

Dr. Jana Lasser

Curriculum Vitae

Research Group: <https://idea-lab.uni-graz.at/en/our-researchers/data-analysis/>

Google Scholar: <https://scholar.google.de/citations?user=vVrhda0AAAAJ>

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GitHub: <https://github.com/JanaLasser>

Website: <https://janalasser.at>

Career summary

- 2024–present **Professor for Data Analysis, *IDea_Lab* at 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 – **Postdoctoral researcher, *Complexity Science Hub (CSH), Medical University Vienna***.
Mar 2021 Vienna, Austria
- 2019 **Postdoctoral researcher, *Max Planck Institute for Dynamics and Self-Organization (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 **Habilitation in Applied Computer Science, *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 playa](#)
Grade: magna cum laude
- 2013–2015 **M.Sc. Physics, *Georg-August-University and 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
- 2022–2024 **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*), member.
- 2020–2024 **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, PNAS, EPJ Data Science, Journal of Social Computing, Cliodynamics, Epidemics, Journal of Science Communication, npj Complexity
- **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

2024	Forschungspreise des Landes Steiermark from the <i>state of Styria</i> .	12 000 €
2024	Kardinal Innitzer Förderungspreis , from the <i>Kardinal Innitzer Studienfonds</i> .	2 000 €
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?", with M. Pellert.	450 €
2018	Data literacy education award , funding agency: Stifterverband & Heinz-Nixdorf Foundation to realise the project " Daten Lesen Lernen ", with T. Kneib, B. Säfken, A. Silbersdorff, W. Radenbach and D. Manik.	250 000 €
2015	Outstanding master thesis prize from the University of Göttingen .	

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: PI.	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, grant No. 101177310</i> , role: PI.	607 975 €
2021	Fellowship "Staying at home - the interplay between behavioural synchronisation and physical distancing in prosocial behaviour" (STAY), funding agency: <i>European Commission, Marie Skłodowska-Curie Fellowship, grant No. 101026507</i> .	174 167 €
2021	Grant "Joint online course" for the " Summer Institutes for Computational Social Science " (SICSS) in Graz & Aachen, funding agency: <i>TU Graz</i> , role: PI.	15 000 €
2020–2024	Grant "Researcher mental health observatory", funding agency: <i>European Commission, COST action no. CA19117</i> , role: co-proposer.	472 000 €
2019–2020	Fellowship " Freies Wissen ", funding agency: <i>Wikimedia Foundation</i> .	10 000 €
2019	Grant "Daten Lesen Lernen – connecting 4 Data Literacy", funding agency: <i>Lower Saxony Ministry for Science and Culture</i> , role: proposer, with T. Kneib, B. Säfken, A. Silbersdorff and W. 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: PI.	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

- [Social Media Algorithmen: Riskiert ein Tweet die Menschenwürde?](#), die Furche, 2024.
- [Grazer Forscherin entwickelt Algorithmen gegen Online-Hass](#), Kleine Zeitung, 2024.
- [Donald Trump's truth: why liars might sometimes be considered honest – new research](#), The Conversation, 2023.
- [Conspiracy theories on the digital circuit](#) (German translation), Scilog – The Science Magazine, 2023.
- [Sarkasmus & Co: Strategien, um digitalen Hass zu bändigen](#), Kleine Zeitung, 2023.
- [Ausgezwitchert](#), 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