

SERVAN GRÜNINGER

Biostatistician & Computational Scientist

Biologist turned biostatistician with experience in statistical modelling, biomedical study design, and machine learning.

EDUCATION

- today
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Oct 2020

University of Zurich
Doctor of Philosophy, Life Science Zurich Graduate School
Zurich, CH

Biostatistics and Epidemiology. Working in the [Applied Statistics group](#) of [Prof. Dr. Reinhard Furrer](#), focusing on good statistical practice and reproducibility in animal research.
- Jul 2019
|
Sep 2015

École polytechnique fédérale de Lausanne
Master of Science
Lausanne, CH

Computational Science and Engineering. Master thesis on statistical evidence in meta-analyses supervised by [Prof. Dr. Stephan Morgenthaler](#).
- Aug 2017
|
Feb 2015

University of Zurich
Master of Science
Zurich, CH

Biostatistics. Master thesis in digital epidemiology about [flu classification methods using Twitter](#) supervised by Prof. Dr. Reinhard Furrer (University of Zurich) and Prof. Dr. Marcel Salathé (EPFL).
- Aug 2013
|
Sep 2009

University of Zurich
Bachelor of Science
Zurich, CH

Major in **Biology** with Minors in **Neuroinformatics**, **Law**, and **Political Sciences**.
- Jul 2003
|
Aug 2009

Kantonsschule Chur
Eidgenössische Maturität
Chur, CH

Bilingual Matura (German/Italian) with major in French and minor in Applied Mathematics

RESEARCH-RELATED WORK EXPERIENCE

- Sep 2020
|
Oct 2019

Research Fellow (60%)
Institute of Mathematics, University of Zurich
Zurich, CH

Working in the [Applied Statistics group](#) of [Prof. Dr. Reinhard Furrer](#), focusing on good statistical practice and reproducibility in animal research.



CONTACT INFO

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- [SGruniger](#)
- [f ServanGr](#)
- +41 77 468 25 46
- Aarbergstr. 95, 2502 Biel

today
|
Jul 2019

● **Member of the Animal Research Commission (20%)**
Canton of Zurich  Zurich, CH

The animal research commission is responsible for the scientifically and ethically assessing and judging the animal research projects that are to be conducted in the canton of Zurich.

Feb 2019
|
Oct 2018

● **Data Analyst (80%)**
SUVA  Luzern, CH

Establishing new natural language processing methods for automated accident report classification at the Swiss National Accident Insurance Fund (SUVA).

Feb 2015
|
Aug 2014

● **Research Assistant (100%)**
Ifakara Health Institute  Bagamoyo, TZ

Support of clinical trials and basic research within the [Tuberculosis Research Group](#) in Bagamoyo (Tanzania) supervised by [Prof. Dr. Lukas Fenner](#); teaching local staff the use of scientific protocols and digital research notebooks; IT maintenance and support.

Jul 2014
|
Nov 2013

● **Research Assistant (100%)**
Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute  Basel, CH


Research assistant in the [Helminth Drug Development Group](#) of Prof. Dr. Jennifer Keiser; drug and compound screening involving various helminth species; histopathology in mice, rats and hamsters.

Sep 2013
|
Jul 2013

● **Amgen Scholarship Programme (100%)**
Max Planck Institute of Neurobiology  Munich, DE


Research assistant in the Chemosensory Coding Group of [Prof. Ilona Grunwald Kadow](#).

Jul 2013
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Sep 2011

● **Undergraduate Research Assistant (20%)**
University of Zurich & ETH Zurich  Zurich, CH


Research assistant at the [Institute of Neuroinformatics](#) under the supervision of [Prof. Dr. Arko Ghosh](#).

Aug 2012
|
Jun 2012

● **Undergraduate Research Program (100%)**
Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory  New York, USA

Research assistant in the Molecular Neurogenetics Group of [Prof. Dr. Joshua Dubnau](#).

Aug 2012
|
Jun 2012

● **Biology Undergraduate Summer School (100%)**
University of Zurich  Zurich, CH

Research assistant at the [Institute of Neuroinformatics](#) under the supervision of [Prof. Dr. Kevan Martin](#).

RESEARCH SKILLS

Expertise: Statistical modelling, biostatistics, and machine learning.

Working knowledge: Decision theory, animal welfare law, and research ethics.

Familiarity: Epidemiology, public health, genetics, and neuroscience.

COMPUTATIONAL SKILLS

Expertise: R, Python

Working knowledge: Matlab, Latex, Markdown

Familiarity: Bash, SQL, C++

LANGUAGES

Proficiency: German (mother tongue), English (C2)

Fluency: French (B2), Italian (B2)

Basics: Swahili (A1), Portuguese (A1)

SOFT SKILLS

Competent in public speaking, moderating and popular writing.

Experienced in teamwork, conflict resolution and negotiation.

OTHER WORK EXPERIENCE

- today
|
May
2014

● **Association President (20%)**
reach 📍 Zurich, CH

President & co-founder of [Reatch! Research. Think. Change.](#), a grassroots think tank for science, technology, and society
- Jun 2018
|
Jul 2014

● **Columnist (20%)**
Neue Zürcher Zeitung 📍 Zurich, CH

Science columnist for [NZZ](#) and NZZ Campus; editors: Peer Teuwsen & Sandrine Gehrig.
- Jun 2018
|
Sep 2016

● **Freelance Journalist (10%)**
NZZ am Sonntag 📍 Zurich, CH

Science journalist for the [NZZ am Sonntag](#); editor: Andreas Hirstein.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE AND OUTREACH

- today
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Oct 2019

● **Basic Statistics for Animal Experimentation**
Institute of Laboratory Animal Science, UZH 📍 Zurich, CH

Co-organiser and instructor of the educational course [Basic Statistics for Animal Experimentation](#).
- today
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Jan 2018

● **Reproducibility in Animal Research**
Institute of Laboratory Animal Science, UZH 📍 Zurich, CH

Co-organiser and instructor of the educational course [Reproducibility in Animal Research](#).
- today
|
Nov 2013

● **Public Talks and Panel Discussions**
reach 📍 CH

Organiser & moderator of various public events and panel discussions on science-related topics.
- Sep 2017

● **Big Data - Small Citizen?**
reach / Swiss Study Foundation 📍 Magliaso, CH

Co-organiser and instructor of the summer school [Big Data – Small Citizen?](#).

For an overview over my newspaper and blog articles, see servangrueninger.ch/blog.

One-day course which offers an introduction to study design and good statistical practice in animal research once a semester.

One-day course which conveys theoretical & practical information on scientific reproducibility in animal research once a year.

For an overview, see servangrueninger.ch/moderation.



PEER-REVIEWED JOURNAL PUBLICATIONS

2016

- **Managing research and surveillance projects in real-time with a novel open-source eManagement tool designed for under-resourced countries**

Journal of the American Medical Informatics Association, 23(5), 916-923

Steiner, A., Hella J., **Grüninger, S.**, Mhalu, G., Mhimbira, F., Cercamondi, C.I., Doulla, B., Maire, N. and Fenner, L.

2013

- **Activation of transposable elements during aging and neuronal decline in Drosophila**

Nature neuroscience, 16(5), 529.

Li, W., Prazak, L., Chatterjee, N., **Grüninger, S.**, Krug, L., Theodorou, D., and Dubnau, J.



OTHER SCIENTIFIC PUBLICATIONS

2019

- **Weight of Statistical Evidence: Detection and Correction of Publication Bias**

Master thesis, EPFL

Grüninger, S.

2017

- **Does the Blue Bird Get the Flu? Using Twitter for Flu Surveillance**

Master thesis, University of Zurich

Grüninger, S.

2013

- **Ectopic CO2 receptor expression in certain ORN classes mediates aversion in Drosophila**

Poster for Amgen Scholars Symposium in Cambridge

Grüninger, S.



SELECTED AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

today

|

2021

- **Fellow of the Center for Reproducible Science UZH**

Research Fellowship

today

|

2020

- **Member of the Swiss Young Academy**

Excellence Fellowship

2019

|

2016

- **Werner Siemens Fellowship**

Excellence Fellowship and Scholarship

- 2019
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2010 ● **Fellow of the Swiss Study Foundation**
Excellence Fellowship
- 2014 ● **Munich Brain Course Award**
Competitive Scholarship
- 2013
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2010 ● **Ernst Göhner Scholarship**
Competitive Scholarship



SELECTED EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

- today
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Feb 2017 ● **UZH Alumni**
Member of the Board
- today
|
Feb 2017 ● **Science Alumni UZH**
President
- today
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Nov 2016 ● **Animal Research Tomorrow**
Member of the Board
- Dec 2019
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Dec 2016 ● **Academia Engelberg Foundation**
Member of the Board of Trustees