Jeffrey M. Fossett

CONTACT INFORMATION

Wyss Hall
Harvard Business School
Boston, MA 02163

Phone: (518) 852-0896
Email: jfossett@hbs.edu

EDUCATION

Harvard Business School, Cambridge, MA — *2018 - Present*
Ph.D. in Business Administration (in progress)
Technology & Operations Management Unit

Harvard University, Cambridge, MA — *2017-2018*
A.M. in Statistics

Williams College, Williamstown, MA — *2009-2013*
B.A., *Magna Cum Laude*, in Mathematics and Philosophy

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Economics of Digitization; Technology and Public Policy

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant, Harvard Business School — *2019*
with Professor Shane Greenstein

Researcher, Techtopia at Harvard University (led by Jonathan Zittrain) — *2018-2019*
- Project on deployment of automated decision-making systems by municipal governments

Research Assistant, Harvard Business School — *2017-2018*
with Professor Michael Luca

Research Assistant, Berkman Klein Center for Internet & Society (Harvard) — *2017*
with Ethics and Governance of AI Initiative
- Projects on AI interpretability and algorithmic content moderation.

POPULAR WRITING

Fossett, Jeffrey, Duncan Gilchrist, and Michael Luca. "Using Experiments to Launch New Products." *Harvard Business Review, Digital*, November 2018.

Talbot, David and Jeffrey Fossett. "Exploring the Role of Algorithms in Online Harmful Speech." *Berkman Klein Center Medium Page,* August 2017.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teaching Fellow, *From Data To Decisions: The Role of Experiments*
Harvard Business School (MBA course), 2019

Industry Experience	**Data Scientist**, Airbnb Inc.	*2014-2017*
	Data Scientist, Booz Allen Hamilton	*2014*

Selected Graduate Coursework

Labor Economics II (MIT - Autor / Dube); Labor Economics I (MIT - Angrist / Acemoglu); Industrial Organization I (MIT - Ellison / Agarwal); Economics of Ideas, Innovation & Entrepreneurship (MIT - Stern); Econometrics II (Andrews); Microeconomic Theory I (Kotowski); Microeconomic Theory II (Avery); Econometric Methods II (Goodman); Principles of Econometrics (Tamer); Market Design (Kominers); Empirical Studies of Innovation & Digitization (Greenstein); Bayesian Data Analysis (Liu)

Statement of Interest

I am writing to express my interest in attending the virtual graduate student workshop in the Economics of Artificial Intelligence in September 2020. I am currently a second-year PhD student in the Technology and Operations Management (TOM) unit at Harvard Business School, where I work primarily with Professors Michael Luca and Chiara Farronato.

Although I am early in my academic career, I have long been interested in new technology and its impact on society, as demonstrated by my prior work in the tech sector at Airbnb and my past projects with organizations such as the Berkman Klein Center at Harvard. The impact of AI and algorithmic systems has been a particular interest, as shown by my past projects on AI interpretability, algorithmic content moderation, and the use of algorithmic decision-making in local governments.

Within the economics of AI literature, I am especially excited about the emerging agenda around algorithmic fairness and economics, as outlined in Cowgill & Tucker (2020). While concerns around bias and fairness in algorithms have garnered much attention in other disciplines (computer science, law, sociology) and in popular policy conversations, I believe that an economic perspective has much to add to the conversation around these topics, and I am excited to be involved. Additionally, after completing second-year courses in labor economics, I have become increasingly interested in discussions about the labor market impacts of AI and machine learning (e.g. Felten, Raj & Seamans 2018; Brynjolfsson, Mitchell & Rock 2018; Webb 2020).

Overall, I believe that attending the graduate student workshop will be extremely valuable both in learning more about topics which I hope to study in the future, and in meeting other early-stage researchers with interests similar to mine (to the extent that this is possible virtually). Thank you for your consideration and I very much hope to have the opportunity.

References

Brynjolfsson, E., Mitchell, T., & Rock, D. (2018, May). What can machines learn, and what does it mean for occupations and the economy?. In *AEA Papers and Proceedings* (Vol. 108, pp. 43-47).

Cowgill, Bo and Tucker, Catherine E., Algorithmic Fairness and Economics (February 14, 2020). The Journal of Economic Perspectives; Columbia Business School Research Paper. Available at SSRN: https://ssrn.com/abstract=3361280

Felten, E. W., Raj, M., & Seamans, R. (2018, May). A Method to Link Advances in Artificial Intelligence to Occupational Abilities. In *AEA Papers and Proceedings* (Vol. 108, pp. 54-57).

Webb, M. (2019). The Impact of Artificial Intelligence on the Labor Market. *Available at SSRN 3482150*.