

Lynn M. Cherny, Ph.D.
[Ghostweather Research & Design, LLC](#)
Email: lynn@ghostweather.com
Massachusetts, USA

SUMMARY

- ◆ Self-employed consultant experienced and passionate about data-mining, machine learning, interactive data visualization, text analysis.
- ◆ Current keywords: Python (data science tools), R, D3.js, NLP

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Visiting Knight Chair in Journalism **University of Miami, School of Communication**

- ◆ Academic fellowship teaching Interactive Data Visualization (materials online: <http://arnicas.github.io/interactive-vis-course/>) and workshops on data analysis
- ◆ Developing toolkit for teaching and visualizing text analysis with Bocoup.com

Self-Employed Consultant for Data Analysis and Data Visualization Projects **Ghostweather Research & Design, LLC**
February 2007—2015

- ◆ Three years consulting as data analyst and developer for **Brandeis University**: Bayesian models in R, data graphing in R and Python, Python stats/graphs/files for web site displaying research data, Javascript UI
- ◆ Two years consulting for Cambridge financial startup: D3 visualization, data analysis, NLP (entity rec)
- ◆ Sample NLP work: PDF doc parsing, entity extraction, topic classification/clustering (LDA, naïve bayes)
- ◆ Dashboard design: Identify key metrics, mockups of useful charts for data presentation, analysis of data
- ◆ D3.js and Python (matplotlib) for data visualization : network data, treemaps, charts

User Experience Research/ Marketing Consultant **SolidWorks Corporation Consultant** (CAD software)
Concord, MA
April 2007 —September 2010

- ◆ Responsible for creation and tracking of user experience and satisfaction metrics for development organization, including executive dashboard design for the CTO
- ◆ Key data mining role on software quality projects: Identified patterns in software usage logs that suggest “crash” causes; design of data tools and dashboard to support stability research
- ◆ Established metrics and user feedback mechanisms on product installation, to guide design efforts and track improvements
- ◆ Refined corporate personas based on large quantitative and qualitative data collection in Europe that I managed personally; used cluster analysis and other data mining techniques for numeric data

Platform Product Design Manager **Autodesk, Inc.** (architectural design software)
Waltham, MA
November 2005—January 2007

- ◆ Conducted quantitative research projects for product design and product management: Surveys, log analysis of product usage to inform design process and management (data mining done by me)
- ◆ Created processes, work deliverables, mentored to support new user-centered design focus for the division
- ◆ Hired for interaction design, visual design, contract work, and usability staff; managed external usability & design

Principal Usability Specialist **The Mathworks, Inc.** (bio data tools)
Natick, MA
May 2004—Oct 2005

- ◆ Usability/design work for bioinformatics products, information visualization efforts for multi-dimensional data, and simulation products (joint patent pending from one project)

Adobe Systems, Inc. (Creative Suite products)

Senior Interaction Designer

Dec 2002—April 2004

Seattle, WA

- ◆ Interaction design spec authorship; mockups of workflow and dialog design for Creative Suite applications
- ◆ Cross-product design consistency for top priority complex customer problems: Color management, PDF workflow); these were “bullets on the box” for the CS2 release

Director of Research and Development

Axance.com (web usability)

March 2001—July 2002

Paris, France

- ◆ Expanded company expertise in user-centered design methodology and usability during product lifecycle
- ◆ Review and development of consulting proposals, methodology, test plans, reports, presentations; oversight of complex consulting projects; authorship of commercial proposals for international (multi-country) and more complex client projects
- ◆ Individual contributor on English-language projects for international clients, such as Renault and OpenTV; also provided expert consulting on several projects for Instant Messaging on mobile devices

Manager, UI and Usability Group / Individual Contributor

TiVo, Inc. (consumer electronics)

April 2000—December 2000

Alviso, CA

- ◆ Hiring (usability, UI, graphic designer and prototypers), employee reviews and general management
- ◆ Established relationships between market research efforts and usability/survey research
- ◆ Responsible for UI specification authorship, usability testing, & mentoring of junior usability staff

Senior User Interface Designer

Excite, Inc. (web portal)

Fall 1998—April 2000

Redwood City, CA

- ◆ Completed full design of three complex web applications, **Excite Planner** (calendar, address book, to do list, and notepad), **Excite Inbox** (mail and voicemail), **Excite Invite** (invitation service). Planner received industry awards for design, including favorable review in Forrester Report, and Inbox traffic increased by 30-50% after this redesign. (*Note: Excite has since been sold and products have changed substantially.*)
- ◆ Conducted some of the first in-house usability testing as part of design process; prepared and taught 1-day training course on UI and user-centered design process to product management staff (73 people)

Member of Technical Staff, HCI Research Group

AT&T Labs Research (spinoff from Bell Labs)

1995—1998

Florham Park, NJ

- ◆ Development of Internet chat system interfaces and study of online community: chat, email lists, newsgroups

Part-time Employee/Consultant

SRI International

Spring 1991—1993

Menlo Park, CA

- ◆ Made modifications to English grammar and lexicon for a natural language system with Unix shell (perl)

TECHNICAL SKILLS and TOOLS

Design Tools

- ◆ Adobe Creative Suite
- ◆ D3.js
- ◆ P5.js
- ◆ Gephi (social networks)
- ◆ Tableau

Data Analysis / Mining

- ◆ R programming / graphs including ggplot2
- ◆ Python including libs like numpy, NLTK, gensim, matplotlib, scikit-learn, pandas, Jupyter notebooks

Other Tools

- ◆ Unix seq/awk/scripting
- ◆ EC2 / AWS
- ◆ Excel
- ◆ SQLs, Redis, MongoDB, some Spark...

PATENTS

“Viewer for Multi-Dimensional Data From a Test Environment,” Patent awarded 2012 for work at The Mathworks (legal docket MWS-252), co-inventors James Owen, Jenifer Tidwell, Rong Chen, 2005.

“Methods and Apparatus for Establishing Configuration Settings Between Applications,” Patent awarded 2010, from work at Adobe (legal docket ADO05-07(B095)), co-inventors Lars Borg, Manish Kulkarni, Ken Kameda, 2005.

SAMPLE PUBLICATIONS / PRESENTATIONS / ROLES

- 2016 **Invited Speaker at DATO Data Science Conference** (San Francisco, July)
- 2016 **Joint Statistical Meetings (JSM) Invited Panelist** (on data visualization, July)
- 2016 **World Info Architecture Day Conference** (Miami, February, on Text Visualization)
- 2016 **Workshop on Text Analysis** (Eyeo Conference, June, Minneapolis)
- 2015 **Carnegie Mellon U**, giving a visiting lecture on NLP and visualization for Golan Levin
- 2015 **NEASIST Conference** (Boston), talk on Interactive Data Visualization design
- 2015-16 **Co-Chair of OpenVis Conf** with Irene Ros (after 2 years on program committee)
- 2014 **Magick Codes** (NYC unconference): An invited speaker on “Mining Dwarf Fortress for Stories”
- 2014 **The Graphical Web 2014 & The Bodleian (Oxford)**: Visualizing Topic Networks workshop
- 2014 **Reviewer for Pearson** for draft of **Visual Storytelling with D3** by Ritchie King
- 2013 **Harvard Librarians Data Science course**: taught 5 classes on Excel and visualization
- 2013 **Data Science Weeks**, Boston: talks on Interactive Vis, and Network Vis (in 2014)
- 2013 **OpenVis Conf** in Boston, talk “Bones of a Bestseller” (visualizing fiction)
- 2013 **Lean UX Conference**, NYC: Workshop on Web product analytics (intro to quant reasoning for usability)
- 2013 **PyData (Python Data) Silicon Valley 2013**: talk on “Nodebox” – for data visualization in python
- 2013 **Boston Predictive Analytics Machine Learning Tutorials**: Taught Ggplot2 and IPython notebook, organized statsmodels and sklearn tutorial sessions
- 2012 **Strata NYC talk**: “Beyond the Hairball” (network visualization techniques)
- 2012 **Boston Predictive Analytics**: “A Fast and Dirty Intro to NetworkX and D3.js”
- 2012 **Invited Speaker at Graduate UIUC HCI Talks Series**: “TV Fan Video Editing Network Evolution”
- 2010 **Boston Mini UPA conference**: “Mining Your Data: An Easy Intro to a Tough Topic”
- 2010 “I See Evidence of Research...What About Design?” **Article** in **<interactions>** sept + oct 2007
- 2008 “Designing ‘Up’ in the Software Industry.” An **essay** in **HCI Remixed**, collection edited by Tom Erickson and David McDonald, MIT Press.
- 2008 **Invited speaker at IBM Research**, Cambridge (spoke on TV fan video editing communities)
- 2006 **Closing Plenary Invited Speaker at Group ‘05 Conference** in Sanibel, Florida.
- 2001 **Conversation and Community: Chat in a Virtual World**, CSLI Publications. **My book** about Internet chat and virtual community based on my dissertation work.
- 1999 “The Dynamics of Mass Interaction,” by S. Whittaker, L. Terveen, W. Hill, L. Cherny. **Paper** presented at **CSCW 98**, Seattle, still widely cited online today.
- 1998 “Entertainment is a Human Factor: Game Design and CHI.” **Article** by L. Cherny, C. Clanton, E. Ostrom. **SIGCHI Bulletin**, October 1997. Summary of Workshop at CHI (Computer Human Interaction) 97.
- 1997 **Wired Women: Gender and New Realities in Cyberspace**, Seal Press. **Co-edited book** with Elizabeth Reba Weise. This was a popular textbook choice!

EDUCATION

- 1990–1995 **Ph.D.** in Linguistics (with courses in HCI, computer science, ethnography)
Stanford University, CA
Dissertation: *The MUD Register: Conversational Modes of Action in a Text-Based Virtual Reality*. (Ethnography of an Internet "MUD" text chat community, later published as book available on Amazon)
- 1989–1990 **M.Phil.** in Computer Speech and Language Processing
Cambridge University (Trinity College), UK
- 1986–1989 **B.A.** in Linguistics (with courses in AI at Edinburgh University)
University of Maryland, College Park, MD