

Soham Jana

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Research interests

Theoretical and methodological aspects of high-dimensional statistics, mixture modeling, distance based estimators, neural networks.

Education

PhD. in Statistics and Data Science May 2022

Yale University, New Haven, CT, USA

Thesis: Learning non-parametric and high-dimensional distributions
via information-theoretic methods

Advisor: Prof. Yihong Wu

Master of Statistics (Hons.) (First class with distinction) May 2017

Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata, West Bengal, India

Specialization: Theoretical Statistics

Dissertation: Characterization of single-integral non-kernel divergences

Advisor: Prof. Ayanendranath Basu

Bachelor of Statistics (Hons.) (First class with Distinction) May 2015

Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata, West Bengal, India

Work experiences

University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, IN, USA

Assistant Professor, Department of Applied and
Computational Mathematics and Statistics.

August 2024 – Current

Princeton University, Princeton, NJ, USA

Postdoc, Department of Operations Research and
Financial Engineering

June 2022 – July 2024

Hosts: Prof. Sanjeev Kulkarni and Prof. Jianqing Fan

Researcher, The First Republic Bank Research and
Lifelong Learning Program

June 2022 – May 2023

Lecturer

Spring 2023 and Fall 2023

Grants and awards

Professional Development

Kaneb Center Course Design Academy, University of Notre Dame
Award Amount: USD 5000

2024 – 2025

Preprints (“*”: Authors list not in alphabetical order)

1. Chen, X.[†], Jana, S.[†], Metzler, C.A., Maleki, A. and Jalali, S.*, 2025. **Multilook Coherent Imaging: Theoretical Guarantees and Algorithms**. arXiv preprint arXiv:2505.23594. [†] Equal contributions.
2. Shange Tang, Soham Jana, Jianqing Fan*. **Factor adjusted spectral clustering for mixture models**. arXiv preprint arXiv:2408.12564 (2024). Under major revision at the **Journal of American Statistical Association**.
3. Soham Jana, Kun Yang, and Sanjeev Kulkarni*. **Adversarially robust clustering with optimality guarantees**. arXiv preprint arXiv:2306.09977 (2023). Under major revision at the **IEEE Transactions on Information Theory**.
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). Under minor revision at **Information and Inference - a journal of IMA**.

Journal publications (“*”: Authors list not in alphabetical order)

1. Soham Jana, Jianqing Fan, and Sanjeev Kulkarni.* **A provable initialization and robust clustering method for general mixture models**. IEEE Transactions on Information Theory (2025). DOI: 10.1109/TIT.2025.3585804
2. Soham Jana, Henry Li, Yutaro Yamada, and Ofir Lindenbaum. **Support recovery with Stochastic Gates: theory and application for linear models**. Elsevier Signal Processing (2023), 213, p.109193.
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 and Ayanendranath Basu.* **A characterization of all single-integral, non-kernel divergence estimators**. IEEE Transactions on Information Theory 65.12 (2019): 7976-7984.

Conference publications (“*”: Authors list not in alphabetical order)

1. Soham Jana, Yury Polyanskiy, Anzo Teh, and Yihong Wu. **Empirical Bayes via ERM and Rademacher complexities: the Poisson model**. In Conference on Learning Theory 2023 Jul 15, PMLR 195:5199-5235.

2. Yanjun Han, Soham Jana, and Yihong Wu. [Optimal prediction of Markov chains with and without spectral gap](#). NeurIPS 2021.
3. 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.

Conferences and invited talks

Joint Statistical Meetings Nashville, TN, USA	August 2025
IMS New Researchers Conference Nashville, TN, USA	July-August 2025
International Webinar on Recent Trends in Statistical Theory and Applications Kerala, India	July 2025
International Indian Statistical Association Lincoln, NEB, USA	June 2025
International Indian Statistical Association Cochin, Kerala, India	December 2024
Joint Statistical Meetings Portland, OR, USA	August 2024
University of Notre Dame Statistics Department Seminar Notre Dame, IN, USA	February 2024
University of Wisconsin-Madison Statistics Department Seminar Madison, WI, USA	February 2024
University of Texas at Dallas Statistics Department Seminar Richardson, TX, USA	January 2024
Indian Statistical Institute ISRU Department Seminar Kolkata, West Bengal, India	July 2023
Conference on Learning Theory (COLT) Bangalore, Karnataka, India	July 2023
Neural Information Processing systems (NeurIPS) Virtual	December 2021
Conference on Learning Theory (COLT) Graz, Austria	July 2020

Teaching

University of Notre Dame

Introduction to probability (ACMS 30530) Fall 2024, Fall 2025

Modern Machine Learning Techniques with Application (ACMS 80870) Spring 2025

Princeton University

Probability and stochastic systems (ORF 309/ENG 309/MAT 380) Spring 2023

Statistical machine learning (ORF 570) Fall 2023

Professional activities

Paper reviewer

Annals of Statistics (2)

IEEE Transactions on Information Theory (7)

IEEE International Symposium on Information Theory (1)

Electronic Journal of Statistics (3)

Stat - an ISI Journal (1)

Algorithmic Learning Theory (3)

Bernoulli (1)

Statistica Sinica (1)

Journal of Statistical Planning and Inference (1)

Invited organizational duties at conferences

CFE-CMStatistics Conference December 2025

Session organizer: Recent advances in Causal Inference

Joint Statistical Meetings August 2025

Session chair: New Advances in Optimization Algorithms for Causal Discovery

Joint Statistical Meetings August 2024

Session chair: New Advances in Nonparametric Hypothesis Testing - Part I

Session chair: New Developments in Non-Euclidean Statistics

IEEE Conference on Information Sciences and Systems March 2024

Session chair: Machine learning and statistical inference

Community Service: Teaching at Math Circle, Notre Dame Spring 2025

Promoting STEM education among school children

Yale S&DS M.A. admission committee 2021

Reviewer: one of the committee members handling over 150 applications and making admission recommendations

Yale S&DS graduate reading group 2020

Co-organizer Scheduled talks and lead discussion sessions

Yale Women in Data Science (WiDS) workshop 2020

Served as a mentor for Yale undergrad students participating in the WiDS Datathon Challenge 2020

South Asian Graduate and Professional Association 2018 – 2021
at Yale (SAGA)

Treasurer, core committee member and cultural committee head

Objective: organizing socio-cultural events to promote cultural exchanges at Yale

Other awards

INSPIRE Scholarship, Govt. of India 2012-2017

Indian National Mathematical Olympiad (INMO) merit certificate 2012
(For ranking among top 75 in INMO)