

# COHEN R. SIMPSON

c.r.simpson@lse.ac.uk • cohensimpson.com • UK Right-To-Work: Tier 1 Exceptional Talent Visa

## STATISTICAL ANALYSIS COMPETENCIES (R Programming Language)

- Basic Inference/Null-Hypothesis Tests (e.g.,  $t$ -Tests; Chi-Squared Tests) – Social Network Analysis (e.g., Models of Network Formation)
- Generalised Linear Models (e.g., Gaussian, Binomial, Poisson) – Survival Analysis/Time-to-Event Models (i.e., Cox Regression)
- Beta/Dirichlet Regression for Proportions (e.g., Vote Shares, Time Use) – Bayesian and Causal Inference using “brms”/“RStan”
- Multilevel Models (e.g., Meta-Regression, Dyadic Regression) – Visualisations using “ggplot2”

## EDUCATION

**PhD:** Social Research Methods (i.e., Applied Social Statistics) [Awarded w/o Corrections], **London School of Economics** 2012 – 2016  
**Visiting Student:** Media Lab (Human Dynamics Group), **Massachusetts Institute of Technology** Autumn 2013  
**MSc:** Social Science of the Internet [Clarendon Scholar], **University of Oxford** 2011 – 2012  
**BA (Hons):** Communication Studies [Summa Cum Laude], **Clemson University** 2007 – 2011

## EXPERIENCE

**Fellow in Quantitative Research Methods, London School of Economics** Jan 2022 – Present

- Secured \$447,116 in research funding from the US National Science Foundation for a 3-year research project on the formation of inter-group relationships (e.g., friendship) in Ethiopia. Lead the project as co-Principal Investigator with two collaborators in the US and France, spearheading the statistical analyses ( $\approx 400$  adults).

- Used multilevel models to gauge the probability of lending money to friends and kin in 16 villages in Uganda (3,184 adults;  $\approx 680k$  cases).

**In-Progress Project:** “The relational bases of informal financial cooperation.” [R Code: <https://github.com/cohensimpson/moneyaid>]

- Lead practical, 1-hour seminars (3/week) for  $\approx 60$  students (MSc & PhD) with diverse levels of statistics knowledge on fitting regression models (i.e., simple linear, binary logistic, multinomial logistic, ordinal logistic, Poisson, and negative binomial) using R and Markdown.
- Effectively communicated statistical concepts to students, achieving an average student-satisfaction survey rating of 4.5/5 (Jan. – April).

**British Academy Postdoctoral Fellow, University of Oxford**

Jan 2018 – Dec 2020

- Executed 4 research projects (3 sole-authored; 1 lead) on the formation of social relationships (i.e., friendship, social support) – devising hypotheses, conducting literature reviews, checking/transforming/analysing data, and writing all elements of papers for publication.
- Built simulations of network dynamics (e.g., reciprocity, popularity-bias) in 3 villages – 2 in India (782 adults), 1 in Nicaragua (108 adults).
- Leveraged multivariate meta-regression to assess variation in network dynamics across 162 villages in China (4,713 adults).

**Published Project:** “Dynamics of cooperative networks associated with gender among South Indian Tamils.” *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society: Biological Sciences*. [R Code: [https://github.com/cohensimpson/gendernet\\_PhilTransB](https://github.com/cohensimpson/gendernet_PhilTransB)]

**Published Project:** “Social support and network formation in a small-scale horticulturalist population.” *Scientific Data*. [R Code: [https://github.com/cohensimpson/smallnet\\_ScientificData](https://github.com/cohensimpson/smallnet_ScientificData)]

- Flexibly collaborated with colleagues to discuss, prioritise, and complete tasks related to teaching, ethical research, and hiring.
- Co-led R-based course on basic statistical inference – delivering weekly lectures and practical seminars to  $\approx 50$  students (MSc & PhD).
- Provided one-to-one advice to students on data collection, study design, and statistical modelling in weekly two-hour surgeries.
- Judged work (i.e., exams, R code, theses) – tactfully communicating feedback to students with diverse levels of statistical competence.
- Supervised two MSc students (one-year degree) to completion – providing career mentoring, pastoral care, and research direction.

**Postdoctoral Researcher, University of Oxford**

Mar 2017 – Dec 2017

- Led a project on police behaviour end-to-end – crafting the hypotheses and analytic strategy, and publishing results in a leading journal.
- Wrangled two-years of structured data (numeric + text) on malfeasance and daily collaboration among 3,475 US police ( $\approx 1.2m$  cases).
- Solely analysed data on police malfeasance using repeated-events survival models (i.e., Cox Regression with Frailties).

**Published Project:** “Is police misconduct contagious? Non-trivial null findings from Dallas, Texas.” *Journal of Quantitative Criminology*. [R Code: <https://osf.io/g93m7/>]

**Postdoctoral Research Assistant, University of Cambridge**

Feb 2016 – Dec 2017

- Solely secured £337,789 in research funding (10% Success Rate) from the British Academy (UK’s National Academy of Social Sciences).
- Pulled data using Twitter’s API and the R package “twitter” to study message forwarding among 60 UK human rights organisations.

## ACADEMIC + PERSONAL INTERESTS

**A:** Network Formation; Ecological Determinants of Human Behaviour; Evolutionary and Sociological Theories of Cooperation; Zoology.

**P:** Video Games (3rd-Person Action; Japanese RPGs; Anything “Dark Souls”-like); Weightlifting; Landscape Photography; Horror Podcasts.