

Soham Jana

Postdoctoral Research Associate,
Operations Research and Financial Engineering,
Princeton University

Updated on: July 13, 2023
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Research Interests

Theoretical and methodological aspects of high-dimensional statistics, robust estimation, Markov decision process, non-parametric estimation, sparse recovery.

Education

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| PhD. in Statistics and Data Science
Yale University, New Haven, CT, USA
Thesis: Learning non-parametric and high-dimensional distributions via information-theoretic methods
Advisor: Yihong Wu | 2017–2022 |
| Master of Statistics (Hons.) (First class with distinction)
Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata, West Bengal, India
Specialization: Theoretical Statistics
Dissertation: Characterization of single-integral non-kernel divergences
Advisor: Ayanendranath Basu | 2015–2017 |
| Bachelor of Statistics (Hons.) (First class with Distinction)
Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata, West Bengal, India | 2012–2015 |

Work experience

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| Post-doctoral research associate
Princeton University, Princeton, New Jersey, USA
Research area: Robust clustering, data depth
Advisor: I am currently working jointly with Sanjeev Kulkarni and Jianqing Fan | 2022–current |
| The First Republic Bank Research and Lifelong Learning Program
Princeton University, Princeton, New Jersey, USA
Advisors: Sanjeev Kulkarni, Roni Sircar, Mete Soner
Research area: Capital call line of credit, resource planning | 2022–2023 |

Publications and preprints (Authors lists that are not in alphabetical order denoted by “*”)

1. Soham Jana, Kun Yang, and Sanjeev Kulkarni*. **Adversarially robust clustering with optimality guarantees**. arXiv preprint arXiv:2306.09977 (2023). (Submitted)
2. Soham Jana, Yury Polyanskiy, Anzo Teh, and Yihong Wu. **Empirical Bayes via ERM and Rademacher complexities: the Poisson model**. To appear in Conference on Learning Theory (2023).

3. Yanjun Han, Soham Jana and Yihong Wu, [Optimal Prediction of Markov Chains With and Without Spectral Gap](#), in IEEE Transactions on Information Theory, vol. 69, no. 6, pp. 3920-3959, June 2023, doi: 10.1109/TIT.2023.3239508. (**Extended from the NeurIPS version with analysis of higher-order Markov chains and different loss functions**)
4. Soham Jana, Yury Polyanskiy, and Yihong Wu. [Optimal empirical Bayes estimation for the Poisson model via minimum-distance methods](#). arXiv preprint arXiv:2209.01328 (2022).
5. Soham Jana, Henry Li, Yutaro Yamada, and Ofir Lindenbaum. [Support recovery with Stochastic Gates: theory and application for linear models](#). arXiv preprint arXiv: 2110.15960 (2021). (Under major revision at Elsevier Signal Processing)
6. Yanjun Han, Soham Jana, and Yihong Wu. [Optimal prediction of Markov chains with and without spectral gap](#). NeurIPS 2021.
7. Soham Jana, Yury Polyanskiy, and Yihong Wu. [Extrapolating the profile of a finite population](#). In Conference on Learning Theory 2020 Jul 15 (pp. 2011-2033). PMLR.
8. Soham Jana and Ayanendranath Basu.* [A characterization of all single-integral, non-kernel divergence estimators](#). IEEE Transactions on Information Theory 65.12 (2019): 7976-7984.

Talks

Neural information processing systems (NeurIPS)	2021
Conference on learning theory (COLT)	2020, 2023

Course Instructor

Probability and stochastic systems ORF 309/ENG 309/MAT 380	Spring 2023 Princeton University
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Graduate teaching assistance

Stochastic processes S&DS 351–551/EENG 434/ENAS 502 Instructor: Joseph Chang	Spring 2021 Yale University
Information theory S&DS 364–664/EENG 454 Instructor: Andrew Barron	Fall 2020 Yale University
Probability theory S&DS 241–541 Instructor: Winston Lin	Fall 2019 Yale University
Advanced probability S&DS 400–600/Math 600 Instructor: Sekhar Tatikonda	Spring 2019 Yale University

Statistical inference
S&DS 410–610
Instructor: Zhou Fan

Fall 2018
Yale University

Honors and awards

INSPIRE Scholarship, Govt. of India	2012-2017
Indian National Mathematical Olympiad (INMO) merit certificate (For being among top 75 in the country)	2012

Services

Paper reviewer

IEEE Transactions on Information Theory
Stat - an ISI Journal

Yale S&DS M.A. admission committee	2021
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Reviewer: one of the committee members handling over
150 applications and making admission recommendations

Yale S&DS graduate reading group	2020
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Co-organizer
Scheduled talks and lead discussion sessions

Yale Women in Data Science (WiDS) workshop	2020
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Served as a mentor for Yale undergrad students participating
in the [WiDS Datathon Challenge 2020](#)

Yale South Asian Graduate and Professional Association (SAGA)	2018- 2021
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Treasurer, core committee member and cultural committee head
Objective: organizing socio-cultural events to promote diversity and inclusion at Yale