

# Abhraneel Sarma

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Website: <https://abhsarma.github.io>

## Research Interests

I am interested in studying how people interpret visualizations, and how visualizations can be used for improving statistical analysis or reporting statistical results.

## Education

2019 – present    **PhD, Computer Science, Northwestern University**  
Advisor: Jessica Hullman

2016 – 2018    **Master of Science, Information, University of Michigan**  
HCI and Data Science specialization  
Advisor: Matthew Kay  
Thesis: Tell don't just show: Narratives improve recall more than interactivity for communicative visualizations

2012 – 2016    **Bachelors in Design, Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati**  
Minor in Mechanical Engineering

## Work Experience

2019 – present    **Graduate Research Assistant**  
MUCollective, Northwestern University

2016 – 2019    **Graduate Research Assistant** (*full time researcher, May 2018 onwards*)  
MUCollective, University of Michigan

2017    **User Experience Intern**  
Office of Academic Innovation, University of Michigan

2015    **Research Intern**  
Keio-NUS CUTE Center, National University of Singapore

## Publications

### Conference publications

- 2020 **Prior Setting in Practice: Strategies and Rationales Used in Choosing Prior Distributions for Bayesian Analysis**  
*Abhraneel Sarma* and Matthew Kay  
CHI 2020: Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems
- 2019 **Increasing the Transparency of Research Papers with Explorable Multiverse Analyses**  
Pierre Dragicevic, Yvonne Jansen, *Abhraneel Sarma*, Matthew Kay, and Fanny Chevalier  
CHI 2019: Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems

## Teaching

- FA 2017 **Graduate Student Instructor, SI588 Fundamentals of Human Behavior**  
University of Michigan School of Information
- WN 2018 **Graduate Student Instructor, SI330 Data Manipulation in Python**  
University of Michigan School of Information

## Service

**Student Volunteer**, IEEE VIS 2018, Berlin, Germany  
**Student Volunteer**, IEEE VIS 2017, Phoenix, AZ, USA

## Grants

**MSI Travel Grant**, University of Michigan School of Information for CHI 2017  
**MSI Research Funding**, University of Michigan School of Information for data collection for Master's Thesis

## Relevant Coursework

SI 649: Information Visualization  
STATS 500: Linear Regression  
BIOSTATS 682: Applied Bayesian Statistics  
SI 630: Natural Language Processing  
SI 618: Data Manipulation and Analysis

## **Skills**

### **Technical Skills**

R, JavaScript, Python, SQL, C/C++ and Latex