

# Peter Hase

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## EDUCATION

### The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Second-year PhD student in Computer Science

Research Area: Natural Language Processing | Advisor: [Mohit Bansal](#)

Fall 2019 – Present

Chapel Hill, NC

### Duke University

BS in Statistical Science | Minor in Mathematics

Fall 2015 – Spring 2019

Durham, NC

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

Interpretable and explainable machine learning, natural language processing, multi-agent communication, AI safety.

## PUBLICATIONS

### Leakage-Adjusted Simulatability: Can Models Generate Non-Trivial Explanations of Their Behavior in Natural Language?

To appear in *Findings of EMNLP 2020*.

Peter Hase, Shiyue Zhang, Harry Xie, Mohit Bansal

### Evaluating Explainable AI: Which Algorithmic Explanations Help Users Predict Model Behavior?

In *ACL 2020*. [[pdf](#)] [[code](#)]

Peter Hase, Mohit Bansal

### Interpretable Image Recognition with Hierarchical Prototypes

In *AAAI-HCOMP 2019*. (25% acceptance rate) [[pdf](#)] [[code](#)]

Peter Hase, Chaofan Chen, Oscar Li, Cynthia Rudin

### Shall I Compare Thee to a Machine-Written Sonnet? An Approach to Algorithmic Sonnet Generation

Preprint on *arXiv*. [[pdf](#)] [[code](#)]

John Benhardt, Peter Hase, Liuyi Zhu, Cynthia Rudin

## AWARDS

### William R. Kenan Jr. (Royster) Fellowship, UNC Chapel Hill

University fellowship awarded to one student in the 2019 cohort of computer science students, providing three years of full funding

2019

### First Prize in the PoetiX Literary Turing Test, Neukom Institute, Dartmouth College

Awarded for the top submission to the Neukom Institute's open competition for algorithmic sonnet generation

2018

### Nomination for Undergrad TA of the Year, Dept. of Statistical Science, Duke University

One of five undergrad nominations from faculty for the department's TA of the year award

2018

### ASA DataFest Honorable Mention, Dept. of Statistical Science, Duke University

Recognition for placement in top 10% of teams in a Duke-hosted data analysis competition entered by 380+ undergrad and grad students

2018

**Meritorious Winner in the Interdisciplinary Contest in Modeling, COMAP** 2017  
Awarded for placement in the top 12% of over 8000 teams in the international modeling contest held by the Consortium for Mathematics and its Applications

**AJ Tannenbaum Trinity Scholarship, Duke University** 2015  
A full academic merit scholarship awarded to one student from Guilford County, NC

TEACHING

**Probabilistic Machine Learning (Graduate), Teaching Assistant** Spring 2019  
Dept. of Statistical Science, Duke University

**Intro to AI, Teaching Assistant** Spring 2019  
Dept. of Computer Science, Duke University

**Elements of Machine Learning, Teaching Assistant** Fall 2018  
Dept. of Computer Science, Duke University

**Intro to Data Science, Teaching Assistant** Spring 2018  
Dept. of Statistical Science, Duke University

**Regression Analysis, Teaching Assistant** Fall 2017  
Dept. of Statistical Science, Duke University

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

**Department of Statistical Science, Duke University** Summer 2018  
DOmath Researcher | *Supervisor: Dr. Sayan Mukherjee* Durham, NC

- Numerically estimated a measure of model complexity, the topological entropy, for two dynamical systems, the logistic map and linear dynamical system
- Empirically assessed how the reliability of inference for the linear dynamical system varies as a function of its entropy

**Department of Neurobiology, Duke University** Spring & Summer 2018  
Research Assistant | *Supervisor: Dr. Jeff Beck* Durham, NC

- Implemented a hidden Markov model and linear dynamical system, each learned through variational Bayesian expectation maximization (VBEM)
- Modeled recordings of neuron activity in the actively singing Zebra finch; visualized and interpreted models' latent variable dynamics

**Information Initiative at Duke** Summer 2017  
Data+ Researcher | *Supervisor: Sheng Jiang* Durham, NC

- Clustered Duke's alumni donors into groups with distinct giving behaviors via k-means
- Built logistic regression models to evaluate donors' philanthropic potential based on demographics and prior giving behavior

LEADERSHIP

**Computer Science Student Association** Summer 2020 – Present  
Officer Chapel Hill, NC

- Record meeting minutes for CS faculty meetings to share with graduate students
- Working with faculty to redesign background requirements for doctoral applicants to improve access and ensure fair enforcement

**Highschool and Undergraduate Research Mentoring***Spring 2020 – Present*

Research Mentor

*Chapel Hill, NC*

- Meet weekly with an undergraduate research assistant in the MURGe-Lab to mentor ongoing publication track research
- Met weekly with a high school student from North Carolina School of Science and Math to mentor a summer project reimplementing current research in document summarization
- Presented live research demos to Chapel Hill K-12 students for UNC CS open house; printed machine written sonnets for students and discussed education and research at UNC

**Start-up Technical Advising***Fall 2019 – Present*

Technical Advisor

*Chapel Hill, NC*

- [curalens.ai](https://curalens.ai): in monthly meetings, I advise Curalens on text generation strategies for a therapeutic chat-bot (note: Curalens is also advised by domain experts)
- [Acta](#): previously advised Acta on procedures for automatically summarizing crowdsourced constituent feedback for efficient communication to local governments

**Effective Altruism: Duke***Spring 2016 – Spring 2019*

Co-President

*Durham, NC*

- Moderated weekly discussions related to Effective Altruism, the social movement promoting the use of reason and evidence to maximize the good you can do for the world
- Organized lectures and reading groups on AI safety for Duke and UNC Chapel Hill students
- Managed campus fundraisers generating over \$600 for global health charities
- Led club from 9 to 30+ active members over my tenure as Co-President
- Recorded over 15 Giving What We Can pledges (10% of all future income) in pledge drives and over 30 One For the World pledges (1% of future income)

**WORK EXPERIENCE****Clarity Campaign Labs***Summer 2016*

Research Analyst

*Washington, DC*

- Visualized model predictions and political data; encoded surveys; drafted software guides for internal use