

# Isabella Chittumuri

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## EDUCATION

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<b>Colorado School of Mines</b> Ph.D., Applied Mathematics and Statistics	Aug. 2023 — Present
<b>Hunter College, City University of New York</b> M.A., Applied Mathematics and Statistics	Aug. 2020 — May 2022
<b>Hunter College, City University of New York</b> B.A., Statistics	Aug. 2016 — May 2020

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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<b>Colorado School of Mines (CSM)</b> Research Assistant, advised by <a href="#">Soutir Bandyopadhyay</a> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Assessed climate risks in Hornafjörður, Iceland using geospatial and ML methods as part of an NSF/-Fulbright Arctic Research Award</li><li>Perform statistical analysis on high-resolution Climate Earth System Models (CESMs) to identify and assess uncertainty in sea ice leads, using smoothing and differentiation techniques</li><li>Conduct risk analysis on oil and gas flowlines using GIS, machine learning, and spatial analysis to predict potential failures, employing high-dimensional datasets and feature engineering to improve reliability</li></ul>	Aug. 2025 — Present
<b>Fulbright Commission Iceland</b> Research Fellow, <a href="#">NSF/Fulbright Arctic Research Award</a> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Conduct field-based and remote sensing research through the University of Iceland and the University's Research Centre in Hornafjörður</li><li>Apply geospatial analysis and machine learning to assess climate risks in glacier-dependent communities, focusing on tourism infrastructure and adaptation strategies</li><li>Collaborate with local researchers and grassroots organizations to support sustainable development in rapidly changing Arctic environments</li></ul>	Aug. 2025 — May 2026
<b>NASA Earth Sciences &amp; UW Hackweek 2024, University of Washington</b> Research Collaborator, GeoSMART Track <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Collaborated on the "<a href="#">Crunchy Snow</a>" project, developing machine learning models for snow depth retrieval using Sentinel-1 SAR backscatter data</li><li>Contributed to statistical analysis, focusing on error quantification and spatial autocorrelation through variograms to enhance model reliability and accuracy</li><li>Gained skills in collaborative research, working within a multidisciplinary team to refine data processing and model development strategies for remote sensing applications</li></ul>	Aug. 2024
<b>Alaska Center for Energy and Power (ACEP)</b> Data Analyst <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Cleaned, visualized, and identified significant variations for hourly fuel consumption data of 45 households from <a href="#">Alaska Fuel Use Study</a> and identified significant variations between groups</li><li>Documented field deployed systems and network design for a rural micro-grid in Kotzebue, Alaska</li><li>Utilized <a href="#">Purple Air API</a> for sensor data extraction, conducted statistical analysis, and provided guidance to the web development team</li><li>Participated in code reviews and communicated results to research stakeholders</li></ul>	Dec. 2022 — Aug. 2023
<b>National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL)</b> Research Participant Program Intern	May 2022 — May 2023

- Processed real-world datasets on post-retrofit energy usage for participants of the [Thermalize Juneau 2021 Campaign](#) that utilized air source heat pumps
- Analyzed pre-retrofit and post-retrofit data to evaluate differences in household energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions

## **National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)**

Jan. 2023 — Mar. 2023

DEVELOP National Program, Project Participant

- Assessed snow variability across the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge and neighboring National Petroleum Reserve through climatological analysis to support ecological monitoring in Northeast Alaska
- Constructed snow variability maps and time-series analyses using AMSR-E, AMSR2, Landsat 7 ETM+, Landsat 8 OLI, and NOAA Climate Data Records

## **National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)**

Sep. 2022 — Nov. 2022

DEVELOP National Program, Project Lead

- Evaluated Hurricane Irma's impact on Georgia heir property owners using NASA Earth observations
- Created hurricane flood extent maps using Landsat 8 OLI, Landsat 7 ETM+, Sentinel-2 MSI, and Sentinel-1 CSAR through Google Earth Engine's Python API
- Lead partner meetings, fostered a safe environment for open communication, engaged teammates' strengths and helped them grow despite setbacks

## **United States Department of Energy (DOE)**

Aug. 2021 — May 2022

Science Undergraduate Laboratory Intern, Cold Climate Housing Research Center (CCHRC) at NREL

- Established a statistical time series analysis of baseline pre-retrofit electrical consumption data of Thermalize Juneau 2021 Campaign
- Ran CCHRC's cold climate chamber to collect electrical efficiency usage data at extremely low temperatures for four ductless heat pump models
- Documented and collected field data on housing issues resulting from permafrost thawing within the local community of Point Lay, Alaska

## INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE

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### **New York City Department of Sanitation**

Jun. 2021 — Aug. 2021

Intern Database Analyst & Developer

- Developed an inventory database by converting Alfresco Software records to Excel, SQL, and ServiceNow

### **New York City Transit Authority**

Nov. 2020 — Jun. 2021

System Data & Research Intern

- Implemented ETL (Extract, Transform, Load) methods for transferring coding scripts between subway divisions and utilized Python to predict real-time subway data from MongoDB.
- Constructed heat maps to compare predicted and actual subway arrival and departure times

## FIELD EXPERIENCE

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### **Snow Science Winter School (SSWS)**

Feb. 23 2025 — Mar. 1 2025

Student, Institute for Snow and Avalanche Research (WSL-SLF)

- Conducted snowpack fieldwork at Col du Lautaret (2058 m), performing penetration resistance, density, and specific surface area measurements using SnowMicroPen, DUFISSS, IceCube, and density cutters
- Processed and visualized snowpack simulations, atmospheric data, and snow properties using Crocus models, weather station data, DEMs, and Python-based analysis tools to support stability assessments and remote sensing applications
- Collaborated with international snow science experts through field exercises, technical workshops, and data visualization projects

### **Juneau Icefield Research Program (JIRP)**

June 10 2024 — Aug. 9 2024

Student, University of Alaska Southeast (UAS)

- Collected glacier mass balance data, seismology data, and conducted a GPS survey for a velocimetry project on the Vaughan Lewis Icefall to analyze ice flow dynamics
- Completed a 75-mile (120 km) traverse of the Juneau Icefield from Juneau, Alaska to Atlin, BC
- Developed mountaineering skills essential for icefield navigation, including glacier travel, crevasse rescue, rope handling, and survival techniques in remote and extreme conditions

### **Toolik Field Station, University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF)**

July 31 2023 — Aug. 10 2023

Volunteer, Plant Biomass and Soils Research Assistant

- Identified over 30 arctic vascular and non-vascular plants to species including graminoids, forbs, deciduous and evergreen shrubs functional types
- Deconstructed and sorted aboveground and belowground tundra quadrats for analysis of biomass, carbon, and nitrogen content to understand the relationship between changes in vegetation and carbon flux as measured by eddy covariance over time

### **Introduction to Expedition Kayaking**

May 30 2023 — Jun. 8 2023

Student, University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF)

- Led a 158-mile Class I water Yukon River expedition, showcasing skills in route planning, hazard management, and wilderness navigation in the Arctic
- Mastered inflatable kayak handling, water reading, efficient paddle and basic river rescue techniques

### **Introduction to Arctic Backpacking**

Jun. 17 2022 — Jun. 26 2022

Student, University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF)

- Completed intensive training on route planning, gear selection, and emergency preparedness and applied skills in a week-long Brooks Range expedition carrying a 50+ pound backpack
- Practiced Leave No Trace ethics, bear-safe procedures, map/compass navigation and safe river crossings

### **Introduction to Ski Mountaineering**

Jan. 27 2022 — Mar. 17 2022

Student, Alaska Alpine Club

- Acquired hands-on expertise in essential winter mountaineering survival skills, including managing frostbite, hypothermia, avalanche safety, ski survival techniques, crevasse rescue, glacier and roped travel
- Demonstrated competence in real-world situations during an overnight expedition on Caster Glacier, highlighting adaptability in challenging winter conditions

## **PAPERS & PUBLICATIONS**

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3. Anderson, K., Arooji, O., **Chittumuri, I.**, Germann, T. [Using Earth Observations to Evaluate Snow Variability through a Climatological Analysis to Support Ecological Monitoring in Northeast Alaska](#), March 31, 2023.
2. **Chittumuri, I.**, Rogers, S., Tesfayi, T., Uniyal, N. [Evaluating the Impacts of Hurricane Irma on Georgia Heirs' Property Owners Using NASA Earth Observations](#), March 08, 2023.
1. Marsik, T., Stevens, V., Garber-Slaght, R., Dennehy, C., Strunk, R.T., **Chittumuri, I.**, Sehmel, T. [Air Source Heat Pumps in Very Cold Climates](#), March 07, 2023.

## **PRESENTATIONS & TALKS**

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- ["Snow Variability Climatological Analysis in Northeast Alaska"](#) Mar. 28, 2023  
NASA DEVELOP Spring 2023 Hybrid Closeout Presentations for NASA employees & general public
- ["Impacts of Hurricane Irma on Georgia Heir Property Owner"](#) Nov. 14, 2022  
NASA DEVELOP Fall 2022 Hybrid Closeout Presentations for NASA employees & general public
- ["Establishment and Analysis of Baseline Electrical Data"](#) Dec. 9, 2021  
DOE Fall 2021 Intern Poster Symposium, Final Presentation for DOE employees & general public

## CERTIFICATIONS

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- Fundamentals of Remote Sensing & Monitoring and Modeling Floods using Earth Observations, NASA Applied Remote Sensing Training, Sep. 2022
- Wilderness Advanced First Aid, May 2022 - May 2025
- Social & Behavioral Researchers Training, CITI Program, Aug. 2021 - Aug. 2024
- NYC City Parks & Recreation Lifeguard, Jun. 2016 - Sep. 2019

## PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

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- **American Statistical Association (ASA)**, Member, Feb. 2025 — Present
- **Association for Women Geoscientists (AWG)**, Member, Feb. 2024 — Present
- **International Association of Cryospheric Sciences (IACS)**, Member, Oct. 2023 — Present
- **Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics (SIAM)**, Member, Aug. 2023 — Present
- **Association for Women in Mathematics (AWM)**, Member, Jun. 2021 — Present
- **Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders in Geosciences (AAPiG)**, Member, Apr. 2021 — Present