# Miguel Biron-Lattes

## Education

2018–2024 Ph.D. Statistics, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC

supervisors: Drs. Alexandre Bouchard-Côté & Trevor Campbell

thesis: Automatic Massively Parallel Markov Chain Monte Carlo with Quantifiable Error

2014–2015 M.A. Statistics, Columbia University, New York, NY

project: Analyzing call center data using self-exciting point processes

2006–2012 B.Eng.Sc. Industrial Engineering, University of Chile, Santiago, Chile

supervisors: Drs. José Miguel Cruz & Cristián Bravo

note: Considers also a professional degree in Industrial Engineering

# Academic Experience

2024—present **Postdoctoral Fellow**, *SFU Statistics*, Burnaby, Canada Supervised by Donald Estep.

2019–2024 **Research Assistant**, *UBC Statistics*, Vancouver, Canada Supervised by Alexandre Bouchard-Côté & Trevor Campbell.

2019–2024 **Teaching Assistant**, *UBC Statistics*, Vancouver, Canada

- STAT200 Elementary Statistics for Applications
- STAT251 Elementary Statistics
- STAT301 Statistical Modelling for Data Science
- STAT302 Introduction to Probability
- STAT450 Case Studies in Statistics
- STAT447C Bayesian Statistics

#### **Publications**

- 2024 Biron-Lattes, M., Surjanovic, N., Syed, S., Campbell, T., & Bouchard-Côté, A. autoMALA: Locally adaptive Metropolis-adjusted Langevin algorithm. Proceedings of The 27th International Conference on Artificial Intelligence and Statistics, in Proceedings of Machine Learning Research 238:4600-4608.
- 2024 **Biron-Lattes, M.**, Campbell, T., & Bouchard-Côté, A. Automatic Regenerative Simulation via Non-Reversible Simulated Tempering. *Journal of the American Statistical Association*, 1–13.
- 2023 Biron-Lattes, M., Bouchard-Côté, A., & Campbell, T. Pseudo-marginal inference for CTMCs on infinite spaces via monotonic likelihood approximations. *Journal of Computa*tional and Graphical Statistics, 32(2), 513-527.
- 2019 **Biron, M.**, Córdova, F., & Lemus, A. *Banks' business model and credit supply in Chile: the role of a state-owned bank.* BIS Working Paper No 800.
- 2014 Biron, M., & Bravo, C. On the discriminative power of credit scoring systems trained on independent samples. In *Data Analysis, Machine Learning and Knowledge Discovery* (pp. 247-254). Springer International Publishing.

#### Honors

- 2018–2021 Four year doctoral fellowship (4YF), UBC
  - Provided with financial support of at least \$18,200 per year plus tuition for up to four years of their doctoral studies
  - 2018 Anona Thorne and Takao Tanabe Graduate Entrance Scholarship, Department of Statistics, UBC
  - 2014 Becas Chile Scholarship, CONICYT
    - For graduate studies abroad (ranked 42 out of 408 recipients and out of 1,384 valid applications)
- 2006–2010 **Dean's list**, *University of Chile (FCFM)*For obtaining a GPA of 5.7 or above (scale ranges from 1 to 7).

#### Conferences and seminars

#### Presentations

- May-2024 **27th International Conference on Artificial Intelligence and Statistics (AISTATS) 2024**, *Valencia, Spain* 
  - Poster: autoMALA: Locally adaptive Metropolis-adjusted Langevin algorithm.
- May-2023 IRSA Conference—The Fast and the Curious: Modern Markov Chain Monte Carlo, Minneapolis, MN
  - Talk: Automatic regenerative simulation via Non-Reversible Simulated Tempering.
- Jun-2022 **2022 IMS Annual Meeting in Probability and Statistics**, London, UK Talk: Pseudo-marginal inference for CTMCs on infinite spaces via monotonic likelihood approximations.
- Jun-2021 **2021 World Meeting of the International Society for Bayesian Analysis**, Virtual Pseudo-marginal inference for CTMCs on infinite spaces via monotonic likelihood approximations.
- Oct-2019 Composites Research Network + Data Science Institute Research Talks, *UBC Debiasing Monte Carlo Estimators*.
- 2018-present Multiple Reading Groups, UBC
  - Regular presentations at groups headed by Drs. Bloem-Reddy, Bouchard-Côté & Campbell.
  - 2018 Conference on Business Analytics in Finance and Industry (BAFI), Santiago, Chile Leveraging Probability of Default Models for Bayesian Inference of Default Correlations
    Organization
- 2020-present Constance van Eeden Distinguished Visitors Lecture, UBC

## Professional Experience

2019–2024 Senior consultant, Applied Statistics and Data Science Group, UBC

Assist graduate students from UBC in formulating an appropriate statistical methodology for their thesis research projects. Mentoring junior consultants by helping them to deal with clients, and giving them feedback on the quality of their recommendations. Topics of the projects range from forestry, to biostatistics, agriculture, and medicine, among others.

2015–2018 Senior Financial Stability Analyst, Financial Market Commission, Santiago, Chile

Investigated potential threats to the financial stability of the Chilean banking system by analyzing multiple data sources in order to produce actionable insights. In particular, this required processing massive databases with account-level data collected from banks using SQL and then analyzing them with R. Additionally carried out research projects on the topic of financial stability:

- Participated in an international collaborative research project coordinated by the Bank of International Settlements (BIS), aimed at understanding the relationship between banks' business models and the overall supply of credit.
- Developed a method for Bayesian inference of default correlations by leveraging probability of default (PD) models
- O Built a systemic risk indicator for retail loans using account-level and macroeconomic data
- Carried out a systematic comparison of the performance of statistical learning models for credit scoring
- Estimating the joint distribution of implicit bank PDs from market transactions of time deposits
- 2011–2014 **Financial Engineering Analyst**, *CL Group Financial Services Consulting*, Santiago, Chile Lead a wide array of projects on quantitative modelling of market and credit risk for financial institutions. Notable examples:
  - O Quantifying counterparty credit risk exposure of an interest rate swaps portfolio
  - Developing the market risk framework for a Central Counterparty of OTC derivatives
  - O Assessing the credit risk exposure of a government-backed portfolio of student loans
  - O Constructing probability of default models at multiple banks for credit risk management

#### Technical Skills

Languages English (fluent), Spanish (native).

Programming Julia (advanced), R (advanced), Python (advanced), Bash (intermediate), MATLAB

languages (intermediate), C/C++ (basic), Java (basic).

VCS Git (advanced).

Containers Docker (intermediate).

Schedulers Slurm (advanced), PBS (advanced).

Database Oracle SQL (advanced), Transact-SQL (advanced).

Distributed MPI (intermediate).

Workflows Nextflow (advanced).

Spreadsheets Microsoft Excel (advanced).

Typesetting LATEX (advanced).

# Projects

Pigeons.jl A Julia package for solving challenging Bayesian inference problems.

- O Role: co-author and maintainer.
- O Repo: github.com/Julia-Tempering/Pigeons.jl
- O Tools used: Julia, MPI, Automatic Differentiation

Last updated: December 19, 2024