Ajinkya Kokandakar

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Education

- **University of Wisconsin–Madison** — Madison, WI
  Ph.D. Statistics; GPA: 3.94 — *2020 – Present*
- **Duke University** — Durham, NC
  M.S. Economics and Computation; GPA: 3.88 — *2018 – 2020*
- **Birla Institute of Technology and Science, Pilani** — Pilani, India
  B.E. Computer Science and M.Sc. Economics; GPA: 3.64 (9.11/10) — *2012 – 2017*

Pre-prints

- **Kokandakar, A.H.**, Lin, Y., Jin, S., Weiss, J., Rabinowitz, A.R., May, R.A.B., Deshpande, S.K., and Small, D. (2022+), "Protocol for an observational study on the effects of adolescent sports participation on health in early adulthood". [arXiv:2211.02104]

Publications

- **Kokandakar, A.H.**, Kang, H., and Deshpande, S.K. (2023), "Bayesian causal forests and the 2022 ACIC Data Challenge: scalability and sensitivity." *Observational Studies* (accepted). [arXiv:2211.02020]
- Challa, J.S., Goyal, P., **Kokandakar, A.**, Mantri, D., Verma, P., Balasubramaniam, S., and Goyal, N. (2022). "Anytime clustering of data streams while handling noise and concept drift". *Journal of Experimental & Theoretical Artificial Intelligence*, 34:3, 399-429, DOI:10.1080/0952813X.2021.1882001.

Research Experience

University of Wisconsin–Madison — Madison, WI

- *Research Assistant, Advisor: Dr. Sameer K. Deshpande* — *May 2022 – Present*
  - Developing Bayesian methods for causal inference in social networks
  - Developed an ordered testing procedure to adaptively detect effects of multiple versions of the treatment condition
- *Research Assistant, Advisor: Dr. Menggang Yu and Dr. Guanhua Chen* — *June 2020 – Dec 2021*
  - Worked on a method for the estimation of heterogeneous treatment effects that is robust to errors drawn from heavy-tailed distributions

Duke University — Durham, NC

- *Research Assistant, Dr. Matthew Masten* — *May 2019 — Feb 2020*
  - Conducted a literature survey of methods to assess the sensitivity of the average treatment effect estimators to violations of the conditional ignorability assumption in linear models
- *Research Assistant, Advisor: Dr. Giuseppe Lopomo* — *June 2019 — Dec 2019*
  - Characterized the optimal mechanism for procurement in the presence of bidders with financial externalities
  - Assisted with research including proofreading drafts of papers, verifying algebraic proofs using Maple, and solving mechanism design problems using CPLEX, AMPL and MATLAB
- *Research Assistant, Advisor: Dr. Arjada Bardhi* — *Jan 2019 — May 2019*
  - Simulated Gaussian processes using the GPML toolkit for MATLAB
  - Simulated Poisson Bandit Problems to calculate discounted occupancy measures for each arm

Teaching Experience

- **University of Wisconsin–Madison** Madison, WI
  Teaching Assistant, Department of Statistics
  - STAT 240: Data Science Modeling 1 (Fall 2022)
  - STAT 371: Introductory Applied Statistics for the Life Sciences (Spring 2022)
- **Duke University** Durham, NC
  Teaching Assistant, Department of Computer Science
  - COMPSCI 370: Introduction to AI (Spring 2020)
  - COMPSCI 201: Algorithms and Data Structures (Spring 2019)
- **Birla Institute of Technology and Science, Pilani** Pilani, India
  Undergraduate Teaching Assistant
  - CS F211: Data Structures and Algorithms
  - ECON F412: Securities Analysis and Portfolio Management
  - ECON F212: Fundamentals of Finance and Accounting
  - ECON F211: Principles of Economics

Work Experience

- **Infosys Ltd.** Bangalore, India
  Specialist Programmer *July 2017 – May 2018*
  - Developed the telemetry and data analytics module for the company's internal learning platform
- **Reserve Bank of India** Jaipur, India
  Summer Intern, Department of Statistics and Information Management *Summer 2016*
  - Analyzed the distribution of food consumption expenditure in India and calculated the first order approximation of compensating variation associated with food price inflation for the deciles of the population based on income

Awards

- 2018 Duke Economics Master's Scholar Award
- National Talent Search (NTS) Scholarship, India (2008)

Extracurricular Activities

- Co-chair, Social Committee, Department of Computer Science, Duke University (Fall 2019)

Technical Skills

R, C/C++, Python, Julia, MATLAB, SQL, Excel, LaTeX, Git