

Javier Zapata

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Data scientist towards the end of his PhD. Passionate about mining practical insights from datasets with a strong sense of teamwork.

Education

- **University of California, Santa Barbara** **Santa Barbara, CA**
PhD(c) in Statistics and Applied Probability (GPA: 3.95) 2015-Current
M.A. in Statistics - Mathematical Statistics Specialization 2015-2017
- **University of Chile** **Santiago, CHILE**
Professional Degree & B.Eng.Sc. in Industrial Engineering (GPA 4.00) 2005-2009

Doctoral Research: 'High-Dimensional Functional Graphical Models for Multivariate Gaussian Processes': Developing an unsupervised learning method to estimate partial correlations and feature-interaction networks from large-scale datasets. This method has applications in many domains including neuroimaging, image segmentation and sensor networks.

Professional Experience

- **University of California, Santa Barbara** **Santa Barbara, CA**
R\Shiny Web Developer August 2018 - Current
Developing a repository of interactive web-based learning applications for probability and statistics undergraduate courses.
- **SimpliRoute** **Mountain View, CA**
Data Science Intern July 2017 - September 2017
Improved the company's analytics by implementing a random forest predictor model of the customers' logistics service time integrating mobile GPS and delivery schedule data.
- **Ministry of Finance, Sovereign Wealth Funds** **Santiago, CHILE**
Quantitative Analyst 2012 - 2014
Enhanced productivity by developing an information database system for report automation and data analytics.
Implemented different time series and portfolio optimization models for the financial investment committee of the sovereign wealth funds.

Journal and Conference Papers

- A. Petersen, S. Oh, & J. Zapata. Functional Graphical Models for Partially Separable Multivariate Gaussian Processes. *Work in Progress*, 2018.
- J. Zapata, V. Charlin & A. Cifuentes. Color Premiums in Art Markets: An Image Segmentation Approach. *Work in Progress*, 2018.
- J. Zapata & A. Cifuentes. On the Stability of Synthetic CDO Credit Ratings. *International Finance*, 2016.

Teaching Experience

- **University of California, Santa Barbara** **Santa Barbara, CA**
Teaching Associate July 2018 - September 2018
Instructor for the class PSTAT 5A - Introduction to Statistics
- *Teaching Assistant* September 2015 - Current
Varied upper division and graduate courses including: Stochastic Processes, Big Data Analytics, Data Science, Time Series and Statistical Machine Learning.

Technical Skills & Interests

- **Programming Languages:** R, Python, Matlab, C/C++, Java, Unix.
- **Big Data Computing & Databases:** Apache Spark, SQL, PostgreSQL.
- **Web Development:** R\Shiny, HTML, PHP.
- **Languages:** English(Fluent) Spanish(Native)
- **Personal Interests:** Listening to music, weightlifting, kayaking and hiking.