

# Yan Dora Zhang

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Department of Statistics and Actuarial Science  
RR304, 3/F, Run Run Shaw Building  
The University of Hong Kong  
Pokfulam Road, Hong Kong  
Email: [doraz@hku.hk](mailto:doraz@hku.hk)  
Website: <http://web.hku.hk/~doraz>

## EDUCATION

- |      |                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2016 | <b>Ph.D. in Statistics</b> , North Carolina State University, <i>NC, USA</i><br>Thesis: <i>Bayesian Methods for High-dimensional Data</i><br>Advisor: <a href="#">Howard D. Bondell</a> |
| 2013 | <b>M.S. in Statistics</b> , North Carolina State University, <i>NC, USA</i>                                                                                                             |
| 2011 | <b>B.S. in Statistics</b> , Nankai University, <i>Tianjin, China</i>                                                                                                                    |

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

Statistical genetics, bioinformatics, biostatistics, Bayesian methods, risk prediction  
**Application areas:** cancer genetics, psychology disease, public health/biomedical research

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- |           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|-----------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2019–     | <b>Assistant Professor</b><br>Department of Statistics & Actuarial Science, Faculty of Science<br>Centre for PanorOmic Sciences, LKS Faculty of Medicine<br>The University of Hong Kong, <i>Hong Kong SAR, China</i> |
| 2016–2019 | <b>Postdoctoral Fellow</b> (Mentor: <a href="#">Nilanjan Chatterjee</a> )<br>Department of Biostatistics, Bloomberg School of Public Health<br>Johns Hopkins University, <i>Baltimore, MD, USA</i>                   |
| 2014–2015 | <b>Research Assistant</b><br>Target Sciences Statistics, GlaxoSmithKline, <i>Durham, NC, USA</i>                                                                                                                     |
| 2014–2014 | <b>Research Scientist Intern</b><br>Avaya Labs Research, Avaya, <i>Basking Ridge, NJ, USA</i>                                                                                                                        |
| 2013–2013 | <b>Research Assistant</b><br>Department of Civil Engineering<br>North Carolina State University, <i>Raleigh, NC, USA</i>                                                                                             |

## SELECTED HONORS & AWARDS

2017	Honorable Mention for poster “Estimating effect-size distribution from summary-level statistics for large genome-wide association studies”, Genetics Research Day, The Maryland Genetics, Epidemiology, and Medicine Training Program (MD-GEM)
2013	Nomination for the University Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award, NCSU
2013	Mu Sigma Rho Statistics Society Honor, NCSU
2011	Outstanding Graduates Honor, Nankai University, China
2010	Excellent Student Leader Honor, Nankai University, China
2009	National Scholarship, China

## PUBLICATIONS

### Peer-Reviewed

1. Tubbs JD, **Zhang YD**, Sham PC. (2020). Intermediate confounding in trio relationships: The importance of complete data in effect size estimation. *Genetic Epidemiology*.
2. Ji Y, Azuine RE, **Zhang Y**, Hou W, Hong X, Wang G, Riley A, Pearson C, Zuckerman B, Wang X. (2020). Association of cord plasma biomarkers of in utero acetaminophen exposure with risk of attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder and autism spectrum disorder in childhood. *JAMA psychiatry*, 77(2), 180-189.
3. Pal Choudhury P, Wilcox AN, Brook MN, **Zhang Y**, Ahearn T, ..., Chatterjee N, García-Closas M. (2020). Comparative validation of breast cancer risk prediction models and projections for future risk stratification. *JNCI: Journal of the National Cancer Institute*, 112(3), 278-285.
4. **Zhang Y**, Qi G, Park JH, Chatterjee N. (2018). Estimation of complex effect-size distributions using summary-level statistics from genome-wide association studies across 32 complex traits. *Nature genetics*, 50(9), 1318-1326.
5. **Zhang Y**, Bondell HD. (2018). Variable selection via penalized credible regions with Dirichlet–Laplace global-local shrinkage priors. *Bayesian Analysis*, 13(3), 823-844.

## TEACHING

### Lecturer

Spring 2020      STAT3621, Statistical data analysis, *HKU*

### Lab Instructor

2013–2014      Experimental Statistics for Biological Sciences II, *NCSU*

**Teaching Assistant**

2011–2016      Applied Bayesian Statistics, Applied Multivariate Statistical Analysis, Experimental Statistics for Biological Sciences I, Introduction to Mathematical Statistics I, Experimental Statistics for Engineers II, Introduction to Statistics, *NCSU*

**PRESENTATIONS**

**Invited Talk**

Sep 2018      Estimation of complex effect-size distributions using summary-level statistics from genome-wide association studies, *School of Public Health, Peking University, Beijing, China*

Sep 2018      Estimation of complex effect-size distributions using summary-level statistics from genome-wide association studies, *SJTU-YALE Joint Center of Biostatistics and Data Science, Shanghai, China*

Sep 2018      Estimation of complex effect-size distributions using summary-level statistics from genome-wide association studies, *School of Statistics and Data Science, Nankai University, Tianjin, China*

Aug 2017      Estimation of complex effect-size distributions using summary-level statistics from genome-wide association studies, *JSM, Baltimore, MD, USA*

Dec 2015      Bayesian penalized credible region variable selection and global-local shrinkage priors, *The Institute of Statistics, Nankai University, Tianjin, China*

**Contributed Talk**

Aug 2016      High-dimensional linear regression via the R2-D2 shrinkage priors, *JSM, Chicago, Illinois, USA*

Aug 2015      High-dimensional variable selection via penalized credible regions with global-local shrinkage priors, *JSM, Seattle, WA, USA*

Aug 2014      Adaptive tensor regression with applications in neuroimaging data analysis, *JSM, Boston, MA, USA*

**Poster Presentation**

Oct 2018      Estimation of the polygenetic architecture of ten cancers and its implications for future discoveries, *ASHG, San Diego, CA, USA*

Oct 2017      Estimation of complex effect-size distributions using summary-level statistics from genome-wide association studies across 32 complex traits and implications for the future, *ASHG, Orlando, FL, USA*

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

### Editorial Activities

2020–2020      **Guest Editor** *PLOS Computational Biology*

### Journal Reviewer

*Bayesian Analysis, Nature Communications*

### Other Professional Service

2017–2018	Committee Representative of Department of Biostatistics, School of Public Health, Johns Hopkins Postdoctoral Association
2013–2014	Student Seminar Representative, Department of Statistics, NCSU
2013–2014	Executive of STATCOM - NCSU Chapter, a student-run volunteer organization supported by ASA

## MEMBERSHIP

2017–	American Society of Human Genetics (ASHG)
2016–2017	International Chinese Statistical Association (ICSA) Community
2012–2016	American Statistical Association (ASA) Community

## SOFTWARE

- [GENESIS](#): GENetic Effect-Size distribution Inference from Summary-level data