

# Marta Catalano

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<https://martacatalano.github.io>

## Academic Positions

Sep 2021 – Present	Harrison Early Career Assistant Professor, Statistics Department, Warwick University.
Feb 2021 – Sep 2021	Postdoctoral Researcher, University of Torino. Supervisor: Pierpaolo De Blasi.
Sep 2020 – Present	Research Affiliate, “de Castro” Statistics Initiative, Collegio Carlo Alberto, Torino.
Jun 2020 – Present	Research Affiliate, BayesLab, Bocconi Institute for Data Science and Analytics (BIDSA).

## Education

2016 – 2021	<b>Ph.D. in Statistics</b> , Bocconi University (Milan, Italy). Advisors: Antonio Lijoi and Igor Prünster. Thesis: <i>On Complex Dependence Structures in Bayesian Nonparametrics: a Distance-based Approach</i> .
2016 – 2017	<b>Master in Big Data Analytics &amp; Social Mining</b> , University of Pisa and CNR (Italy). Grade: Excellent.
2012 – 2015	<b>M.Sc. in Mathematics</b> , Sapienza University of Rome (Italy). Grade: 110/110 with honors.
2012 – 2013	<b>Erasmus Program</b> , École Normale Supérieure de Lyon (France).
2009 – 2012	<b>B.Sc. in Mathematics</b> , Sapienza University of Rome (Italy). Grade: 110/110 with honors.

## Publications

### ▷ PREPRINTS

1. Catalano, M., Lavenant, H. (2023+). Merging Rate of Opinions via Optimal Transport on Random Measures. *Submitted*.
2. Catalano, M., Lavenant, H., Lijoi, A., Prünster, I. (2023+). A Wasserstein Index of Dependence for Random Measures. *Under revision*.

### ▷ PEER-REVIEWED JOURNALS

1. Catalano, M., Lijoi, A., Prünster, I., Rigon T. (2023). Bayesian modeling via discrete nonparametric priors. *Japanese Journal of Statistics and Data Science*.
2. Catalano, M., De Blasi, P., Lijoi, A., Prünster, I. (2022). Posterior Asymptotics for Boosted Hierarchical Dirichlet Process Mixtures. *Journal of Machine Learning Research*, 23 (80), 1-23.
3. Catalano, M., Lijoi, A., Prünster, I. (2021). Measuring Dependence in the Wasserstein Distance for Bayesian Nonparametric Models. *The Annals of Statistics*, 49 (5), 2916-2947. [Winner of the ASA-SBSS 2021 Student Paper Competition]
4. Catalano, M., Lijoi, A., Prünster, I. (2020). Approximation of Bayesian Models for Time-to-event Data. *Electronic Journal of Statistics*, 14, 3366-3395.

### ▷ CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS AND BOOK CHAPTERS

1. Catalano, M., Lavevant, H., Lijoi, A., Prünster, I. (2022). Wasserstein distance and applications to Bayesian nonparametrics. *Book of Short Papers of the Italian Statistical Society*, Pearson, 1491-1496.
2. Catalano, M., Lijoi, A., Prünster, I. (2021). Transport Distances on Random Vectors of Measures: Recent Advances in Bayesian Nonparametrics. In *Advances in Probability and Mathematical Statistics*, Springer, 59-70.
3. Catalano, M., Lijoi, A., Prünster, I. (2019). Bayesian Model Comparison based on Wasserstein Distances. *Book of Short Papers of the Italian Statistical Society*, Pearson, 167-172.

## ▷ DISCUSSIONS

1. Catalano, M., Fasano, A. and Rebaudo G. (2023+). Discussion of “Martingale posterior distributions” by Fong, E., Holmes C., and Walker S. *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society Series B, forthcoming*.
2. Ascolani, F., Catalano, M., Prünster, I. (2023). Invited discussion of “Evaluating Sensitivity to the Stick-Breaking Prior in Bayesian Nonparametrics” by Giordano, R., Liu, R., Jordan, M. I., and Broderick, T. *Bayesian Analysis*, 18(1):287.

## Awards and Funding

Jun 2022	Research Development Fund, University of Warwick.
Jun 2022	Heilbronn Small Grant, Heilbronn Institute for Mathematical Research (Bristol).
Jun 2022	Faculty of Science, Engineering and Medicine Postdoctoral Prize, University of Warwick.
May 2022	ISBA Lifetime Members Junior Researcher Award.
Mar 2022	Finalist, 2021 L.J. Savage Award ‘Theory and Methods’ sponsored by ASA, ISBA and NBER-NSF.
Mar 2022	Travel grant, BNP 2022 Networking Event.
Mar 2022	Travel grant, ISBA 2022 World Meeting.
Oct 2021	j-ISBA Blackwell-Rosenbluth Award.
Apr 2021	IMS New Researcher Travel Award.
Jan 2021	ASA-SBSS 2021 Student Paper Competition.
Dec 2020	Research fellowship (2 months), University of Torino.
Nov 2020	Travel grant, WiML workshop co-located with NeurIPS 2020.
Sep 2020	Special financial support (6 months), Bocconi University.
Jun 2019	Travel grant, O’Bayes 2019 conference.
Jun 2019	Travel grant, BNP12 conference.
Sep 2016	Ph.D. scholarship (4 years), Bocconi University.
Apr 2016	Merit-based partial tuition waiver, Pisa University.
2009 – 2012	Excellence path (merit-based additional training activities), Sapienza University.
2009 – 2012	Student award (merit-based 3 years full tuition waiver), Sapienza University.

## Seminars, Presentations and Schools

### ▷ SEMINARS

May 2023	Statistics Seminars, Imperial College London (London, UK).
Dec 2022	Statistics Seminars, Collegio Carlo Alberto (Torino, Italy).
Nov 2022	Department of Mathematics, University of York (York, UK).
May 2022	StatML CDT, Imperial College London & University of Oxford (London, UK).
May 2022	S3AI, JK Universität Linz (virtual).
May 2022	School of Mathematics, University of Edinburgh (Edinburgh, UK).
Mar 2022	Department of Economics and Finance, Luiss (Rome, Italy).
Mar 2022	School of Mathematics, Cardiff University (Cardiff, UK).
Feb 2022	Department of Mathematics, University of Warwick (Coventry, UK).
Nov 2021	Department of Statistics, University of Warwick (Coventry, UK).
Nov 2021	Department of Statistical Science, University College London (London, UK).
May 2021	Department of Economics, University of Bergamo (Bergamo, Italy, virtual).
Feb 2021	Department of Statistics and Data Science, Cornell University (Ithaca, NY, virtual).

### ▷ INVITED PRESENTATIONS

Aug 2024	Bernoulli-IMS 11th World Congress in Probability and Statistics (Bochum, Germany).
Nov 2023	Autumn School in Bayesian Statistics at CIRM (Marseille, France).
Aug 2023	6th International Conference on Econometrics and Statistics (Kyoto, Japan).
Apr 2023	SIAM-IMA Student Chapter Conference, University of Manchester (Manchester, UK).
Jun 2023	Emerging Topics in Applications of Optimal Transport, ETH (Zürich, Switzerland).

Dec 2022	International Indian Statistical Association (Bangalore, India).
Oct 2022	13th International Conference on Bayesian Nonparametrics (Puerto Varas, Chile).
Jul 2022	Bernoulli Young Researcher Event (virtual).
Jun 2022	16th World Meeting of the International Society of Bayesian Analysis (Montreal, Canada).
Jun 2022	3rd Italian Meeting on Probability and Mathematical Statistics (Bologna, Italy).
May 2022	Workshop on Bayesian nonparametrics, Postech (Pohang, Korea).
Apr 2022	BNP Networking Workshop (Nicosia, Cyprus).
Nov 2021	BIRS-CMO Workshop on Foundations of Objective Bayesian Methodology (Oaxaca, Mexico).
Nov 2021	Junior Bayes Beyond the Borders (virtual).
Oct 2021	OxWaSP Annual Workshop (virtual).
Aug 2021	Joint Statistical Meetings (virtual).
Jun 2021	15th World Meeting of the International Society of Bayesian Analysis (virtual).
Jun 2021	4th International Conference on Econometrics and Statistics (virtual).
Apr 2021	One World YoungStatS webinar (virtual).
Dec 2020	13th International Conference of the ERCIM WG on Computational and Methodological Statistics (virtual).
Nov 2020	BAYSM:O Bayesian Young Statisticians Meeting: Online (virtual).
Dec 2019	15th Latin American Congress of Probability and Mathematical Statistics (Mérida, Mexico).
Jun 2019	SIS 2019: Smart Statistics for Smart Applications (Milan, Italy).
Jun 2019	2nd Italian Meeting on Probability and Mathematical Statistics (Vietri sul Mare, Italy).
▷ CONTRIBUTED PRESENTATIONS	
Jun 2023	Workshop on Distance-based Methods in Machine Learning, UCL (London, UK).
Jun 2022	51st Scientific Meeting of the Italian Statistical Society (Caserta, Italy).
May 2022	100 UMI - 800 UniPD (Padova, Italy).
Aug 2020	Bernoulli-IMS One World Symposium 2020 (virtual).
▷ POSTERS	
Dec 2020	15th Women in Machine Learning Workshop co-located with NeurIPS 2020 (virtual).
Dec 2020	Joint Affinity Groups, NeurIPS 2020 (virtual).
Jun 2019	Objective Bayes Methodology Conference (Warwick, UK).
Jun 2019	12th International Conference on Bayesian Nonparametrics (Oxford, UK).
▷ SCHOOLS	
Jul 2018	Bocconi Summer School on <i>Graphical Models</i> (Como, Italy). Instructors: S. Lauritzen (University of Copenhagen) and R. Evans (University of Oxford).
Jul 2017	Bocconi Summer School on <i>Statistical Causal Learning</i> (Como, Italy). Instructors: B. Schölkopf (Max Planck Institute for Intelligent Systems, Tübingen), I. Tolstikhin (Google AI, Zürich) and D. Lopez-Paz (Facebook AI Research, Paris).

## Teaching

- ▷ Short course *Dependent nonparametric priors via completely random measures*, University of Torino (Dec 2022).
- ▷ Module Leader, B.Sc. and M.Sc course *Bayesian Forecasting and Intervention*, University of Warwick (AY 2021/2022, 2022/2023).
- ▷ Teaching Assistant, M.Sc. course *Numerical and Statistical Methods for Finance*, University of Torino (AY 2020/2021).
- ▷ Teaching Assistant, M.Sc. course *Data Analysis*, Bocconi University (AY 2020/2021, 2019/2020, 2018/2019, 2017/2018).
- ▷ Teaching Assistant, B.Sc. course *Mathematics and Statistics*, Bocconi University (AY 2018/2019, 2017/2018).

## Editorial work

- ▷ Reviewer for *Annals of Statistics*, *Biometrika*, *Electronic Journal of Statistics*, *Journal of Business & Economic Statistics*, *Journal of Computational and Graphical Statistics*, *Journal of the American Statistical Association*, *Springer*, *Statistica Sinica*, *Statistics & Probability letters*.

▷ Program Committee Member of the 2021 NeurIPS Workshop *Your Model is Wrong: Robustness and Misspecification in Probabilistic Modeling*.

## Professional activities

Jun 2023	Scientific Committee Member, Workshop <i>Approximation Methods in Bayesian Analysis</i> , CIRM (Marseille, France).
Sep 2022 – Present	Organizing Committee Member, Warwick Statistics Internship Scheme, University of Warwick (Coventry, UK).
Aug 2022	Scientific Committee Member, j-ISBA Blackwell-Rosenbluth Award 2022 .
Jul 2022 – Mar 2023	Coordinator, <i>Tour of Statistics</i> seminar series, University of Warwick (Coventry, UK).
Jun 2022	Organizing Committee Member, BNP poster awards, ISBA 2022 (Montreal, Canada).
Jun 2022	Organizer of solicited session by y-SIS, 2022 SIS conference (Caserta, Italy).
Jan 2022 – Present	Treasurer, BNP section of ISBA.
Jun 2021 – Dec 2021	Chair, ISBA <i>ad-hoc</i> Committee for Junior Awards.
Jun 2021	Organizing Committee Member, Junior Live Presentations ISBA@CIRM Mirror Workshop (Marseille, France).
Jan 2021 – Dec 2022	Board Member, Young Italian Statistical Society (y-SIS).
Dec 2020	Volunteer and Poster Mentor, WiML workshop co-located with NeurIPS 2020 (virtual).
Jan 2020 – Sep 2021	Coordinator, biweekly internal seminar series, Bocconi BayesLab (Milano, Italy).
Sep 2019	Volunteer, European Researchers' Night (Milano, Italy).

## Memberships

Member of the *American Statistical Association*, *Bernoulli Society*, *Complex Data Modeling Research Network* (MiDas), *Institute of Mathematical Statistics*, *International Society for Bayesian Analysis*, *Italian Statistical Society* (SIS).