

Alexander M. Tahk

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EDUCATION

STANFORD UNIVERSITY Palo Alto, California
Ph.D. in Political Science September 2010
Primary Field: Political methodology (statistics)
Secondary Field: American politics
Dissertation: "Essays on the statistical analysis of roll-call votes and judicial citations."

STANFORD UNIVERSITY Palo Alto, California
M.S. in Statistics June 2006
Took statistics coursework primarily at the Ph.D. level. Coursework included Bayesian statistics, machine learning, generalized linear models, survival analysis, time-series analysis, statistical theory, stochastic processes, and multiple hypothesis testing.

MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY Cambridge, Massachusetts
S.B. in Mathematics and S.B. in Political Science June 2002
Award for outstanding undergraduate thesis in political science.

EXPERIENCE

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON Madison, Wisconsin
Assistant Professor of Political Science August 2010–present
Conducted statistical analyses of judicial politics, public opinion, and other topics. Developed new statistical models and created R packages to implement them. Published research papers in peer-reviewed journals. Reviewed article submissions for journals and textbooks on statistics for academic presses. Taught classes on introductory statistics, generalized linear models, Bayesian statistics, game theory, and judicial politics.

ELLINGTON MANAGEMENT GROUP Old Greenwich, Connecticut
Portfolio Management Associate April 2007–January 2009
Created and calibrated statistical models. Programmed model estimation routines in C++ and Python. Analyzed data using R and SQL.

STANFORD UNIVERSITY Palo Alto, California
Research Assistant December 2005–April 2007
Worked on the development of an ideal point estimation library for R. Performed the statistical analysis on various papers and projects.

Teaching Assistant September 2004–March 2007
Served as a teaching assistant for three courses on statistics covering introductory statistics, linear models, and generalized linear models. Graded problem sets and exams. Held office hours. Taught section during some quarters.

Math Camp Instructor September 2004, 2005, and 2006
Co-taught math camp for incoming graduate students. Prepared lectures and slides. Assigned and graded homework assignments.

SKILLS

Statistical modeling: Bayesian statistics, machine learning, survival analysis, time-series analysis, continuous-time models, statistical models of voting behavior

Statistics Software: R, Stata, WinBUGS, JAGS, Stan

Programming Languages: C++, Python, Perl, PHP, SQL

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PUBLICATIONS

“A Continuous-Time, Latent-Variable Model of Time-Series Data.” 2015. *Political Analysis* 23 (2): 278–298.

“Nominating Commissions, Judicial Retention, and Forward-Looking Behavior on State Supreme Courts: An Empirical Examination of Selection and Retention Methods” [with Ryan J. Owens, Patrick C. Wohlfarth, and Amanda C. Bryan]. 2015. *State Politics & Policy Quarterly* 15 (2): 211–238.

“Prevalence and Moderators of the Candidate Name-Order Effect: Evidence from All Statewide General Elections in California” [with Josh Pasek, Daniel Schneider, Jon A. Krosnick, Eyal Ophir, and Claire Milligan]. 2014. *Public Opinion Quarterly* 78 (2): 416–439.

“What Can We Learn About the Ideology of the Newest Supreme Court Justices?” [with Stephen Jessee]. 2011. *PS: Political Science and Politics* 44 (3): 524–529.

“Specification Issues in Assessing the Moderating Role of Issue Importance: A Comment on Grynaviski and Corrigan (2006)” [with Neil Malhotra]. 2011. *Political Analysis* 19 (3): 342–350.

“Determinants of Turnout and Candidate Choice in the 2008 U.S. Presidential Election: Illuminating the Impact of Racial Prejudice and Other Considerations” [with Josh Pasek, Yphtach Lelkes, Jon A. Krosnick, B. Keith Payne, Omair Akhtar and Trevor Tompson]. 2009. *Public Opinion Quarterly* 73 (5).

“Institutions and Equilibrium in the United States Supreme Court” [with Robert Anderson]. 2007. *American Political Science Review* 101 (4).

“Reconsidering the Impact of Behavior Prediction Questions on Illegal Drug Use: The Importance of Using Proper Analytical Methods” [with Daniel Schneider and Jon Krosnick]. 2007. *Social Influence* 2 (3).