

# BO NING

(Last updated date: September 16, 2021)

Department of Statistics  
University of California, Davis  
4242 Mathematical Sciences Building  
One Shields Avenue, Davis CA 95616

Phone: +1-919-961-7956  
Email: [bycning@ucdavis.edu](mailto:bycning@ucdavis.edu)  
Website: <https://bo-ning.github.io>  
Github: <https://github.com/Bo-Ning>

## APPOINTMENTS

---

Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Statistics, University of California, Davis	<i>2021–Current</i>
The Foundation Sciences Mathématiques de Paris Postdoctoral Fellow, Laboratoire de Probabilités, Statistique et Modélisation, Sorbonne Université, France	<i>2020–2021</i>
<i>Advisor: Dr. Ismaël Castillo</i>	
Postdoctoral Associate, Department of Statistics and Data Science, Yale University	<i>2018–2020</i>
<i>Advisor: Dr. Jessi Cisewski-Kehe</i>	

## EDUCATION

---

Ph.D., Statistics, North Carolina State University	<i>2014–2018</i>
<i>Advisors: Drs. Peter Bloomfield and Subhashis Ghoshal</i>	
M.S., Economics, North Carolina State University	<i>2011–2013</i>
<i>Advisor: Dr. Atsushi Inoue</i>	

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

---

Astrostatistics, Bayesian asymptotics, causal inference and missing data analysis, high-dimensional and nonparametric analysis, multiple testing, and time series analysis.

## RESEARCH PAPERS

---

### Publications

- **Bo Ning**, Seonghyun Jeong, and Subhashis Ghosal, 2020. Bayesian linear regression for multivariate response under group sparsity. *Bernoulli*, 26(3):2353–2382.
- Ryan Martin and **Bo Ning**, 2020. Empirical priors and coverage of posterior credible sets for a sparse normal mean model. *Sankhya A (the special issue dedicated to Jayanta K. Ghosh)*, 82:477–498.
- **Bo Ning**, Alexander Wise, Jessi Cisewski-Kehe, Sarah Dodson-Robinson, and Debra Fischer, 2019. Identifying activity-sensitive spectral lines: A Bayesian variable selection approach. *The Astronomical Journal*, 158(5):15 pages.
- Shubham Kanodia, Angie Wolfgang, Gudmundur K. Stefansson, **Bo Ning**, and Suvrath Mahadevan, 2019. Mass-Radius relationship for M dwarf exoplanets: Comparing nonparametric and parametric methods. *The Astrophysical Journal*, 882(1):14 pages.
- **Bo Ning**, Subhashis Ghosal, and Jewell Thomas, 2019. Bayesian method for causal inference in spatially-correlated multivariate time series. *Bayesian Analysis*, 14(1):1–28.

- **Bo Ning**, Angie Wolfgang, and Sujit Ghosh, 2018. Predicting exoplanet masses and radii: A nonparametric approach. *The Astrophysical Journal*, 869(5):16 pages.

### Manuscripts

- **Bo Ning**, 2021+, Spike and slab Bayesian sparse principal component analysis. *arXiv:2102.00305 Under Review*.
- **Bo Ning and Ismaël Castillo**, 2021+, On the joint Bernstein-von Mises phenomenon and sup-norm contraction rate for Bayesian Cox proportional hazard models. *In Preparation*.

### Software packages

- **Bo Ning**, 2021. VBsparsePCA: The variational Bayesian method for sparse PCA. *CRAN*.
- Shubham Kanodia, Angie Wolfgang, Gudmundur K. Stefansson, **Bo Ning**, Suvrath Mahadevan, 2019. MRExo: Non-parametric mass-radius relationship for exoplanets. *Astrophysics Source Code Library, record ascl:1912.020*.

## PRESENTATIONS AND WORKSHOPS

---

### Presentations

- (Contributed talk) Mirror workshop of ISBA 21, CIRM, Marseille, France, June 28-July 2, 2021. *On the joint Bernstein-von Mises phenomenon and sup-norm contraction rate of Bayesian Cox proportional hazard models*.
- (Contributed talk) JDS2021: 52nd Statistics Days of the French Statistical Society, Nice, France, June 7-11, 2021. *Disentangling stellar-activity and planetary signals using Bayesian high-dimensional analysis*.
- (Invited talk) Joint Statistical Meeting, Virtual Conference, August 01-06, 2020. *Disentangling stellar activity and planetary signals using Bayesian high-dimensional analysis*.
- (Contributed talk) 235th Meeting of the American Astronomical Society, Honolulu, HI, January 04-08, 2020. *Identifying activity-sensitive spectral lines: A Bayesian variable selection approach*.
- (Invited talk) Joint Statistical Meeting, Denver, CO, July 27-August 01, 2019, *Bayesian method for causal inference in spatially-correlated multivariate time series*.
- (Invited talk) Jaguar Land Rover's global headquarters, Coventry, UK, July 01, 2019, *Bayesian method for causal inference in spatially-correlated multivariate time series*.
- (Poster) O'Bayes Meeting, University of Warwick, UK, June 28-July 02, 2019, *Disentangling stellar activity and planetary signals using Bayesian high-dimensional analyses*.
- (Contributed talk) 12th Bayesian Nonparametrics Conference, Oxford, UK, June 24-28, 2019, *Bayesian high-dimensional analyses for a multivariate linear regression model and a sparse spiked-covariance model*.
- (Poster) Statistics Conference, in honor of Aad van der Vaart's 60th Birthday, Leiden, the Netherlands, June 17-21, 2019, *Bayesian linear regression for multivariate response under group sparsity*.
- (Invited talk) Department Seminar, Department of Statistics, North Carolina State University, May 9, 2019, *Disentangling between stellar activity and planetary signals using a Bayesian approach for sparse PCA*.
- (Contributed talk) The Sixth Boston Area Exoplanet Science Meeting, Harvard/Center for Astrophysics, April 5, 2019, *Predicting exoplanet masses and radii: A nonparametric approach*.

- (Poster) NextGen: Data Science Day, New England Statistical Society, Yale University, October 27, 2018, *Bayesian methods for high-dimensional data analysis*.
- (Seminar) Exoplanet Seminar, Department of Astronomy, Yale University, October 2, 2018, *Predicting exoplanet masses and radii: A nonparametric approach*.
- (Poster) O'Bayes 2017 Meeting, Austin, TX, December 10-13, 2017, *Bayesian multivariate linear regression with unknown correlated errors under group sparsity*.
- (Contributed talk) 3rd Workshop on Extreme Precise Radius Velocities (EPRV), Penn State University, August 14-17, 2017, *Predicting exoplanet masses and radii: A nonparametric approach*.
- (Invited talk) ASTRO Transition Workshop, SAMSI, NC, May 8-10, 2017, *Predicting exoplanet masses and radii: A nonparametric approach*.
- (Poster) Joint Statistical Meeting, Baltimore, August, 2017, *Predicting exoplanet masses and radii: A nonparametric approach*.
- (Invited talk) Maxpoint Research Day, Maxpoint Interactive Inc., Morrisville, NC, March, 2016, *Bayesian method for causal inference in spatially-correlated multivariate time series*.
- (Poster) Joint Statistical Meeting, Chicago, August, 2016, *Bayesian method for causal inference in spatially-correlated multivariate time series*.
- (Contributed talk) ICSA Applied Statistics Symposium, Atlanta, June 12-15, 2016, *Bayesian method for causal inference in spatially-correlated multivariate time series*.
- (Poster) Graduate Student Research Symposium, the Graduate School of NC State University, March, 2016, *Bayesian method for causal inference in spatially-correlated multivariate time series*.
- (Contributed talk) International Conference on Advances in Interdisciplinary Statistics and Combinatorics, Greensboro, NC, September 30-Oct 2, 2016, *Bayesian inference for generalized extreme value distribution with Gaussian copula dependence*.

### Workshops

- Foundations of Bayesian Inference for Complex Statistical Models, Oberwolfach Workshop, Germany, 2–8 May, 2021
- ASTRO: Astrophysical Population Emulation and Uncertainty Quantification, SAMSI, NC, April 3–7, 2017
- ASTRO: Hierarchical Bayesian Modeling of Exoplanet Populations (by invitation only), SAMSI, NC, Oct 17–28, 2016
- Statistical, Mathematical and Computational Methods for Astronomy (ASTRO), SAMSI, NC, August 22–26, 2016

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

---

### Guest instructor

- ExoStatistics: Exploring Extrasolar Planets with Data Science, Yale University (*Undergraduate level*), April 23, 2019

### Lab instructor

- Experimental Statistics for Biological Sciences, NCSU (*Ph.D. and Master's levels*), Fall, 2015; Spring, 2016; Fall, 2016; and Fall, 2017

### **Teaching assistant (online course)**

- SAS Programming, NCSU (*Master's level*), Fall, 2014 and Spring, 2015

### **Teaching assistant (in-person course)**

- SAS Programming, NCSU (*Master's level*), Summer, 2014
- Statistical Practice (Consulting), NCSU (*Ph.D. and Master's levels*), Spring, 2016; Spring, 2017; and Spring, 2018

### **Teacher training programs**

- Certificate of Accomplishment in Teaching (CoAT) program, the Graduate School, NCSU, 2016
- Graduate Student Summer Teaching Institute, the Graduate School, NCSU, June 9–11, 2014

## **AWARDS AND MEMBERSHIPS**

---

### **Awards**

- The Foundation Sciences Mathématiques de Paris Postdoctoral Fellowship, 2020
- IMS New Researcher Travel Award, 2019
- Yale University Postdoctoral Scholars Travel Fund Award, 2019
- Travel Support for O'Bayes Meeting, 2019
- ISBA Travel Award for Attending the 12th International Conference on Bayesian Nonparametrics, 2019
- Travel Grant for Attending Aad van der Vaart's 60th Birthday Conference, 2019
- MassMutual Poster Award, Honorable Mention (Professional Category), NESS NextGen: Data Science Day at Yale University, October 27, 2018
- O'Bayes Meeting Travel Award, 2017
- Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award, Department of Statistics, NCSU, 2015
- Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award for Excellence in Mentorship, the Graduate School, NCSU, 2015

### **Memberships**

- Member of ASA, ASA Astrostatistics Interest Group, Bernoulli Society, IMS, and ISBA
- Member of Mu Sigma Rho, National Statistical Honor Society, 2014

## **SERVICE**

---

- Secretary of the ASA Astrostatistics Interest Group, January 1, 2020–December 31, 2021
- Member of the Organizing Committee for the 3rd Annual Postdoctoral Symposium at Yale University, October, 2019–June, 2020
- Member of the Local Organizing Committee, NESS NextGen: Data Science Day at Yale University, October, 2018
- Reviewer for *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society Series A*, *Journal of Multivariate Analysis*, *Astronomy and Computing*, *The Astronomical Journal*, *Journal of the Korean Statistical Society*, *Bayesian Analysis*, *Electronic Journal of Statistics*, *Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society*, *Yale Undergraduate Research Journal*, *Journal of the American Statistical Association*

## **INTERNSHIPS**

---

- Data Scientist Intern, MaxPoint Interactive Inc. Morrisville, NC, May 16–August 16, 2016
- Product Analytics Summer Intern, MaxPoint Interactive Inc. Morrisville, NC, May 12–August 12, 2015

## **OBSERVING EXPERIENCE**

---

- Two nights using EXPRES Spectrometer on the Discovery Channel Telescope at Lowell Observatory located in Arizona, June 7-8, 2019

## **LANGUAGES**

---

- Fluent: Chinese (Cantonese, Gan, and Mandarin), English, R, and  $\text{\LaTeX}$
- Intermediate: Japanese, Python, SAS, and Taiwanese
- Beginner: French, Hakka, Julia, Matlab, Thai, and Spanish