

Research Appointments

ETH Zurich

Assistant Professor (Professorship of Law, Economics, and Data Science), 2018-.

University of Warwick

Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, 2017-2018.

Princeton University

Postdoc Fellow, Center for the Study of Democratic Politics, 2016-2017.

Education

Columbia University

Ph.D. 2016 Economics

J.D. 2010 Law

University of Amsterdam

LLM 2010 International Criminal Law

University of Texas at Austin

B.A. 2007 Plan II Honors, Economics, Government, Philosophy

Publications (Peer-Reviewed Journals)

Elliott Ash and W. Bentley MacLeod, "Reducing Partisanship in Judicial Elections Can Improve Judge Quality: Evidence from U.S. State Supreme Courts". *Journal of Public Economics* (conditionally accepted).

Moritz Osnabruegge, Elliott Ash, and Massimo Morelli, "Cross-Domain Topic Classification for Political Texts". *Political Analysis* (conditionally accepted).

Elliott Ash, Sergio Galletta, Dominik Hangartner, Yotam Margalit, and Matteo Pinna. "The Effect of Fox News on Health Behavior during COVID-19". *Political Analysis* (conditionally accepted).

Matia Vannoni, Elliott Ash, and Massimo Morelli. "Measuring Discretion and Delegation in Legislative Texts: Methods and Application to U.S. States". *Political Analysis* (2020).

Allison Harris, Elliott Ash, and Jeffrey Fagan. "Fiscal pressures and discriminatory policing: Evidence from traffic stops in Missouri". *Journal of Race, Ethnicity, and Politics* (2020).

Elliott Ash and Miguel Urquiola. "A research-based ranking of public policy schools". *Scientometrics* (2020).

Elliott Ash, Massimo Morelli, and Matia Vannoni. "Divided Government, Delegation, and Civil Service Reform". *Political Science Research and Methods* (2020).

Yu Cao, Elliott Ash, and Daniel L. Chen. "Automated fact-value distinction in court opinions". *European Journal of Law and Economics* (2020).

- Carina Hausladen, Marcel Schubert, and Elliott Ash. “Text classification of political ideology labels in judicial opinions”. *International Review of Law and Economics* (2020).
- Jessica Van Parys and Elliott Ash. “Sequential Decision-Making with Group Identity”. *Journal of Economic Psychology* (2018).
- Danny C. Price, Ellert van der Velden, Sebastien Celles, Peter T. Eendebak, Michael M. McKerns, Eben M. Olson, Colin Raffel, and Bairen Yi, and Elliott Ash. “Hickle: A HDF5-based python pickle replacement”. *Journal of Open Source Software* (2018).
- Elliott Ash, Massimo Morelli, and Richard Van Weelden. “Elections and divisiveness: Theory and evidence”. *Journal of Politics* (2017).
- Elliott Ash and Bentley MacLeod. “Intrinsic Motivation in Public Service: Theory and Evidence from State Supreme Courts”. *Journal of Law and Economics* (2015).
- Frans van Winden and Elliott Ash. “On the Behavioral Economics of Crime”. *Review of Law and Economics* (2012).

Invitations to Resubmit (Peer-Reviewed Journals)

- Elliott Ash, Daniel L. Chen, and Suresh Naidu, “Ideas have Consequences: The Impact of Law and Economics on American justice”. Reject and Resubmit at *Quarterly Journal of Economics*.
- Gloria Gennaro and Elliott Ash, “Emotion and Reason in Political Language”. Revise and Resubmit at *Economic Journal*.
- Sergio Galletta and Elliott Ash. “How Cable News Reshaped Local Government”. Reject and Resubmit at *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*.
- Sergio Galletta, Elliott Ash, and Daniel L. Chen. “Measuring Judicial Sentiment: Methods and Application to U.S. Circuit Courts”. Revise and Resubmit at *Economica*.
- Tinghua Yu and Elliott Ash, “Polarization and Political Selection”. Revise and Resubmit at *Journal of Political Institutions and Political Economy*.

Publications (Peer-Reviewed Conference Proceedings)

- Elliott Ash, Jeff Jacobs, Bentley MacLeod, Suresh Naidu, and Dominik Stammbach. “Unsupervised Extraction of Workplace Rights and Duties from Collective Bargaining Agreements”. *International Workshop on Mining and Learning in the Legal Domain* (2020).
- Lazar Peric, Stefan Mijic, Dominik Stammbach, and Elliott Ash. “Legal Language Modeling with Transformers”. *Automated Semantic Analysis of Information in Legal Text* (2020).
- Dominik Stammbach and Elliott Ash. “e-FEVER: Explanations and Summaries for Automated Fact Checking”. *Truth and Trust Online* (2020).
- Roland Friedrich, Mauro Luzzatto, and Elliott Ash. “Entropy in Legal Language”. *NLLP @ KDD* (2020).

Ramya Vunikili, Hitesh Ochani, Divisha Jaiswal, Richa Deshmukh, Elliott Ash, and Daniel L. Chen. “Analysis of Vocal Implicit Bias in SCOTUS Decisions Through Predictive Modeling”. *Proceedings of Experimental Linguistics* (2018).

Publications (not Peer-Reviewed)

Elliott Ash and Omri Marian. “The making of international tax law: Empirical evidence from tax treaties text”. *Florida Tax Review* (2020).

Nischal Mainali, Liam Meier, Elliott Ash, and Daniel L. Chen. “Automated Classification of Modes of Moral Reasoning in Judicial Decisions”, in: *Computational legal studies: The promise and challenge of data-driven research*, Edward Elgar (2020).

Elliott Ash and Daniel L. Chen. “Case Vectors: Spatial Representations of the Law using Document Embeddings”, in: *Law as Data*, SFI Press (2019).

Elliott Ash, “Comment: Emerging tools for a ‘driverless’ legal system,” *Journal of Institutional and Theoretical Economics* (2018).

Elliott Ash and Daniel L. Chen. “What kind of judge is Brett Kavanaugh? A quantitative analysis”. *Cardozo Law Review Online* (2018).

Jeffrey Fagan and Elliott Ash. “New Policing, New Segregation: From Ferguson to New York”. *Georgetown Law Journal Online* (2017).

Grants

Swiss National Science Foundation Project Funding, “Deep causal models for legal and political texts” (2020-2024).

Banque de France Foundation for Research Grant (2020-2021).

Swiss Data Science Center Academic Collaboration Grant, “Narratives in law and politics: A computational linguistics approach” (2020-2022).

Swiss National Science Foundation Spark Grant, “Mining Narratives from Text” (2019-2020).

Russell Sage Foundation Presidential Grant (with Daniel L. Chen and Arianna Ornaghi), “Lexical gender bias in the judiciary”, (2019-2020).

Innosuisse Innovation Grant, “Monitoring Regulatory Change” (2019).

Mind & Life Europe Research Award (with Daniel Sgroi, Anthony Tuckwell, and Shi Zhuo), “Mindfulness and Economic Behaviour,” (2019-2021).

NVIDIA GPU Grant, “Deep Learning Models for Legal Prediction,” (2019).

ETH Internal Research Grant, “Doctoral Research in Empirical Political Economy,” (2019-2022).

Swiss National Science Foundation, Scientific Exchanges Award, “Data Science for Law Conference,” (2019).

Turing Economic Data Science Award (with Thiemo Fetzer), “Letting Text Speak to Economic Data,” (2018-2019).

Princeton University Center for Health and Wellbeing Seed Grant (with Bentley MacLeod), “Aging and Work: The Health Consequences,” (2018-2020).

European Research Council Extension Grant (PI: Massimo Morelli), “Bureaucracy, Populism, and Political Stability: Theory and Evidence,” (2017-2019).
Washington Center for Equitable Growth Research Grant (with Bentley MacLeod and Suresh Naidu), “Language, Laws, and Labor Contracts” (2017-2019)
National Science Foundation Grant SES-1459932 (PI’s: Bentley MacLeod and Suresh Naidu), “Language, Laws, and Labor Contracts in the 20th Century,” (2015-2017)
National Science Foundation Grant SES-1260875 (PI: Bentley MacLeod), “A Study into the Effect of Employment Conditions upon Judicial Behavior and Performance,” (2013-2016)
C. Lowell Harriss Dissertation Fellowship, Lincoln Institute of Land Policy (2014-2015)
NSF Graduate Research Fellowship (2011-2014)

Supervision and Mentorship

Postdoc Advisor

Malka Guillot, 2018-2021, now Assistant Professor of Economics at HEC Liege.
Sergio Galletta, 2018-2020, now Assistant Professor of Economics at Bergamo.
Elena Labzina, 2018-2020, now Data Scientist at Microsoft.

PhD Advisor

Claudia Marangon (2019-)
Christoph Goessmann (2020-)
Matteo Pinna (2020-)
Dominik Stammbach (2020-)

PhD Second Advisor

Alessandra Stampi-Bombelli (2019-), with Dominik Hangartner.
Afra Amini (2021-), with Ryan Cotterell.

PhD Committee Member

Milena Djourelova (UPF, 2021), now U. Chicago Postdoc /Assistant Professor in Economics at Cornell.
Oda Nedregard (Norwegian Business School, 2021-).
Nianlong Gu (ETH, 2021)
Sascha Langenbach (ETH, 2019), now ETH Postdoc.

Startups

DeepJudge (Paulina Grnarova, Yannic Kilcher, Kevin Roth, Florian Schmidt)
SuaCode and Kwame (George Boateng)

Teaching (Lectures)

ETH Zurich

Co-organizer, Law and Data Science Interdisciplinary Master, 2018-
Lecturer, Building a Robot Judge: Data Science for Decision-Making, 2019-
Lecturer, Sequencing Legal DNA: NLP for Law and Political Economy, 2020-
Co-Lecturer, Big Data for Public Policy Analysis, 2020-

Lecturer, Fiscal Policy and Inequality (2018)
University of Warwick
Lecturer, Topics in Public Finance (Msc, Spring 2018)
Lecturer, Making of Economic Policy (Bsc, Fall 2017, Spring 2018)
Columbia University
Instructor, Law and Economics (undergraduate) (Summer 2014)

Teaching (Guest Lectures and Advising)

International Conference on Computational Social Science: Tutorial on Transformers for Social Science (2021).
Russell Sage Summer Institute in Computational Social Science: ETH Zurich Site Organizer (2019 and 2021)
POLTEXT: Tutorial, Introduction to machine learning with text (2019 conference, Tokyo)
Alliance Graduate Summer School in Sustainable Development (Columbia University and Sciences Po): Instructor, Introduction to Text Mining (Summer 2019)
Bocconi University: Visiting Instructor, Text Analysis and Machine Learning for Social Science (Fall 2018)
New York University. Center for Data Science: Project Advisor, Machine Learning and Computational Statistics (Spring 2017, Spring 2018)
International Max Planck Research School: Instructor, Text Analysis and Machine Learning for Social Science (Summer 2017)
Columbia University: Adjunct Assistant Professor, Master of Arts Thesis Course (Spring/Summer 2017); TA, Perspectives on Economic Studies (PhD), Profs. Joe Stiglitz and Jeff Sachs (Spring 2013); TA, Political Economy (undergraduate), Prof. Massimo Morelli (Fall 2012)

Professional Memberships

ETH AI Center Associated Faculty (2020-)
Royal Economic Society, Programme Committee for Machine Learning (2020-2022)
Monash SoDa Labs Research Affiliate (2020-)
Co-PI, Zurich Digital Democracy Lab (2020-)
Zurich Center for Comparative and International Studies (2019-)
University of Warwick CAGE Research Associate (2018-)

Referee Service

Journals. American Economic Journal: Applied Economics; American Economic Journal: Economic Policy; American Economic Review; American Journal of Political Science; American Political Science Review; Artificial Intelligence Review; Artificial Intelligence and Law; British Journal of Political Science; Data Mining and Knowledge Discovery; Economic Journal; Economica; Economics Letters; Economics & Politics; European Journal of Law and Economics; European Journal of Political Economy; International

Journal of Communication; International Review of Law and Economics; Journal of Computational Social Science; Journal of the European Economics Association; Journal of Human Capital; Journal of Law and Economics; Journal of Law, Economics, and Organization; Journal of Legal Studies; Journal of Politics; Journal of Public Administration Research and Theory; Journal of Public Economics; Journal of the European Economic Association; Justice System Journal; Law and Social Inquiry; Law & Society Review; Macroeconomic Dynamics; Political Communication; Political Science Research and Methods; Quarterly Journal of Economics; Review of Economics and Statistics; Scandinavian Journal of Economics; Social Justice Research; Southern Economic Journal; Stanford Law Review.

Conferences. American Law and Economics Association; Association for Computational Linguistics; Conference on Empirical Legal Studies; Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing; eScience International; European Association of Law and Economics, Natural Legal Language Processing Workshop; Royal Economic Society; Workshop on Automated Semantic Analysis of Information in Legal Text.

Grants. Russel Sage Foundation; Israel Science Foundation, KU Leuven Research Council.

Books. Routledge.

Seminar/Conference Organization

2021 (incl. expected): AI Policy Conference, American Law and Economics Association Area Organizer in Judicial Behavior; European Association of Law and Economics Area Organizer in Employment Law and Discrimination, RES Conference, ACL Workshop on Causal Inference and NLP, Natural Legal Language Processing Workshop (NLLP), Monash-Warwick-Zurich Text-as-Data Workshop.

2020: Automated Semantic Analysis of Information in Legal Texts (ASAIL), AI Policy Conference, Zurich Digital Democracy Workshop, CIS Mini-Workshops in Empirical Political Economy, Natural Legal Language Processing Workshop, ETH/UZH Law & Economics Speaker Series, UZH Empirical Legal Studies Workshop.

2019: Zurich Text as Data Workshop, Conference on Empirical Legal Studies, eScience International Conference, Workshop on Automated Semantic Analysis of Information in Legal Text, Conference on Data Science and Law, NAACL Workshop in Natural Legal Language Processing.

2018: European Association of Law and Economics (Area Organizer for Law and Machine Learning).

2017: Princeton CSDP Conference on Real-World Impacts of Legal Text.

Seminars and Presentations (since 2017)

2021 (incl. expected): SciPy Mini Symposium on Computational Social Science & Digital Humanities, ACM COMPASS (Best Paper Award), Basel Robotics in Nursing Conference, Online Workshop in Computational Analysis of Law, NYU Law and Economics Seminar, University of Pittsburgh Applied Legal Analytics and AI Seminar, Economics of Crime Online Seminar, AI for Behavioral Change Workshop (poster), Bocconi CLEAN Economics of Crime Seminar, Norwegian Business School

- Seminar, Dartmouth Economics Seminar, Basel Economics Research Seminar, Lucerne Economics Seminar.
- 2020: Econometric Society Winter Meeting, Ljubljana Judicial Politics Workshop, Hertie School Political Economy Seminar, Marist College Economics Seminar, Zurich Digital Democracy Workshop, NBER Political Economy Winter Meeting, Harvard Empirical Legal Studies Seminar, Junior Americanist Workshop Series, Georgetown Law and Economics Seminar, Harvard Political Economy Seminar, University of Virginia Law and Economics Seminar, ETH Computational Social Science Seminar, NBER Summer Institute Law & Economics Meeting, Bonn Law & Economics Workshop, St. Gallen Media Economics Workshop, ETH Law and Economics Speaker Series, Paris CREST Seminar, PolMeth Europe, St. Gallen Economics Research Seminar, Bologna Workshop on Elections, Democracy, and Populism.
- 2019: Stockholm Institute for International Economic Studies, MIT Governance Lab (co-author), New Directions in Analyzing Text as Data, Berkeley Law, Accounting, and Business Workshop, NBER Summer Institute Aging Meeting, POLTEXT Tokyo, EEA/ESEM Manchester, CAGE Workshop on the use of Language and Text in the Social Sciences.
- 2018: KU Leuven Empirical Legal Studies Seminar, Universita della Svizzera Italiana IdEP Seminar, ETH Political Economy Workshop, Conference on Empirical Legal Studies, ETH Inaugural Lecture, New Directions in Analyzing Text as Data, HKU Computational Legal Studies Workshop, BGSE Summer Forum Organizational Economics, Tinbergen Econometric Institute Workshop, Center for Empirical Legal Studies in Europe, Warwick PEPE Research Day, IZA Labor Statistics Workshop, Universite Paris Nanterre LIEN Seminar, NBER Culture & Institutions Spring Meeting (co-author), NYU NLP and Text as Data Speaker Series, Online Workshop on Computational Analysis of Law, Manifesto Corpus Conference, Bonn Law & Economics Workshop.
- 2017: Santa Fe Institute Computational Study of the Law Working Group, Warwick CAGE Research Workshop, National Tax Association, Conference on Empirical Legal Studies, American Political Science Association, Society for Institutional & Organizational Economics (Ronald H. Coase Best Dissertation Award), World Bank Workshop on Data and Evidence for Justice Reform, American Law and Economics Association, Israel Law and Economics Association, Princeton Public Law Working Group, Association for the Study of Religion, Economics, and Culture, Northwestern University Colloquium on Law and Economics, ETH Zurich Center for Law & Economics.

Public Engagement

AI and Society – Analytics Club at ETH (June 2021)

ETH AI Center AI+X Lab and Dialogue (May 2021)

- available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8S3d4nEHTAk>.

ETH VisCon Student Conference (October 2020)

DataBeers Zurich (February 2020)

Davos World Economic Forum, House of Switzerland: Trust in the 21st Century (Jan. 2020)

Finimize Data and Finance Panel (December 2019)

ETH Podcast: “Which is fairer – human or machine?”

- available at <https://ethz.ch/en/news-and-events/eth-news/news/2019/05/fair-algorithms.html>.

Presentation to U.S. Congress Delegation to Swiss Embassy (April 2019)

TEDxZurich Connecting for Better Decisions (October 2018)

- available at <https://youtu.be/6qIj7xSZKd0>.

Social Market Foundation Briefing: Judge, Jury, and EXEcute File (June 2018)

Reatch Panel on Algorithmic Justice (April 2018)

U.S. Department of Justice: Statistical Analysis for Civil Rights Investigation into Ferguson Police Department, 207-42-6 (2015).

Updated July 2021.