

# Nick Obradovich

MIT Media Lab

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## Academic Positions

- 2016-present **Research Scientist.**  
Scalable Cooperation Group, Media Lab, Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
Advisor: [Iyad Rahwan](#)
- 2016-2017 **Postdoctoral Fellow.**  
Science, Technology, & Public Policy, Belfer Center, Harvard Kennedy School of Government  
Advisor: [Daniel P. Schrag](#)

## Academic Affiliations

- 2016-present **Human-Environmental Systems Fellow** [CMBC](#), Scripps Institution of Oceanography
- 2017-2018 **Associate** [Belfer Center](#), Harvard University Kennedy School of Government
- 2017-2018 **Associate** [Harvard University Center for the Environment](#)

## Education

- 2010-2016 **University of California San Diego.**  
Ph.D. and M.A. in Political Science  
Committee: [James H. Fowler](#) (co-chair), [Clark C. Gibson](#) (co-chair),  
[Jennifer A. Burney](#), [Scott W. Desposato](#), and [David G. Victor](#)
- 2005-2009 **Santa Clara University.**  
B.S. Economics and Environmental Studies, *summa cum laude*
- 2007-2008 **University of Oxford.**  
Visiting Student in Economics and Geography

## Publications

12. **Obradovich, N.**, Tingley, D., and Rahwan, I. (2018). [Effects of environmental stressors on daily governance](#). *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*.  
[CNN](#) | [US News](#)
11. Baylis\*, P., **Obradovich\***, N., Kryvasheyev, Y., Chen, H., Coviello, L., Moro, E., Cebrian, M., and Fowler, J.H. (2018). [Weather impacts expressed sentiment](#). *PLOS ONE*, 13(4), e0195750. (\* denotes equal contribution).  
[MIT Tech Review](#) | [Newsweek](#) | [Quartz](#) | [The Guardian](#) | [US News](#) | [Weather.com](#)
10. Frank, M., **Obradovich, N.**, Sun, L., Woon, W.L., LeVeck, B., Rahwan, I. (2018). [Detecting reciprocity at a global scale](#). *Science Advances*, 4(eaa05348).
9. Telfer, S., **Obradovich, N.** (2017). [Local weather is associated with rates of online searches for musculoskeletal pain symptoms](#). *PLOS ONE*, 12(8), e0181266.  
[The Weather Channel](#) | [NBC News](#) | [Huffington Post](#)
8. **Obradovich, N.**, Migliorini, R., Mednick, S.C., and Fowler, J.H. (2017). [Nighttime temperature and human sleep loss in a changing climate](#). *Science Advances*, 3(e1601555).  
[NYT](#) | [WaPo](#) | [LA Times](#) | [USA Today](#) | [The Atlantic](#) | [Science](#) | [Bloomberg](#) | [AAAS](#)

7. **Obradovich, N.** and Fowler, J.H. (2017). Climate change may alter human physical activity patterns. *Nature Human Behaviour*, 1(0097).  
Associated Press | Science | Popular Science | Live Science
6. **Obradovich, N.** (2017). Climate change may speed democratic turnover. *Climatic Change*, 140(2), 135-147.  
Reuters | ClimateWire | Springer
5. **Obradovich, N.** and Zimmerman, B. (2016). African voters indicate lack of support for climate change policies. *Environmental Science & Policy*, 66, 292-298.
4. Leas, E.C., Althouse, B.M., Dredze, M., **Obradovich, N.**, Fowler, J.H., Noar, S.M., Allem, J., and Ayers, J.W. (2016). Big data sensors of organic advocacy: The case of Leonardo DiCaprio and climate change. *PLOS ONE*, 11(8), e0159885.  
Washington Post | Bloomberg | Forbes | New York Magazine | Time | Slate
3. **Obradovich, N.** and Guenther, S.M. (2016). Collective responsibility amplifies mitigation behaviors. *Climatic Change*, 137(1), 307-319.  
Christian Science Monitor | Grist | Huff Post | Pacific Std. | Think Progress | VICE
2. Chacko, G., Evans, C.L., and **Obradovich, N.** (2016). Electoral systems and agricultural critical goods. *Journal of Business and Policy Research*, 11(1), 16-35.
1. Kryvasheyev, Y., Chen, H., **Obradovich, N.**, Moro, E., Van Hentenryck, P., Fowler, J.H., and Cebrian, M. (2016). Rapid assessment of disaster damage using social media activity. *Science Advances*, 2(3), e1500779.  
Wall Street Journal | Washington Post | Science | Smithsonian | Grist | The Verge

## Submitted Papers

5. **Obradovich, N.**, Migliorini, R., Paulus, M., and Rahwan, I. (revise and resubmit). Empirical evidence of the mental health risks posed by climate change.
4. Ash, K. and **Obradovich, N.** (revise and resubmit). Climatic stress, internal migration, and Syrian civil war onset.
3. Moore, F.C., **Obradovich, N.**, and Lehner, F. Rapidly-adjusting perceptions of temperature in a changing climate.
2. Epstein, Z., Payne, B.H., Shen, J.H., Dubey, A., Felbo, B., Groh, M., **Obradovich, N.**, Cebrian, M., and Rahwan, I. Closing the AI knowledge gap (arXiv).  
The Economist
1. Mir, R., Felbo, B., **Obradovich, N.**, and Rahwan, I. Evaluating style transfer for text.

## Fellowships

- 2015-2016 *Frontiers of Innovation Fellowship*, University of California San Diego
- 2012-2013 *Global Change Fellowship*, Scripps Institution of Oceanography
- 2010-2015 *Graduate Research Fellowship*, National Science Foundation
- 2010-2015 *Gramercy Fellowship in Emerging Markets*, University of California San Diego
- 2008-2009 *Hackworth Fellowship*, Santa Clara University
- 2007-2008 *Honors Program Oxford Fellowship*, Santa Clara University
- 2005-2009 *Peace and Justice Fellowship*, Santa Clara University

## Honors and Awards

- 2017 *Outstanding Reviewer 2016 for Environmental Research Letters*, IOP Publishing
- 2009 *Nobili Medal* for most outstanding overall male graduate, Santa Clara University
- 2009 *Hazel Award* for most outstanding in Economics, Santa Clara University
- 2009 *Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society* inductee
- 2007 *Visiting Student Prize*, top academic performance, Oxford University
- 2005-2009 *Honors Program Academic Scholarship*, Santa Clara University
- 2005-2009 *Dean's Academic Scholarship* Santa Clara University

## Grants

- 2014 *Rural and Latino Americans and Climate Change (\$70,000)*  
Skoll Global Threats Fund
- 2014 *Dissertation Improvement Grant: Climate Change and African Elections (\$17,600)*  
National Science Foundation
- 2014 *Levin Family Seed Grant: Climate Change and Corruption (\$1,700)*  
Center for Effective Global Action, University of California Berkeley
- 2014 *Sanford Lakoff Grant: Climate Change and Elections (\$1,000)*  
Department of Political Science, University of California San Diego
- 2013 *XSEDE Computational Research Grant (100,000 SU award)*  
National Science Foundation, TG-SES130013
- 2013 *UNFCCC COP Travel and Outreach Grant (\$29,000)*  
Center for Marine Biodiversity and Conservation, Scripps Institution of Oceanography
- 2013 *Climate Change Research Challenge Grant (\$5,000)*  
Center for Effective Global Action, University of California Berkeley
- 2013 *Dean's Travel Grant for Research Travel to Baja, Mexico (\$600)*  
Division of Social Sciences, University of California San Diego
- 2013 *Rural Mexican Voter Response to Environmental Shocks (\$4,000)*  
Center for Marine Biodiversity and Conservation, Scripps Institution of Oceanography
- 2012 *Rural Ghanaian Political Behavior (\$12,000)*  
Small-scale Artisanal Fisheries Research Network, Scripps Institution of Oceanography

## Instruction

- Fall 2017 *Instructor*, Graduate Quantitative Social Science Research Methods, MIT Media Lab
- Spring 2012 *Instructor*, Honors Undergraduate Research Methods, University of California San Diego

## Professional Experience

- 2009-2010 *Research assistant* for Edward P. Lazear, Stanford University
- 2008 *Intern* Eco-Technology Program Office, Intel Corporation
- 2007 *Environmental sustainability analyst*, Intel Corporation

## Outreach Activities

- 2014-present *Advisory Council Member*, Climate Lab, Skoll Global Threats Fund
- 2017 *How will human beings adapt to a changing climate? MIT ClimateX Podcast.*
- 2017 Victor, D., Obradovich, N., Amaya, D. *Why the wiring of our brains makes it hard to stop climate change. Los Angeles Times.*

- 2015 Graduate Student Delegate for UC San Diego, Graduate Research Day
- 2014 International Electoral Observer, Malawian Presidential and Parliamentary Elections
- 2013 University of California Delegate to the UNFCCC in Warsaw, Poland
- 2011 International Electoral Observer, Ugandan Presidential and Parliamentary Elections

## Invited Talks

- 2018 Information Science Institute. University of Southern California. May 2018.
- 2018 The Society for Affective Science Annual Conference. April 2018.
- 2018 [Center for Complex Network Research](#). Northeastern University. April 2018.
- 2017 International Relations Faculty Colloquium. Princeton University. December 2017.
- 2016 Human Dynamics Group. MIT Media Lab. November 2016.
- 2016 Real Colegio Complutense. Harvard University. November 2016.
- 2016 Center for Marine Biodiversity and Conservation. SIO. UC San Diego. April 2016.

## Conferences

- 2018 Moore, F.C., **Obradovich, N.**, and Lehner, F. "[Rapidly-adjusting perceptions of temperature in a changing climate](#)" National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER) Summer Institute. Cambridge, MA. July 2018.
- 2018 Sekara, V., Lee, J., Luengo, M., **Obradovich, N.**, Garcia-Herranz, M., and Moro, E. "Predicting socioeconomic indicators for multiple countries from social media data" International Conference on Computational Social Science. Evanston, IL. July 2018.
- 2018 Frank, M., **Obradovich, N.**, Sun, L., Leveck, B., and Rahwan, I. "Detecting reciprocity at a global scale" International Conference on Computational Social Science. Evanston, IL. July 2018.
- 2018 Epstein, Z., Payne, B.H., Shen, J.H., Hong, C.J., Dubey, A., Felbo, B., Groh, M., **Obradovich, N.**, Cebrian, M., and Rahwan, I. "[TuringBox: An experimental platform for the evaluation of AI systems](#)" International Joint Conference on Artificial Intelligence (IJCAI). Stockholm, Sweden. July 2018. [Awarded Best Video](#).
- 2018 Epstein, Z., Payne, B.H., Shen, J.H., Hong, C.J., Felbo, B., Dubey, A., Groh, M., **Obradovich, N.**, Cebrian, M., and Rahwan, I. "TuringBox: An experimental platform for the evaluation of AI systems" Workshop on Fairness, Accountability, and Transparency in Machine Learning (FAT/ML). Stockholm, Sweden. July 2018.
- 2018 Ash, K. and **Obradovich, N.** "Climatic stress and dissent in competitive authoritarian regimes" International Studies Association. San Francisco, CA. April 2018.
- 2018 Rubenson, D., Dawes, C., and **Obradovich, N.** "Marathon performance and political participation" Midwest Political Science Association. Chicago, IL. April 2018.
- 2018 Enenkel, M., Saenz, S.M., Dookie, D.S., Braman, L., **Obradovich, N.**, and Kryvasheyev, Y. "Social Media Data Analysis and Feedback for Advanced Disaster Risk Management" ([arXiv](#)). International Workshop on Social Web for Disaster Management. Los Angeles, CA. February 2018.
- 2017 **Obradovich, N.**, Felbo, B., Yanardag, P., Borsa, A., Burney, J.A., Jones, J.J., and Rahwan, I. "The effects of climatic events on expressed climate change belief" American Political Science Association. San Francisco, CA. August 2017.
- 2017 Guenther, S. and **Obradovich, N.** "Experimental induction of interpersonal trust demobilizes political efforts" American Political Science Association. San Francisco, CA. August 2017.

- 2017 Ash, K. and **Obradovich, N.** "Climatic stress, internal migration, and Syrian civil war onset" American Political Science Association. San Francisco, CA. August 2017.
- 2017 Abeliuk, A., Fernández, A., **Obradovich, N.**, and Rahwan, I. "Modeling the evolution of political ideologies" International Conference on Computational Social Science. Cologne, Germany. July 2017.
- 2017 Kim, R., Felbo, B., **Obradovich, N.**, and Rahwan, I. "Quantifying structural factors affecting racial tensions during 2016 US presidential election" International Conference on Computational Social Science. Cologne, Germany. July 2017.
- 2017 Ash, K. and **Obradovich, N.** "Climatic stress, internal migration, and Syrian civil war onset" International Studies Association. Baltimore, MD. February 2017.
- 2016 "Empirical estimation of climate adaptation in human-environmental systems" American Geophysical Union Fall Meeting. San Francisco, CA. December 2016. Session chair.
- 2016 **Obradovich, N.** "Climate change may speed democratic turnover" Western Political Science Association Annual Meeting. San Diego, CA. March 2016.
- 2014 Chacko, G., Evans, C.L., and **Obradovich, N.** "Electoral systems and critical goods", Best Paper Award, Economics. Annual Tokyo Business Research Conference. Tokyo, Japan. August 2014.
- 2013 **Obradovich, N.** "Weather and how to vote: climatic variations and rural voter behavior" Conference for Sustainability IGERTs. Portland, OR. September 2013.

## Professional Memberships

American Political Science Association, American Geophysical Union

## Academic Service

Reviewer Climatic Change; Environmental Research Letters; Environmental Science & Policy; Frontiers in Big Data; Nature Human Behaviour; Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences; Risk Analysis; Science Advances; Sleep Medicine Reviews; Weather, Climate, and Society

## Fieldwork

Ghana, Malawi, Mexico, South Africa, Uganda

## Languages

R, Python, Stata, Bash,  $\LaTeX$ , Markdown, HTML5, CSS3

*Updated August 13, 2018*