

Avi Feller

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EDUCATION

Harvard University 2011 – Present

Ph.D., *Statistics*, Expected 2015

- Committee: Jeffrey Liebman, Luke Miratrix, Donald Rubin (Chair)
- Dissertation: “Essays in Causal Inference and Public Policy”

M.A., *Statistics*, 2012

University of Oxford, Rhodes Scholar 2007 – 2009

M.Sc., *Applied Statistics* (with distinction)

- Thesis: “Statistical Methods for Malaria Gene Expression Profiles” (Advisor: Chris Holmes)

Yale University 2003 – 2007

B.A., *Applied Mathematics* (with distinction) and *Political Science* (with distinction)

- Thesis: “Turnout Spillover and the Decision to Vote” (Advisors: Alan Gerber and Donald Green)
- Election to Phi Beta Kappa after six semesters; *Magna cum laude*

EMPLOYMENT

Civis Analytics, *Data Scientist* 2013 – Present

Harvard Kennedy School Social Impact Bond Laboratory, *Statistician* 2012 – Present

Obama for America, *Budget and Tax Policy Advisor* 2012

The Office of Management and Budget, *Special Assistant to the Director* 2010 – 2011

Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, *Research Associate* 2009 – 2010

MSHC Partners, Inc., *Statistical Analyst, Campaign Microtargeting* 2008

Rock the Vote, *Research Associate* 2008

SELECT GRANTS AND HONORS

Juilius B. Richmond Fellowship, Harvard Center on the Developing Child 2014

Taubman Center Urban Dissertation Fellowship, Harvard Kennedy School 2014

Certificate of Distinction in Teaching, Harvard University 2013, 2014

Smith Family Graduate Science and Engineering Fellowship, Harvard University 2011

James Mills Peirce Fellowship, Harvard University 2011

Prize for Graduate Distinction, Lincoln College, Oxford 2008

Friedmann Endowed Prize in Music, Lincoln College, Oxford 2008

Rhodes Scholarship 2007

Les Aspin Summer Fellowship, Yale University 2006

Richter Prize for Summer Research, Yale University 2006

ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

- Ding, P., **A. Feller**, and L. Miratrix. 2014+. “Randomization inference for treatment effect variation.” *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society, Series B*, under revision.
- Feller, A.** and A. Gelman. 2014. “Hierarchical models for causal effects,” in *Emerging Trends in the Social and Behavioral Sciences*, ed. R. Scott and S. Kosslyn (Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage).
- Feller, A.** and E. Airoidi. 2013. “Comment on ‘How to find an appropriate clustering for mixed type variables with application to socio-economic stratification’ by Hennig and Liao,” *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society, Series C*, 62(3): 347–348.
- Lemieux, J., S. Kyes, T. Otto, **A. Feller**, R. Eastman, R. Pinches, M. Berriman, X. Su, and C. Newbold. 2013. “Genome-wide profiling of chromosome interactions in *Plasmodium falciparum* characterizes nuclear architecture and reconfigurations associated with antigenic variation,” *Molecular Microbiology* 90(3): 519–537.
- Feller, A.**, A. Gelman, and B. Shor. 2012. “Red state/blue state divisions in the 2012 election,” *The Forum*, 10(4): 127–131.
- Mwai, L., A. Diriyee, V. Masseno, S. Muriithi, T. Feltwell, J. Musyoki, J. Lemieux, **A. Feller**, G. Mair, K. Marsh, C. Newbold, A. Nzila, and C. Carret. 2012. “Genome wide adaptations of *Plasmodium falciparum* in response to Lumefantrine selective drug pressure,” *PLoS One* 7(2): e31623.
- Lemieux, J.,* **A. Feller**,* C. Holmes, and C. Newbold. 2009. “In vivo profiles show continuous variation between two cellular populations,” *Proceedings of the National Academies of Science* 106(27): E71–E72.
- Lemieux, J.,* N. Gomez-Escobar,* **A. Feller**,* C. Carret, A. Amambua-Ngwa, R. Pinches, F. Day, S. Kyes, D. Conway, C. Holmes, and C. Newbold. 2009. “Statistical estimation of cell-cycle progression and lineage commitment in *P. falciparum* reveals a homogeneous pattern of transcription in ex vivo culture,” *Proceedings of the National Academies of Science* 106(18): 7559–7564.

* Joint first authors

UNDER REVIEW

- Barnes, L., **A. Feller**, J. Haselswerdt, and E. Porter. “Information and preferences over redistributive policy: A field experiment.”
- Feller, A.**, T. Grindal, L. Miratrix, and L. Page. “Compared to what? Variation in the impact of early childhood education by alternative care-type settings.”
- Mitchell, S., A. Gelman, R. Ross, M. Muniz, U. Huynh, J. Chen, **A. Feller**, L. McClellan, M. Harris, S. Bari, S. Sachs, C. Palm, and J. Sachs. “The Millennium Villages Project: A protocol for the final evaluation.”
- Page, L., **A. Feller**, T. Grindal, L. Miratrix, L. Page, and M.-A. Somers. “Principal stratification: A tool for understanding variation in program effects across endogenous subgroups.”

RESEARCH IN PROGRESS

- “Ecological Inference: Likelihood and Empirical Bayes perspectives” (with P. Ding).
- “Decomposition of treatment effect variation” (with P. Ding and L. Miratrix)
- “The economics and econometrics of Social Impact Bonds” (with J. Liebman)
- “Examining the foundations of methods that assess treatment effect heterogeneity” (with L. Miratrix).
- “Estimating treatment effect variation in multi-site experiments with Dirichlet Process random effects” (with L. Miratrix, D. Pati, and N. Pillai).
- “Causal inference in the Twilight Zone: Estimating principal stratification models with finite mixtures” (with L. Miratrix and N. Pillai).
- “Re-randomization in multi-arm experiments” (with K. L. Morgan, C. Kennedy, C. Mann, and D. Nickerson).
- “Randomly assigned peer grading and course completion in a Massive Open Online Course” (with T. Rogers).
- “A randomized experiment using absenteeism information to nudge attendance” (with T. Rogers).

TECHNICAL REPORTS

- Massachusetts Pay For Success Team. 2014. “The Massachusetts Juvenile Justice Pay for Success Initiative.”
- New York State Social Impact Bond Team. 2013. “The New York State Social Impact Bond Recidivism Project.”

OTHER WRITING

- Gelman, A. and **A. Feller**. “Red Versus Blue in a New Light,” *New York Times*. Nov. 12, 2012.
- Feller, A.** and C. Marr. “Tax Rate for Richest 400 Taxpayers Plummeted in Recent Decades, Even as Their Pre-Tax Incomes Skyrocketed,” *Center on Budget and Policy Priorities*, Feb. 23, 2010.
- Sherman, A., **A. Feller**, and C. Marr. “Failure to Extend Improvements in Child Tax Credit Would Harm Millions of Low-Income Working Families,” *Center on Budget and Policy Priorities*, Feb. 16, 2010.
- Feller, A.** and C. Stone. “Top 1 Percent of Americans Reaped Two-Thirds of Income Gains in Last Economic Expansion,” *Center on Budget and Policy Priorities*, Sept. 9, 2009.

SELECT FUNDED RESEARCH

- “Using emerging methods with existing data from multi-site trials to learn about and from variation in educational program effects” (Co-Investigators: H. Bloom, S. Raudenbush, S. Reardon, G. Hong, and L. Page). Spencer Foundation.
- “Evaluating taxpayer statements through a field experiment” (with L. Barnes, J. Haselswerdt, and E. Porter). Omidyar Network.
- “A randomized experiment using absenteeism information to nudge attendance” (with T. Rogers). Harvard University Foundations of Human Behavior Initiative.

PRESENTATIONS & POSTERS

- “Principal stratification: A tool for understanding causal impacts on latent groups” (with L. Miratrix and L. Page). Workshop at the *Society for Research on Educational Effectiveness, Spring Conference*, Washington, DC, March, 2015.
- “Identification and finite sample performance of mixture models in principal stratification” (with L. Miratrix). *2014 Atlantic Causal Inference Conference*, Providence, RI, May, 2014.
- “Compared to what? Variation in the impacts of early childhood education by alternative child care setting” (with T. Grindal, L. Miratrix, and L. Page).
- *University of Chicago*, Chicago, IL, October, 2014.
 - *Society for Research on Educational Effectiveness, Spring Conference*, Washington, DC, March, 2014.
 - *Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management, Annual Meeting*, Washington, DC, November, 2013.
- “Randomization inference for treatment effect variation” (with P. Ding and L. Miratrix).
- *Joint Statistical Meetings*, Montreal, QC, August, 2014.
 - *2013 Atlantic Causal Inference Conference*, Cambridge, MA, May, 2013.
- “Can voter turnout contaminate a neighborhood?” (with D. Nickerson). *Harvard Conference on Networks in Political Science*, Cambridge, MA, June, 2008.

RESEARCH ASSISTANCE

Prof. Jeffrey Liebman, <i>Harvard Kennedy School</i>	2012 – Present
Prof. Guido Imbens, <i>Harvard Economics Department</i>	2012
Prof. Theodore Marmor, <i>Yale Law School, Yale School of Management</i>	2005 – 2007

TEACHING

Harvard University

Junior Tutorial in Statistics (STAT 98), <i>Teaching Fellow</i>	Spring 2014
Statistical Methods for Evaluating Causal Effects (ECON 1127), <i>Teaching Fellow</i>	Spring 2013
Introductory Quantitative Methods: Economics (STAT 104), <i>Teaching Fellow</i>	Spring 2012

University of Oxford

Probability and Statistics (Part A), <i>Teaching Assistant</i>	Spring 2009
Advanced Applied Statistics (BS1b), <i>Teaching Assistant</i>	Winter 2009

Yale University

Introductory Statistics (STAT 100), <i>Teaching Assistant</i>	Spring 2006, Spring 2007
Introductory Statistics: Political Science (STAT/PLSC 462), <i>Course Tutor</i>	Fall 2006

SKILLS

Programming: R, STATA, MATLAB, STAN, Perl, C/C++, ArcGIS, SAS, SPSS, ~~TeX~~

Language: Proficient Spanish

REFERENCES

Prof. Andrew Gelman
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