPOINTMENTS

- 2016–present Assistant Professor, Dept. of Computer Science, Boise State University
Co-founder, People and Information Research Team (PIReT)
2014–2016 Assistant Professor, Dept. of Computer Science, Texas State University
2008–2014 Graduate Research Assistant, GroupLens Research, Dept. of Computer Science, University of Minnesota
Summer 2010 Research Intern, Autodesk Research, Toronto, CA

TEACHING

- CS 533 (Introduction to Data Science)
- CS 597 (Recommender Systems)
- CS 410 / CS 510 (Databases)
- Recommender Systems specialization on Coursera

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Author formatting key: **myself**, [advised student](#), [other Boise State student](#).

- 2018 **Michael D. Ekstrand**, [Mucun Tian](#), [Mohammed R. Imran Kazi](#), Hoda Mehrpouyan, and Daniel Kluver. 2018. Exploring Author Gender in Book Rating and Recommendation. In *Proceedings of the 12th ACM Conference on Recommender Systems (RecSys '18)*. ACM. DOI 10.1145/3240323.3240373. arXiv:1808.07586v1 [cs.IR]. Acceptance rate: 17.5%.
- 2018 **Michael D. Ekstrand**. 2018. The LKPY Package for Recommender Systems Experiments: Next-Generation Tools and Lessons Learned from the LensKit Project. *Computer Science Faculty Publications and Presentations* 147. Boise State University. Presented at the *REVEAL 2018 Workshop on Offline Evaluation for Recommender Systems*, a workshop at RecSys 2018. DOI 10.18122/cs_facpubs/147/boisestate. arXiv:1809.03125 [cs.IR].
- 2018 **Michael D. Ekstrand**, [Mucun Tian](#), [Ion Madrazo Azpiazu](#), [Jennifer D. Ekstrand](#), [Oghenemaro Anuyah](#), [David McNeill](#), and Maria Soledad Pera. 2018. All The Cool Kids, How Do They Fit In?: Popularity and Demographic Biases in Recommender Evaluation and Effectiveness. In *Proceedings of the 1st Conference on Fairness, Accountability and Transparency (FAT* 2018)*. PMLR, *Proceedings of Machine Learning Research* 81:172–186. Acceptance rate: 24%. Cited 2 times.
- 2018 **Michael D. Ekstrand**, [Rezvan Joshaghani](#), and Hoda Mehrpouyan. 2018. Privacy for All: Ensuring Fair and Equitable Privacy Protections. In *Proceedings of the 1st Conference on Fairness, Accountability and Transparency (FAT* 2018)*. PMLR, *Proceedings of Machine Learning Research* 81:172–186. Acceptance rate: 24%. Cited 1 times.

- 2017 **Michael D. Ekstrand** and [Vaibhav Mahant](#). 2017. Sturgeon and the Cool Kids: Problems with Random Decoys for Top-N Recommender Evaluation. In *Proceedings of the 30th International Florida Artificial Intelligence Research Society Conference*. AAAI, pp. 639–644.
- 2016 **Michael D. Ekstrand** and Martijn C. Willemsen. 2016. Behaviorism is Not Enough: Better Recommendations through Listening to Users. In *Proceedings of the Tenth ACM Conference on Recommender Systems (RecSys '16)*. ACM. DOI 10.1145/2959100.2959179. Acceptance rate: 36% (Past, Present, and Future track). Cited 10 times.
- 2015 **Michael D. Ekstrand**, Daniel Kluver, F. Maxwell Harper, and Joseph A. Konstan. 2015. Letting Users Choose Recommender Algorithms: An Experimental Study. In *Proceedings of the 9th ACM Conference on Recommender Systems (RecSys '15)*. ACM. DOI 10.1145/2792838.2800195. Acceptance rate: 21%. Cited 30 times.
- 2016 **Michael D. Ekstrand** and Michael Ludwig. 2016. Dependency Injection with Static Analysis and Context-Aware Policy. *Journal of Object Technology* 15(1) (February 2016), 1:1–31. DOI 10.5381/jot.2016.15.5.a1. Cited 1 times.
- 2014 **Michael D. Ekstrand**, F. Maxwell Harper, Martijn C. Willemsen, and Joseph A. Konstan. 2014. User Perception of Differences in Recommender Algorithms. In *Proceedings of the 8th ACM Conference on Recommender Systems (RecSys '14)*. ACM. DOI 10.1145/2645710.2645737. Acceptance rate: 23%. Cited 88 times.
- 2015 Joseph A. Konstan, J.D. Walker, D. Christopher Brooks, Keith Brown, and **Michael D. Ekstrand**. 2015. Teaching Recommender Systems at Large Scale: Evaluation and Lessons Learned from a Hybrid MOOC. *Transactions on Computer-Human Interaction* 22(2) (April 2015). DOI 10.1145/2728171. Cited 13 times.
- 2013 Tien T. Nguyen, Daniel Kluver, Ting-Yu Wang, Pik-Mai Hui, **Michael D. Ekstrand**, Martijn C. Willemsen, and John Riedl. 2013. Rating Support Interfaces to Improve User Experience and Recommender Accuracy. In *Proceedings of the 7th ACM Conference on Recommender Systems (RecSys '13)*. ACM. DOI 10.1145/2507157.2507188. Acceptance rate: 24%. Cited 25 times.
- 2012 Daniel Kluver, Tien T. Nguyen, **Michael Ekstrand**, Shilad Sen, and John Riedl. 2012. How Many Bits per Rating?. In *Proceedings of the Sixth ACM Conference on Recommender Systems (RecSys '12)*. ACM, pp. 99–106. DOI 10.1145/2365952.2365974. Acceptance rate: 20%. Cited 17 times.
- 2011 **Michael D. Ekstrand**, Michael Ludwig, Joseph A. Konstan, and John T. Riedl. 2011. Rethinking The Recommender Research Ecosystem: Reproducibility, Openness, and LensKit. In *Proceedings of the Fifth ACM Conference on Recommender Systems (RecSys '11)*. ACM, pp. 133–140. DOI 10.1145/2043932.2043958. Acceptance rate: 27% (20% for oral presentation, which this received). Cited 157 times.
- 2011 **Michael D. Ekstrand**, John T. Riedl, and Joseph A. Konstan. 2011. Collaborative Filtering Recommender Systems. *Foundations and Trends® in Human-Computer Interaction* 4(2) (February 2011), 81–173. DOI 10.1561/1100000009. Cited 749 times.
- 2011 **Michael Ekstrand**, Wei Li, Tovi Grossman, Justin Matejka, and George Fitzmaurice. 2011. Searching for Software Learning Resources Using Application Context. In *Proceedings of the 24th Annual ACM Symposium on User Interface Software and Technology (UIST '11)*. ACM, pp. 195–204. DOI 10.1145/2047196.2047220. Acceptance rate: 25%. Cited 25 times.
- 2010 **Michael D. Ekstrand**, Praveen Kannan, James A. Stempter, John T. Butler, Joseph A. Konstan, and John T. Riedl. 2010. Automatically Building Research Reading Lists. In *Proceedings of the 4th ACM Conference on Recommender Systems (RecSys '10)*. ACM, pp. 159–166. DOI 10.1145/1864708.1864740. Acceptance rate: 19%. Cited 73 times.

RESEARCH FUNDING

- 2018–2023: NSF award 1751278, \$482,081: CAREER: *User-Based Simulation Methods for Quantifying Sources of Error and Bias in Recommender Systems*

- 2017: \$19K Boise State College of Education Empathy Grant *LITERATE: Locating Informational Texts for Engaging Readers And Teaching Equitably* (co-PI; with PI Katherine Wright & co-PI Sole Pera)
- 2014: Texas State University Research Enhancement Program (competitive internal research grant), \$8000: *Temporal Analysis of Recommender Systems*.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- Co-organizer, TREC 2019 Track on Fairness in Information Retrieval
- ACM Conference on Recommender Systems (General Co-chair 2018, Steering Committee & PC member, Publicity 2016, Demos 2012)
- Conference on Fairness, Accountability, and Transparency (Steering Committee, PR & Publicity co-chair 2019, Systems Track co-chair 2018)
- Distinguished Reviewer, *ACM Transactions on Interactive Intelligent Systems* (2017–present)
- Organizer, FATREC Workshop on Responsible Recommendation at RecSys 2017/2018
- External advisor, CrowdRec (EU Framework Programme collaborative project, 2014–2016)
- PC member and/or reviewer for numerous conferences, including WWW (Track on Behavior Analysis and Personalization), FLAIRS Special Track on Recommender Systems, CHI, CSCW, IUI, SAC REcommender Systems track, UIST, WikiSym/OpenSym, ICWSM
- Reviewer for multiple journals, including TOIS, TWEB, TKDD, TIIS, TDSC, TKDE, PLOS ONE, and UMUAI
- Proceedings co-chair, ACM CHI 2012–2013