

Linh Nguyen

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I am a PhD student in Personality Psychology with a MS in Statistics and pursuing a career in data science. I am passionate about applying appropriate research designs and analytic tools to devise solutions to real-world questions.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Data Science Intern

Summer 2023

- Designed and built new machine learning models and advanced analytics solutions across three business domains: operations, HR/facilities, and sales enablement and distribution in the life insurance and annuities industry.
- Optimized existing models: increased speed for prediction API and analytic dashboards, reviewed codebase and wrote unit tests, and implemented a continuous integration/continuous deployment GitHub workflow.
- Developed business acumen and data knowledge by working cross-functionally with business stakeholders and participating in regular code reviews with other data scientists.

Data Scientist/Engineering Intern – Korn Ferry Institute

Summer 2021

- Built an R package ([thirt](#)) to score forced-choice questionnaires using the Thurstonian IRT model.
- Developed interactive Shiny web applications to automate predictive modeling for benchmarking reports.
- Wrote Python functions to create and export client-facing Excel workbooks and charts.

Graduate Research Assistant – University of Minnesota

2019 – Present

- Oversee data collection and management, perform data analysis, and prepare manuscripts and presentations.
- Mentor undergraduate research assistants in research tasks, technical training, and professional development
- Obtain multiple funding grants and fellowships totaling \$45,000 to support research activities.

Graduate Teaching Assistant and Section Leader – University of Minnesota

2019 – Present

- Highlighted courses: Psychological measurement and data analysis; Research methods; Introduction to personality
- Lead regular laboratory sessions to review theoretical concepts and analytics exercises in R.
- Hold regular office hours and individual meetings to provide guidance for undergraduate and first-year PhD students on course materials, technical report writing skills, and general professional development.

Data Analyst – Center for Open Science

Summer 2020

- Developed an analysis plan and corresponding code to replicate a prior empirical finding.
- Documented work in preregistration and addressed reviewer comments.
- Performed analyses and documented results in a final report.

Junior Research Scientist – New York University

January 2018 – May 2019

- Managed and cleaned data for research aimed at understanding and preventing family maltreatment
- Coordinated with 11 army bases and monitored interns to process and track surveys for military research

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Personality Psychology (expected), M.S. Statistics (awarded) – University of Minnesota

2019 – 2024

B.A. Psychology and French – St. John's University

2015 – 2019

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Statistical Languages

R, Python, Mplus, SPSS, SAS

Dashboard and Visualization

R Shiny, R Markdown

Workflow

SQL, CI/CD, Git/GitHub, renv

SELECTED PROJECTS

Meta-analysis of personality and emotional variability

Ongoing

- Conduct systematic search for published and gray literature and extract statistics for meta-analytic analyses.
- Examine the association between personality traits and individual variability in emotions and well-being through both traditional and intensive longitudinal data with experience sampling methodology.
- Lead a team of nine undergraduate research assistants through the article screening and coding process.

R package development to score forced-choice questionnaires

2022

- Developed and tested the R package [thirt](#) to simulate and estimate parameters under the Thurstonian Item Response Theory model for multi-dimensional forced-choice questionnaires, which are used to alleviate response biases in high-stakes testing such as hiring and promotion decisions.
- Provided simulation evidence in [Master's thesis](#) that the Bayesian algorithm underlying this package outperformed the current method in both parameter recovery and computational cost.

Codevelopment of personality in siblings from adoption design

2022

- Analyzed longitudinal data from adoption study design using structural equation modeling in R and SAS.
- Compared personality developmental trajectories between adopted and biological siblings from 16-35 years old and determine the effect of shared and non-shared life events on personality codevelopment.
- Documented work in an [analytic report](#) and presented at multiple international conferences.

Personality and identity development in college students

2021

- Analyzed multi-informant longitudinal data using mixed-effects and structural equation modeling in R.
- Demonstrated the differential change patterns depending on different conceptualization of change, through both sample-level and individual-level models.
- Lead author of publication in [Journal of Personality](#).

Kaggle modeling competition winner – Predicting Travelers insurance claim cost

2020

- Worked in a small team to develop and test prediction models for highly skewed data of rare events.
- Applied generalized linear models, gradient boosting, and synthetic minority oversampling technique in R.
- Presented the successful model to business associates and data scientists at Travelers.
- Documented work in an accessible [report](#) including exploratory analyses and model interpretations.

Personality change and predictors of psychotherapy progress

2019

- Analyzed intensive longitudinal data from a community clinic setting using mixed-effects modeling in SPSS.
- Determined the trajectory of personality change across psychotherapy and important personality predictor of favorable outcomes from cognitive-behavioral therapy.
- Lead author of publication in [Journal of Research in Personality](#).