

# Abhraneel Sarma

abhraneel@u.northwestern.edu  
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 | <b>PhD, Computer Science, Northwestern University</b><br><b>Advisor:</b> Jessica Hullman   |
| 2016 - 2018    | <b>Master of Science, Information, University of Michigan</b><br>HCI and Data Science specialization<br><b>Advisor:</b> Matthew Kay<br><b>Thesis:</b> Tell don't just show: Narratives improve recall more than interactivity for communicative visualizations |
| 2012 - 2016    | <b>Bachelors in Design, Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati</b><br>Minor in Mechanical Engineering   |

## Work Experience

- |                |  |
|----------------|--|
| 2019 - present | <b>Graduate Research Assistant</b><br>MUCollective, Northwestern University  |
| 2016 - 2019    | <b>Graduate Research Assistant</b> ( <i>full time researcher, May 2018 onwards</i> )<br>MUCollective, University of Michigan |
| 2017           | <b>User Experience Intern</b><br>Office of Academic Innovation, University of Michigan                                       |
| 2015           | <b>Research Intern</b><br>Keio-NUS CUTE Center, National University of Singapore   |

## Publications

Conference publications

- |      |  |
|------|--|
| 2020 | <b>Prior Setting in Practice: Strategies and Rationales Used in Choosing Prior Distributions for Bayesian Analysis</b> |
|------|--|

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

**Graduate Student Instructor**, SI588 *Fundamentals of Human Behavior*

University of Michigan School of Information

**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