

Dr. Jana Lasser

Curriculum Vitae

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Career summary

- 2024–present **Professor for Data Analysis**, *IDea_Lab of the University of Graz*, leading the research group Complex Social & Computational Systems (CS)².
Graz, Austria
- WiSe 2023/24 **Professor for Computational Social Sciences and Humanities (interim, W3)**, *RWTH Aachen*.
Aachen, Germany
- 2021–2023 **Marie Curie Fellow**, *TU Graz, Institute for Interactive Systems and Data Science, Computational Social Science Lab*.
Graz, Austria
- Jan 2020 – Mar 2021 **Postdoctoral researcher**, *Complexity Science Hub (CSH), Medical University Vienna*.
Vienna, Austria
- 2019 **Postdoctoral researcher**, *MPIDS, Department of Complex Fluids and Georg-August-University, Centre for Statistics*.
Göttingen, Germany
- 2015–2018 **Doctoral researcher**, *MPIDS, Department of Complex Fluids, Goehring lab*.
Göttingen, Germany

Education

- 2023 **Cumulative habilitation in "Applied Computer Science"**, *under review, expected award date: October 2023, TU Graz*.
Thesis: Computational Modelling of Complex Social Systems
- 2015–2018 **Dr. rer. nat. Physics**, *Georg-August-University and Göttingen Graduate School for Neurosciences, Biophysics, and Molecular Biosciences (GGNB)*, Göttingen, Germany.
Advisor: Prof. [Lucas Goehring](#)
Thesis: *Geophysical pattern formation of salt plays*
Grade: magna cum laude
- 2013–2015 **M.Sc. Physics**, *Georg-August-University and Max Planck Institute for Dynamics and Self-Organization (MPIDS)*, Göttingen, Germany.
Advisor: Prof. [Eleni Katifori](#)
Thesis: *Network analysis and hidden phenotypes in large biological datasets*
Grade: 1.1
- 2009–2013 **B.Sc. Physics**, *Georg-August-University and MPIDS*, Göttingen, Germany.
Advisor: Prof. [Eleni Katifori](#)
Thesis: *Computational analysis framework for vascular network images*
Grade 2.4
- 2009 **Matura**, *Realgymnasium Dreierschützengasse*, Graz, Austria.
Grade: 1.0

Additional qualifications

- 2023 **Summer School**, *Complex Systems Summer School, Santa Fe Institute*, research of complex behavior in mathematical, physical, living, and social systems.
160 hours
- since 2022 **Leadership training**, *Leading Women TU Graz*, advanced leadership competencies in academic contexts.
- 2022 **Didactics module "basic"**, *Teaching Academy TU Graz*, Qualification for independent teaching at higher education institutions.
40 hours
- 2021 **Summer School**, *Oxford Machine Learning Summer School*, Latest developments in computer vision, graph ML, natural language processing and ML for health applications.
80 hours
- 2021 **Summer School**, *Summer Institutes in Computational Social Science (SICSS) in Helsinki*, Network analysis, simulations and complex systems, validity and reliability of CSS, research ethics for CSS.
80 hours
- 2019 **Leadership training**, *German Physical Society program "Leading for Tomorrow"*, core competencies of leadership and management in industrial and higher education contexts.
56 hours

Service

- 2022–present **Young Science Ambassador**, *OeAD*.
- 2022–present **Selection committee**, *CZS Wildcard, Carl Zeiss foundation*, member.
- 2021–present **Network against Abuse of Power in Science**, (*MaWi*), board member.
- 2020–present **COST action**, *"Researcher Mental Health"*, management committee, leader survey working group.
- 2022–2024 **Senate**, *TU Graz*, member.
- 2022–2024 **Ethics commission**, *TU Graz*, member.
- 2022–2024 **Data protection board**, *TU Graz*, member.
- 2021–2024 **Studienkommission**, *Master's programme Computational Social Systems at TU Graz*, vice chair.
- 2019–2023 **N²**, *network of German non-university PhD representations*, advisory board member.
- 2019–2023 **International Young Physicists' Tournament**, (*IYPT*), juror.
- 2018 **Max Planck PhDnet**, *representation of doctoral researchers of the Max Planck Society*, president.

Reviewing activity

- **Journals:** Nature, Nature Communications, EPJ Data Science, Journal of Social Computing, Cliodynamics, Epidemics, Journal of Science Communication
- **Conferences:** The Web Conference 2021, Open Science Conference 2021, NetSci 2023

Conference organisation

- 2021 **IC2S2**, *Zurich, Switzerland*, discussion panel organisation.
- 2017 **Third Infinity**, *Göttingen, Germany*, responsible for budget and parts of the programme.

Memberships and affiliations

- since 2021 **Associate faculty**, *Complexity Science Hub Vienna*.
- since 2009 **Member**, *German Physical Society*.

Prizes

2023	"Netidee Science Prize" for the project "Orientation in Conspiracy (ORION)", funding agency: <i>FWF & Internetstiftung grant No. P 37280-N</i> .	413 507 €
2022	"Mind the Gap" diversity award from <i>TU Graz</i> , for the project "(Wen) regt Frauenfußball auf?", together with Max Pellert.	450 €
2018–2021	Award by the German <i>Stifterverband & Heinz-Nixdorf Foundation</i> to realise the project " <i>Daten Lesen Lernen</i> " at the University of Göttingen, together with Thomas Kneib, Benjamin Säfken, Alexander Silbersdorff, Wolfgang Radenbach and Debsankha Manik.	250 000 €
2015	<i>Dr. Berliner - Dr. Ungewitter prize</i> for an outstanding master thesis, <i>University of Göttingen</i> .	

Grants and fellowships

2024	Grant "Designing Social Media Recommendation Algorithms for Societal Good" (DeSiRe), funding agency: <i>European Commission, ERC Starting Grant No. 101160928</i> , role: principal investigator.	2 037 464 €
2024	Grant "Valuing Public Goods in a Populist World: A Comparative Analysis of Network Dynamics and Societal Outcomes"(VALPOP), funding agency: <i>Horizon Europe, Research HORIZON-CL2-2024-DEMOCRACY-01 No. 101177310</i> , role: principal investigator.	607 975 €
2021	Fellowship "Staying at home - the interplay between behavioural synchronisation and physical distancing in prosocial behaviour", individual fellowship, funding agency: <i>European Commission, Marie Skłodowska-Curie grant No. 101026507</i> .	174 167 €
2021	Grant "Joint online course" to implement a partner location of the "Summer Institutes for Computational Social Science" (SICSS) in collaboration with RWTH Aachen, funding agency: <i>TU Graz</i> , role: principal investigator.	15 000 €
2020–2024	Grant "Researcher mental health observatory", funding agency: <i>European Commission, COST action no. CA19117</i> , role: secondary proposer.	472 000 €
2019–2020	Fellowship " <i>Freies Wissen</i> " to realise the project "executable papers", funding agency: <i>Wikimedia Foundation</i> .	10 000 €
2019	Grant "Daten Lesen Lernen – connecting 4 Data Literacy", program "Innovation Plus", funding agency: <i>Lower Saxony Ministry for Science and Culture</i> , role: proposer, together with Thomas Kneib, Benjamin Säfken, Alexander Silbersdorff and Wolfgang Radenbach.	48 630 €
2017–2018	Grant to realise a field study on geophysical pattern formation in salt deserts in California, funding agency: <i>DAAD</i> , role: principal investigator.	10 000 €
2015–2017	Fellowship to realise my dissertation project on geophysical pattern formation in salt playa, funding agency: <i>GGNB</i> .	40 000 €

Selected media reactions

- *Conspiracy theories on the digital circuit* (German [translation](#)), Scilog – The Science Magazine, 2023.
- *Sarkasmus & Co: Strategien, um digitalen Hass zu bändigen*, Kleine Zeitung, 2023.
- *Ausgezwitschert*, Falter, 2023.
- *Why Death Valley Is Full of Polygons*, Physics, 2023.
- *Schweigen ist Gold? Von Wegen!*, Die Presse, 2023.

- *Republicans are increasingly sharing misinformation, research finds*, The Washington Post – Monkey Cage, 2022.
- *US politicians tweet far more misinformation than those in the UK and Germany – new research*, The Conversation, 2022.
- *Stresstest zur Ärzteversorgung zeigt große regionale Unterschiede*, Die Presse, 2022.
- *Warum der Blick in die Zukunft so schwierig ist*, Der Standard, 2022.
- *Von Kuh-Daten und Menschen*, Ö1, 2022.
- *Omikron erschwert Pandemiebekämpfung an Schulen*, Der Standard, 2022.
- *Zur Praxis der Modellierung*, Technopolitics, 2021.
- *Richtiges Testen kann Corona-Ausbrüche in Altersheimen unterbinden [The right testing strategy can prevent Corona outbreaks in nursing homes]*, Der Standard, 2021.
- *Gut gemachte Apps können bei der Krisenbewältigung helfen*, Kurier 2020.
- *Making a difference*, Physics World, 2019.
- *Facetten der Macht: Abhängigkeiten und Machtstrukturen in der Wissenschaft*, Deutschlandfunk, 2020.
- *Göttinger Studierende lernen das Auswerten von Datensätzen*, Göttinger Tageblatt, 2019.
- *Q&A: Doctoral students at Germany's Max Planck Society say recent troubles highlight need for change*, Science Magazine, 2018