TRAVIS MOORE
Oregon State University, College of Engineering, Electrical Engineering & Computer Science

Degrees:
H.B.S. Computer Science, Oregon State University
H.B.S. Mathematical Science, Oregon State University
M.S. Computer Science, Oregon State University

Advisor:
Weng-Keen Wong, Ph.D.

Scholar Award Donor:
ESCO Corporation

About the Scholar:
Travis’ research interests are machine learning, data mining, and graphical models. He is currently collaborating with the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, modeling the expertise of users who contribute to the online bird-watching database eBird. These models automatically group bird watchers into experts and novices, adding new criteria for identifying reliable observations. Travis hopes to transform this work into a project on general sensor networks, which could be applicable to anything from weather sensors to Twitter accounts. In his spare time, Travis enjoys playing basketball, especially with his team of other grad students and professors in his department.

Benefits to Society:
The data from eBird is used to model the habitat and migration of hundreds of species of birds. This in turn influences estimates on population and effects efforts towards habitat conservation and species protection. With the online system becoming more popular each year, it grows increasingly difficult to separate useful and erroneous data. An automatic system that determines the bird-watching expertise of a participant is one solution to the noisy data problem. Extending this approach to other networks could help predict the degradation of mechanical sensors or the personal bias of human data sources.

Publications and Posters: