WILLIAM WEBB SPRAGUE

Curriculum vitae, January 2014

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RESEARCH AREAS

Matrix population models; population forecasting; "big data" and computer programming; anthropology of the rural United States; applied demography; geographic demography.

EDUCATION

2013   Ph. D. Demography, UC Berkeley. Dissertation titled: "Wood's Method -- a Method for Fitting Leslie Matrices from Age-Sex Population Data, with some Practical Applications."

2007   M.A. Anthropology, UC Berkeley.

2005   M.A. Demography, UC Berkeley.

1999   B.A. Mathematics, San Francisco State University.

CHRONOLOGY OF POSITIONS

2009-pres.   Forecast Analyst, Office of Financial Management, State of Washington, Olympia, WA. Performing population forecasts and estimates at various geographies. Writing software to automate workflows for forecasts and estimates.

2005-pres.   Computer programmer, Center on the Economics and Demography of Aging ("CEDA"), Berkeley CA. Developed interactive version of Lee-Carter mortality forecasting approach "LCFIT."

2008-2009   Project Manager "Metropolitan Knowledge Network", Institute for Metropolitan Studies, Portland State University. Managed four programmers and student assistants writing articles and developing software.

2006   Internship with California Department of Housing. Wrote and presented regional housing allocations, and interfaced with the California

	Department of Finance (the official population projection and estimation body) and several regional Councils of Government.
2001-2005	Computer programmer, University of California Davis. Managed data for PEEIR ecological research project. Developed MATLAB programs for Botsford research laboratory.
2000-2001	Scientific programmer, Incyte Corp. Datamined genetic sequences and programmed datamining workflow.
1999	Computer programmer, O-1 Communications. Developed database and web interface for storing and reporting on telephone call sessions.
1989-1999	Various positions, including stevedore, apprentice carpenter, and industrial painter.

LANGUAGES

French

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Population Association of America

American Anthropological Association

FELLOWSHIPS AND HONORS

2006-2010   National Institute of Child Health and Human Development training grant T32HD007275-23 "Interdisciplinary Training in Demography."

2008   Spatial Pattern Analysis workshop at the University of California, Santa Barbara (13-18 July 2008).

INVITED LECTURES

2008   "Demographic applications and cartography using PostGIS geographic database extensions." Workshop given in Demography 212, "Advanced Demographic Methods." Weeks of March 31 and April 7, Berkeley, CA.

2008   "Values of intimacy and rural political conservatism." Contemporary Rural Issues Seminar. Oregon State University, February 20, Corvallis, OR.

2007   "Spatial databases in PostgreSQL: An introduction to PostGIS." PostgreSQL Conference. Portland State University, October 20, Portland, OR.

2007   "LAR-E: The Lee-Carter Automatic Retrieval Engine." UC Berkeley Department of Demography Brown Bag lecture series, April 11, Berkeley, CA.

2007   "Demographic applications using PostGIS geographic database extensions." Workshop given in Demography 212, "Advanced Demographic Methods." Week of March 18, Berkeley, CA.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

2012   "Automatic Generation of Age/ Sex Transition Matrices for Human Populations." Talk presented at the Pacific Northwest Regional Economic Conference (PNREC), May 16-18.

2009   "Sequence Analysis and Micro-Macro Demographic Connections." (Session 1 Poster winner.) Poster presented at the Population Association of American Annual Meeting, April 30 - May 2, Detroit.

2009	"Transnationalism and Parochialism: The Performance of 'Traditional' Society in a Small US Town." Paper accepted to American Ethnological Association Annual Meeting, May 13-16.
2008	"An Ethics of Demographic Practice for the Twenty-First Century." Paper presented at American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting. November 19-23, San Francisco.
2007	"LAR-E: The Lee-Carter Automatic Retrieval Engine." Poster presented at the Population Association of America Annual Meeting. March 29-April 1, New York.
2007	"To Leave and Return: Demographically Important Discourse and Practice in a Small Town." Paper presented to the Semiotics Circle. January 25, Berkeley, CA.

SOFTWARE PROJECTS (N.B. "LOC" refers to "lines of code")

2008-2009.	"Metropolitan Knowledge Network" (project manager): Interactive tabulation and graphics program for demographic and economic data. Languages: R, Javascript, PHP, SQL, HTML, CSS. 2000 LOC.
2004-pres.	"LCFIT": Interactive, internet-enabled form based program for application of the Lee-Carter method for mortality forecasting, including extensions for male/ female datasets, datasets with missing data, and multiple coherent population datasets. Written for CEDA, to popularize Lee-Carter method. Languages: Python, PostgreSQL. 5000 LOC.
2002-2004	PEEIR Data Warehouse. Interactive database of downloadable ecological datasets and maps. Written for PEEIR, to enable multi-sited sharing of data. Languages: Python, PostgreSQL. 1000 LOC.
2003	Salmon Reproductive Simulation. Population simulation of Salmon population processes with variable inputs for mortality and fertility. Language: R/SPLUS. 1000 LOC.
2002	Upwelling Simulation. Simulation of upwelling effects on nutrients and fish population off the coast of California. Written for Botsford Laboratory. Language: MATLAB. 1000 LOC.
2000-2001	Connection Database and Reporting Tool. Real-time database of connections for California internet service provider, with activity graphs and reports. Languages: Perl, PostgreSQL. 2000 LOC.

ARTICLES

Sprague, W. Webb. 2008.   Working Paper, U.C. Berkeley Population Center. "LCFIT – An online computer implementation of the Lee Carter mortality forecasting method, with extensions."

Sprague, W. Webb. 2009.   "To Leave and Return: Investigations into Narrative and the Lifecourse." Under review by Narrative Inquiry.