

Bloomberg

Call for Papers: Data for Good Exchange 2015

Event Date: Monday, September 28, 2015, 8:30 am – 5:30 pm

Location: Bloomberg Global Headquarters, 731 Lexington Ave, New York, NY 10022

Across the business world, data science has had an immense impact in allowing businesses to provide better service, more cheaply, and to more customers. These advances have come from decreasing costs of computation, the increasing data, and advanced statistical methods that can be brought to bear on problems. While the corporate sector has effectively engaged the academic community in their problems, the public and non-profit sector has seen comparatively less application of data science methods.

In an effort to enable the public sector to benefit more from this knowledge and methods, in 2014 over 900 scientists, thought leaders, and policy makers convened for KDD at Bloomberg, a pre-conference done in partnership with SIGKDD. This forum enabled participants to share insights and progress on applying modern machine learning and data science methods to problems in the public and non-profit sector. This year, we will reconvene on September 28th in connection with Strata/Hadoop (9/29-9/31) to further these aims.

The goal of this workshop is to share success stories, challenges, and visions for the future of applications of data science to problems around the social good. We welcome submissions that either:

- (1) Explain a successful application of data science to a problem in one of these spaces
- (2) Present a challenge problem that might be aided by use of machine learning / data science
- (3) Describe an especially relevant and specialized data set, or
- (4) Lay out a vision for the future direction of these growing fields.

Contributions emphasizing inter-disciplinary work are particularly encouraged, as are descriptions of novel problems (with or without solutions) within the policy space.

We particularly encourage submissions in these areas:

- **Government Innovation:** e.g. How do we empower local leaders with the data science tools they need to make effective decisions? How are the problems of cities specifically addressed by cities? What needs to be in place for a city before data science can be applied? What kinds of problems are most amenable to data science techniques? What role does open data play in these solutions? What are the best open data platforms? How should a city interact with “citizen hackers”?
- **Environment:** e.g. How can we use data science to understand pressing environmental problems like climate change and overfishing? How can we use data science to mitigate or remediate environmental problems? How can we make data open to enable citizen engagement with environmental issues?
- **Public Health:** e.g. How do we raise the global quality of life by addressing public health challenges? How do we engage citizens in collecting the necessary data? How can we pinpoint the places intervention would be most effective?
- **Education:** e.g. How do we improve student outcomes using data driven methods? How do we teach data science more effectively? How can data science tools contribute to a science education?

Bloomberg

Submission details

Abstract Deadline: **August 1st, 11:59:59 PM EDT**

Full Submission Deadline: **August 8th, 11:59:59 PM EDT**

Either extended abstracts or papers from 4-8 pages in length are welcome.

Format: Reviews are not double-blind, and author names and affiliations should be listed.

Submissions should follow ACM Tighter Alternate Style

(<http://www.acm.org/sigs/publications/proceedings-templates>).

Submitted papers will be assessed based on their potential to further the conversation among researchers, NGOs, and policy makers. As such, position papers, and works in progress are welcome. Papers will be reviewed by the program committee and acceptance decisions will be emailed to all authors by August 15th. All participants should register for the Bloomberg event and be available to present on the day.

Papers will be accepted for 20min paper presentations, 5min lightening talks, as well as for the poster session. Accepted papers will be published as part of an open access workshop proceedings.

Submit to d4gx@bloomberg.net with subject "<name> | <affiliation> | <title>"

Program Committee

- **Mark Drezde, Research Professor, Johns Hopkins University**
- **Paul Duan, Founder and President, Bayes Impact**
- **Mike Flowers, former Head of MODA NYC, enigma.io**
- **Rayid Ghani, Director of the Center for Data Science and Public Policy, University of Chicago**
- **Susan Kish, Director, The Foundation Center**
- **Emmanuel Letouze, Director, Data-Pop Alliance**
- **Ben Lorica, Chief Data Scientist, O'Reilly**
- **Gilad Lotan, Chief Data Scientist, Betaworks**
- **Gideon Mann, Head of Data Science, Bloomberg**
- **Cathy O'Neill, Professor, Columbia**
- **Jake Porway, Founder and Executive Director, DataKind**
- **Arnaud Sahuguet, CTO, NYU GovLab**
- **Dan Wagner, Founder and CEO, Civis Analytics**
- **Hanna Wallach, Researcher, Microsoft Research**
- **Ben Wellington, Quantitative Analyst, Two Sigma**
- **Shivon Zilis, Bloomberg Beta**

Strata Hadoop Showcase

In connection with the 9/28 event at Bloomberg, the best papers as selected by the program committee, will be showcased at a "Data for Good" poster reception at the Strata Hadoop conference on the afternoon of 9/30. Top speakers will be awarded speaker slots at Strata.

Workshop Logistics

The workshop will take place at 731 Lexington Ave New York NY on 9/28. There is no cost to attend. Registration details are forthcoming.