

Soham Jana

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Research interests

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

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. Xing, H.[†], Jana, S.[†], & Maleki, A.* (2025). **Minimax Analysis of Estimation Problems in Coherent Imaging**. arXiv preprint arXiv:2508.18503. [†] Equal contributions.
2. Fan, J., Jana, S., Kulkarni, S., & Yin, Q. (2025). **Factor Informed Double Deep Learning For Average Treatment Effect Estimation**. arXiv preprint arXiv:2508.17136.
3. Chen, X.[†], Jana, S.[†], Metzler, C.A., Maleki, A. & Jalali, S.* (2025). **Multilook Coherent Imaging: Theoretical Guarantees and Algorithms**. arXiv preprint arXiv:2505.23594. [†] Equal contributions.
4. Tang, S., Jana, S., & Fan, J. (2024). **Factor adjusted spectral clustering for mixture models**. arXiv preprint arXiv:2408.12564. Under major revision at the **Journal of American Statistical Association**.

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

1. Jana, S., Yang, K., & Kulkarni, S. (2025).* **Adversarially robust clustering with optimality guarantees** in IEEE Transactions on Information Theory, vol. 72, no. 1, pp. 478-500, Jan. 2026, doi: 10.1109/TIT.2025.3628160.
2. Jana, S., Polyanskiy, Y., & Wu, Y. (2025). **Optimal empirical Bayes estimation for the Poisson model via minimum-distance methods**. Information and Inference: A Journal of the IMA, Volume 14, Issue 4, December 2025, iaaf027.
3. Jana, S., Fan, J., & Kulkarni, S. (2025).* **A provable initialization and robust clustering method for general mixture models** in IEEE Transactions on Information Theory, vol. 71, no. 9, pp. 7176-7207, Sept. 2025.
4. Jana, S., Li, H., Yamada, Y., & Lindenbaum, O. (2023). **Support recovery with Stochastic Gates: theory and application for linear models**. Elsevier Signal Processing (2023), 213, p.109193.
5. Han, Y., Jana, S., & Wu, Y. (2023). **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)
6. Jana, S. & Basu, A. (2019).* **A characterization of all single-integral, non-kernel divergence estimators**. IEEE Transactions on Information Theory, 65(12), 7976-7984.

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

1. Jana, S., Polyanskiy, Y., Teh, A. & Wu, Y. (2023). **Empirical Bayes via ERM and Rademacher complexities: the Poisson model**. In Conference on Learning Theory 2023 Jul 15, PMLR 195:5199-5235.
2. Han, Y., Jana, S., & Wu, Y. (2021). **Optimal prediction of Markov chains with and without spectral gap**. NeurIPS 2021.
3. Jana, S., Polyanskiy, & Wu, Y. (2020). **Extrapolating the profile of a finite population**. In Conference on Learning Theory 2020 Jul 15 (pp. 2011-2033). PMLR.

Conferences and invited talks

1. World Meeting of the International Society for Bayesian Analysis June 2026 Nagoya, JPN
2. IMS Asia Pacific Rim Meeting June 2026 Hong Kong
3. Joint Statistical Meetings August 2025 Nashville, TN, USA
4. IMS New Researchers Conference July-August 2025 Nashville, TN, USA
5. International Webinar on Recent Trends in Statistical Theory and Applications July 2025 Kerala, India
6. International Indian Statistical Association June 2025 Lincoln, NEB, USA
7. International Indian Statistical Association December 2024 Cochin, Kerala, India
8. Joint Statistical Meetings August 2024 Portland, OR, USA
9. University of Notre Dame Statistics Department Seminar February 2024 Notre Dame, IN, USA
10. University of Wisconsin-Madison Statistics Department Seminar February 2024 Madison, WI, USA
11. University of Texas at Dallas Statistics Department Seminar January 2024 Richardson, TX, USA
12. Indian Statistical Institute ISRU Department Seminar July 2023 Kolkata, West Bengal, India

13. Conference on Learning Theory (COLT) July 2023
 Bangalore, Karnataka, India
14. Neural Information Processing systems (NeurIPS) December 2021
 Virtual
15. Conference on Learning Theory (COLT) July 2020
 Graz, Austria

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 services

Paper reviews (28)

- Annals of Statistics (3)
- Journal of the American Statistical Association (2)
- IEEE Transactions on Information Theory (5)
- Journal of the Royal Statistical Society (1)
- IEEE Wireless Communications Letters (1)
- IEEE International Symposium on Information Theory (1)
- Electronic Journal of Statistics (3)
- Stat - an ISI Journal (1)
- Algorithmic Learning Theory (7)
- Bernoulli (1)
- Statistica Sinica (1)
- Journal of Statistical Planning and Inference (1)
- Biometrika (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*

<i>IEEE Conference on Information Sciences and Systems</i>	March 2024
<i>Session chair: Machine learning and statistical inference</i>	
Community Service: Teaching at Math Circle, Notre Dame	Spring 2025
<i>Promoting STEM education among school children</i>	Fall 2025
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 at Yale (SAGA)	2018 – 2021
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 (For ranking among top 75 in INMO)	2012