

# 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  
**Advisor:** 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

**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