

# Maxim Lisnic

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## Research interests

I study how people interpret (and misinterpret) data visualizations found on the internet. I perform mixed-methods research to uncover contextual, social, and visualization design factors that affect the way people see data.

large data analysis • qualitative research • data visualization design • user studies

## Education

2021 – Present     **University of Utah** – Salt Lake City, UT  
Ph.D. in Computing, Human-Centered Computing track  
Advisors: Prof. Marina Kogan, Prof. Alexander Lex

2015 – 2018     **University of Chicago** – Chicago, IL  
B.A. in Economics; B.S. in Computer Science  
General Honors

## Publications

**“Yeah, this graph doesn’t show that”: Analysis of Online Engagement with Misleading Data Visualizations**

*Proceedings of the 2024 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems, 2024*  
(to appear) doi: [10.1145/3613904.3642448](https://doi.org/10.1145/3613904.3642448)

Maxim Lisnic, Alexander Lex, Marina Kogan

**Misleading Beyond Visual Tricks: How People *Actually* Lie With Charts**

*Proceedings of the 2023 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems, 2023*  
doi: [10.1145/3544548.3580910](https://doi.org/10.1145/3544548.3580910)

Maxim Lisnic, Cole Polychronis, Alexander Lex, Marina Kogan

## Preprints

**Visualization Guardrails: Designing Interventions Against Cherry-Picking in Interactive Data Explorers**

Preprint doi: [10.31219/osf.io/4j9nr](https://doi.org/10.31219/osf.io/4j9nr)

Maxim Lisnic, Zach Cutler, Marina Kogan, Alexander Lex



## Here's what you need to know about my data: Exploring Expert Knowledge's Role in Data Analysis

Preprint doi: [10.31219/osf.io/dn32z](https://doi.org/10.31219/osf.io/dn32z)

Haihan Lin, Maxim Lisnic, Derya Akbaba, Miriah Meyer, Alexander Lex

## Professional experience

- 2021 – Present      **University of Utah** – Salt Lake City, UT  
Graduate Research Assistant at the School of Computing
- 2018 – 2020      **The Brattle Group** – San Francisco, CA  
Senior Research Analyst
- Constructed econometric models and simulations to estimate financial damages, communicated results in reports used in large anti-trust, environmental, and fraud litigation cases (up to \$2.7 billion awarded in damages).
  - Lead trainings and seminars on statistical programming, data wrangling and visualization, code optimization, and dynamic report creation.

## Teaching experience

- Fall 2023      **University of Utah** – Salt Lake City, UT  
Teaching Assistant for COMP 5960: Applied Data Visualization
- Fall 2022      **University of Utah** – Salt Lake City, UT  
Guest lecture for CS 6630: Visualization for Data Science
- Spring 2022      **University of Utah** – Salt Lake City, UT  
Teaching Assistant for DS 2500: Data Wrangling
- Spring 2018      **University of Chicago** – Chicago, IL  
Tutor and grader for CMSC 15400: Introduction to Computer Systems
- Winter 2018      **University of Chicago** – Chicago, IL  
Tutor and grader for CMSC 15100: Introduction to Computer Science
- Winter 2017      **University of Chicago** – Chicago, IL  
Tutor and grader for CMSC 15100: Introduction to Computer Science

## Presentations



- April 2023 “Misleading Beyond Visual Tricks: How People Actually Lie With Charts”  
CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems, Hamburg, Germany
- June 2022 “Vulnerable Visualizations: How Data Visualizations Are Used to Promote Misinformation Online”  
Computation + Journalism Conference, New York, NY

## Service

Reviewer for CHI 2024  
Student Volunteer for CHI 2024

## Honors and awards

- 2021 Department Fellowship, School of Computing, University of Utah
- 2015 – 2018 Dean’s list, University of Chicago

## Skills

**Quantitative research:** data analysis, NLP, statistical modeling, machine learning.

**Qualitative research:** semi-structured interviews, thematic analysis, survey design, digital ethnographic studies, visualization design studies, user studies, think-alouds.

**Programming:** Python, R, SQL.

**Web development:** JavaScript, React, Vue, D3.js, Flask.

**Languages:** English (fluent), Russian (native), Romanian (native).