

# Gonzalo Rivero, Ph.D.

Washington, DC

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☎ + 1 (917) 446-7449 ☑ Spanish citizen

SUMMARY •Data scientist with a social science background and strong statistical and programming skills.  
•Expertise in nonprobability sample analysis and causal inference with observational data.  
•Hands-on experience with experimental design and data mining in large datasets.  
•Proactive, solution-oriented, resolute, and self-motivated

EMPLOYMENT *Senior Data Scientist*. Westat (Statistical Unit). Rockville, MD 2015–present  
(a) First hire of the data science unit which is tasked with the development of a line of new services and products, including building capabilities in predictive modeling, use of organic data (social media and administrative records), and analysis of unstructured information/text analytics.  
(b) My position oversees the implementation of microservices to expose statistical models, the design of performance metrics to be used in real-time dashboards and maps, and advices project managers on analytics.  
(c) As liaison between statisticians and software developers, I am a technical consultant for the implementation of algorithms, main responsible for the analysis of large datasets, and lead programmer for discrete-event simulation models.

*Statistical Scientist*. YouGov (Scientific Research Group), Palo Alto, CA 2013–2015  
(a) Main statistician of the analytics team where I provided insights to clients on accounts valued over \$1M, with work in forecasting, brand reputation and awareness, and campaign evaluation.  
(b) I advised upper management on experimental and survey design, measurement, data quality, and started the first program of A/B testing of the features of the survey system.  
(c) I managed the recruitment process for new junior and senior analytics staff, designed training materials, and mentored new hires. I also organized the first Global Datathon.  
(d) I modernized the toolkit for sample matching and weighting using machine learning, refactored code for Bayesian conjoint analysis, and applied NLP tools for survey classification.

EDUCATION Ph.D. in Political Science, *New York University* 2013  
M.A. in Political Science, *New York University* 2009  
M.A. in Social Sciences, *Juan March Institute*, Madrid 2006  
B.A. in History, *University of Vigo*, Ourense 2002

ADDITIONAL TRAINING Quantitative Methods for Social Research. *ICPSR, University of Michigan* June–Aug. 2005  
*Courses*: Bayesian Statistics, Advanced MLE, Game Theory II, Regression Analysis III  
PGCert in Advanced Methods of Applied Statistics, *UNED* 2005  
*Areas*: Robust Statistics, Resampling Methods, Multivariate Statistics  
Coursework of the Ph.D. in Economic Theory, *U. Santiago de Compostela* 2004  
*Courses*: Microeconomics, Macroeconomics, Social Choice, Game Theory, Cooperative Games

TECHNICAL SKILLS Languages: Python (7 years), Haskell (1 year), C++ (< 1 year), JavaScript (< 1 year)  
Statistics: R (11 years), Stata (10 years), Jags/Stan (7 years), SPSS (3 years), SAS (1 year)  
Databases: SQL (PostgreSQL and MySQL) (4 years), MongoDB (1 year)  
Massive datasets: Amazon AWS (2 years), Apache Spark (1 year)  
VCS: Mercurial & Git

BOOKS **Rivero, G.** (2011) *Incomplete Data Analysis in the Social Sciences*. CIS, Madrid. (In Spanish)

SELECTED RESEARCH **Rivero, G.** (2016): “Preaching to the Choir. Selective Exposure to Politicians in Social Media.” Under review.  
**Rivero, G.** (2015): “Heterogeneous Preferences in Multidimensional Voting Models,” *Electoral Studies*, 40: 136–145.  
Barberá, P. and **Rivero, G.** (2014): “Understanding the Political Representativeness of Twitter Users,” *Social Science Computer Review*, 33 (6): 712–729.

PERSONAL Editorial member of Politikon 2015–present  
Statistical advisor to Fundación PorCausa 2015–present