

# Abhraneel Sarma

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abhsarma.github.io

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## Research Interests

**Broadly:** I am interested in studying how people make sense of uncertainty information which arise in a typical data analysis pipeline.

**Recently:** I developed an R package for easily specifying multiverse analyses, which helps analysts to surface the uncertainty in their data analysis process itself; I have also worked on projects which investigate how users interpret uncertainty visualisations in missing data contexts or multiple comparison scenarios

## Education

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|----------------|--|
| 2019 - present | <b>PhD, Computer Science, Northwestern University</b><br><b>Advisor:</b> Jessica Hullman, Matthew Kay  |
| 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   |

## Publications

Conference publications

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

## 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

## 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

## Invited Talks

2019 **Statistics and Scientific reporting: Can we do better?**  
Data Camp at the University of Michigan

## Service

—— **as a reviewer (for conferences)**  
2020 CHI

—— **as a student volunteer**  
2018 IEEE VIS, Berlin, Germany  
2017 IEEE VIS, 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

## Skills

**Technical Skills**  
R, JavaScript, Python, SQL, C/C++ and Latex