

# Curriculum Vitae – Natalie Karavarsamis, PhD

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## CONTACT

La Trobe University (Lecturer)  
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<https://scholars.latrobe.edu.au/display/nkaravarsami>

## EDUCATION

(2015) Ph.D. in Statistics. School of Mathematics and Statistics, University of Melbourne, Australia. Thesis: Methods for estimating occupancy. Supervisors: Prof. Richard Huggins, A/Prof. Ray Watson, Ass. Prof. Andrew Robinson and Ass. Prof. Graham Hepworth.

(2000) B.Sc. Honours degree in Statistics (1<sup>st</sup> Class Honours). School of Mathematics and Statistics, University of Melbourne, Australia. Thesis: Methods of Meta-Analysis. Supervisors: Dr Ken Sharpe and Ass. Prof. Ian Gordon.

(1996) B.Sc. in Statistics and Operations Research. School of Mathematics and Statistics, University of Melbourne, Australia.

## WORK EXPERIENCE (relevant)

2018

- Lecturer of Statistics, School of Mathematics and Statistics, La Trobe University.
- Honorary Research Fellow, School of Mathematics and Statistics, University of Melbourne.

2017

- Lecturer of Statistics, School of Mathematics and Statistics, University of Melbourne.
- Postdoctoral Research Fellow, School of Biosciences, University of Melbourne.
- Honorary Research Fellow, School of Mathematics and Statistics, University of Melbourne.

2016

- Lecturer, School of Mathematics and Statistics, University of Melbourne.
- Postdoctoral Research Fellow, School of Biosciences, University of Melbourne.
- Honorary Research Fellow, School of Mathematics and Statistics, University of Melbourne.

2015

- Postdoctoral Research Fellow, School of Mathematical and Geospatial Sciences, RMIT University.

2009-2014

- PhD Candidate, School of Mathematics and Statistics, University of Melbourne.
- Teaching Assistant, School of Mathematics and Statistics, University of Melbourne.

2008

- Research Fellow, School of Food and Land Sciences, University of Melbourne and Deakin University.

- Teaching Assistant, School of Mathematics and Statistics, University of Melbourne.

2004-2007

- Biometrician/Research Associate/Supervisor, Department of Primary Industries, Victorian State Government, Australia.
- Teaching Assistant, School of Mathematics and Statistics, University of Melbourne.

2001-2003

- Biostatistician/Research Associate, Cancer Epidemiology Centre, Cancer Council of Victoria, Australia.
- Teaching Assistant, School of Mathematics and Statistics, University of Melbourne.

2000

- Honours Candidate in Statistics, School of Mathematics and Statistics, University of Melbourne.
- Research Assistant, Statistical Consulting Centre, School of Mathematics and Statistics, University of Melbourne.

1999 Research Assistant, School of Medicine, University of Crete, Greece.

1998-present Private Tutor.

1997 Business Analyst.

## CURRENT RESEARCH FOCUS

Methods: Partial likelihoods; Zero-inflated data; Inference for zero-inflated data; GLMM; Statistical ecology methods; Circular distributions; Cylindrical distributions; Time-series. Applications: Analysis of high-dimensional data sets in life and social sciences, including data from neuroscience; Statistical ecology applications, including spatio-temporal modeling for biological data.

## MANUSCRIPTS SUBMITTED OR IN PREPARATION

**Karavarsamis, N.**, Ullmann, J., Ngyuen, H. and Reutens, D.. Adult Zebrafish locomotor behaviour for controls with the circular distribution.

**Karavarsamis, N.**, Ullmann, J., Ngyuen, H. and Reutens, D.. A fishing expedition: Zebrafish (a data mining exercise).

**Karavarsamis, N.** and Watson, R.. Plausible region for the occupancy model.

**Karavarsamis, N.**, Guillerá-Arroita, G., Huggins, R.M. and Morgan, B.. How can the score test be consistent? [arXiv:1805.05002](#).

**Karavarsamis, N.** and Huggins, R.M.. A two-stage approach to the analysis of occupancy data I. The Homogeneous case. [arXiv:1804.08694](#).

**Karavarsamis, N.** and Huggins, R.M.. A two-stage approach to the analysis of occupancy data III. The Heterogeneous case with GAMs.

Staudte, R.G., **Karavarsamis, N.** Evidence for goodness-of-fit in Chi-squared tests.

Semmens, K., **Karavarsamis, N.**, Watson, S.J., Griffiths, S.R.. Installing chainsaw-carved hollows in medium-sized developing trees increases rates of visitation by cavity-dependent fauna.

**SELECTED  
PUBLICATIONS**

- (2018) **Karavarsamis, N.** and Huggins, R.M. (*In Press*). A two-stage approach to the analysis of occupancy data II. The Heterogeneous case. *Computational Statistics and Data Analysis*. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.csda.2018.09.009>, Arxiv ID: 1803.11354.
- (2015) **Karavarsamis, N.**. Methods for Estimating Occupancy. PhD thesis.
- (2015) Mara, D., Hamilton, A.J., Sleight, A., **Karavarsamis, N.**, Razak Seidu.. Tools for Risk Analysis: Updating the 2006 Guidelines. Wastewater Irrigation and Health. Earthscan.
- (2013) **Karavarsamis, N.**, Robinson, A. P., Hepworth, G., Hamilton, A.J. and Heard, G.W.. Comparison of four bootstrap-based interval estimators of species occupancy and detection probabilities. *Australian and New Zealand Journal of Statistics*, 55(3):235–252.
- (2012) Kreidl, S., Holmes, R., Partington, D., **Karavarsamis, N.\***. The effect of calcium and nitrogen nutrition on the development of postharvest rots in pak choi. *Acta horticulture*, 944:73–82.
- (2011) Mara, D., Hamilton, A.J., Sleight, A., **Karavarsamis, N.\***. Tools for risk assessment: updating the 2006 WHO guidelines. *Wastewater irrigation and health: Assessing and mitigating risk in low-income countries*. Earthscan, IDRC and IWMI. Editors: P. Drechsel and C.H.Scott and L. Easchild-Sally ajnd M. Redwood and A. Bahri (89–100).
- (2010) **Karavarsamis, N.** and Hamilton, A.J.. Estimators of Annual Probability of Infection for quantitative microbial risk assessment. *Journal of Water and Health*, 8(2):365–373.
- (2010) **Karavarsamis, N.**. Safeguarding our species. *The Age; The Voice*, June, 6(6). (<http://voice.unimelb.edu.au/volume-6/number-6/safeguarding-our-species>).
- (2009) Mara D, Hamilton AJ, Sleight A, **Karavarsamis N.**, Seidu R.. Tools for risk analysis: Updating the 2006 WHO guidelines. In Wastewater Irrigation and Health: Assessing and Mitigating Risk in Low-income Countries. 89-100. (Book Chapter).
- (2008) **Karavarsamis, N.**, and Hamilton, A.. Estimators of Annual Probability of Infection. Australian Statistical Conference (ASC2008), Australian Mathematical Sciences Institute (AMSI) and Statistical Society of Australia Inc. (SSAI).
- (2006) Porter, I.J., Trinder, L., Partington, D., Banks, J., Smith, S., Hannah, M., **Karavarsamis, N.\***. Special report validating the yield performance of alternatives to Methyl Bromide for preplant fumigation. *TEAP/MBTOC Special Report, UNEP Nairobi*.
- (2005) **Karavarsamis, N.**. Control of downy mildew of grapevines by boosting their natural defense system, Final Report to Grape and Wine Research and Development Corporation 2004 – 2005.
- (2004) **Karavarsamis, N.**. Reducing Spoilage and Contamination Risks of Fresh Vegetables in China and Australia, Chinese Collaboration.
- (2004) **Karavarsamis, N.** Submission (to Australian Government) for the Revised Draft Import Risk Analysis Report for Apples from New Zealand.
- (2003) Giles, G., English, D., **Karavarsamis, N.**, Thursfield, V.. Cancer Survival in Victoria – Relative survival for selected cancers diagnosed from 1982 to 1997 with follow-up to 2000. *Cancer Council Monographs*.

(2003) **Karavarsamis, N.** Survival in women in the Victorian breast survey management cohorts: 1986-1995. *Cancer Council Monographs*.

(2003) **Karavarsamis, N.** Nutrient Analysis Software – Stata language. Commercial Release of Software.

(2001) Roberts, S., **Karavarsamis, N.\***, English, D., Giles, G.. Hepatocellular carcinoma in Victoria Australia: survival and prognostic factors. 53rd Annual Meeting of the Association for the Study of Liver Diseases (AASLD), Boston, Massachusetts. *Hepatology*. (Conference publication)

## **INDUSTRY CONSULTING PROJECTS**

(2006-2007) Validating the yield performance of alternatives to methyl bromide for pre-plant fumigation, TEAP and UNEP. Department of Primary Industries.

(2003-2005) Reducing Spoilage and Contamination Risks of Fresh Vegetables in China and Australia, Chinese Collaboration. Department of Primary Industries.

(2004-2005) National (Australian) Industry potato grower Project. Department of Primary Industries.

(2004) Import Risk Analysis for Apples from New Zealand. Department of Primary Industries.

(2001-2003) Melbourne Collaborative Cohort Study (MCCS) (commenced 1990). Cancer Council of Victoria.

(2002-2003) Eating Patterns and Food Consumption Survey and Methods Development, MCCS, Cancer Council of Victoria.

(2001-2003) Nutrient Analysis Methods Development and Testing. Software testing (Visual Basic- VBA) and software development (STATA). Cancer Council of Victoria.

(1999) European Union Seven Countries Study. School of Medicine, University of Crete, Greece.

## **SERVICE TO PROFESSION**

I served as referee for the following journals: Journal of Pediatric Rehabilitation Medicine (IOS Press). Austral Ecology, A Journal of ecology in the Southern Hemisphere, Ecological Society of Australia (Wiley).

## **FOUNDER & COMMITTEES**

(2018) Founder and administrator, Statistics Journal Club , Department of Mathematics and Statistics, La Trobe University.

(2017) Founding & committee member, Mathematics & Statistics Female PhD & Academic Mentoring Program.

(2014-2017) Member, Equity Plenary Committee, Melbourne University.

(2009-2012) Journal Club organiser and presenter, School of Mathematics and Statistics, University of Melbourne.

(2010) Organising committee member for the 2010 Victorian Mathematics and Statistics Student Conference, School of Mathematics and Statistics, Melbourne University.

(2003-2005) Co-founder and committee member, Young Statisticians of Statistical Society

Australia (SSA), Victoria, Australia.

- OUTREACH** (2017) Mentor, Mathematics & Statistics Female PhD & Academic Mentoring Program .
- (2001-2017) Tutor at the First-Year Learning Centre, Department of Mathematics, University of Melbourne .
- (2009-2014) Mentor, International Students, University of Melbourne .
- (2007) Volunteer Tutor, Hanover Center, Melbourne, Australia .
- PROFESSIONAL SERVICE** (2018) Invited Speaker & Discussion Panel Member, Choose Maths, La Trobe University.
- (2012) Invited teacher, Year 9 Mathematics Class.
- (2003-present) Member, Statistical Society of Australia.
- EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACHIEVEMENTS** (2011) Karavarsamis, N.. “Dance Class”. Concept, Executive Producer and Dancer. Contemporary dance performance for 16 dancers with 6 choreographers. 1 year development from concept to performance. Gasworks Theatre Melbourne. Australia.
- CONFERENCE, INVITED PRESENTATIONS, AND WORKSHOPS** (2019) *Adult Zebrafish locomotor behaviour for controls with the circular distribution and time series*. Invited Speaker, Statistics Seminar Series, RMIT University, Australia.
- (2018) *How can the score test be consistent?*, **Karavarsamis, N.** Invited Speaker, La Trobe–Kyushu Joint Seminar Series, La Trobe University.
- (2018) *How can the score test be consistent?*, **Karavarsamis, N.** Speaker, International Statistical Ecology Conference (ISEC) 2018, St Andrews, Scotland.
- (2018) *How can the score test be consistent?*, **Karavarsamis, N.** Invited speaker, Statistical Seminar Series, La Trobe University.
- (2018) Choose Maths Day, La Trobe University, Invited Speaker & Panel Member.
- (2014) *Methods for Estimating Occupancy* **Karavarsamis, N.** PhD Completion Seminar. School of Mathematics and Statistics, University of Melbourne.
- (2013) *Occupancy Models*, **Karavarsamis, N.** Invited Speaker, Fortnightly seminar series. School of Mathematics and Statistics, University of Melbourne.
- (2010) *Comparison of four bootstrap-based interval estimators of species occupancy and detection probabilities* **Karavarsamis, N.**, Robinson, A. P., Hepworth, G., Hamilton, A.J. and Heard, G.W.. International Statistical Ecology Conference (ISEC), University of Kent, UK.
- (2010) *Occupancy Methods* **Karavarsamis, N.** ACERA, University of Melbourne.
- (2009) *Comparison of four bootstrap-based interval estimators of species occupancy and detection probabilities*, **Karavarsamis, N.**, Robinson, A. P., Hepworth, G., Hamilton, A., and Heard, G.. International Biometrics Society Australasian Region Conference (IBS), Taupo, New Zealand.

(2008) *Estimators of Annual Probability of Infection*, **Karavarsamis, N.**. Speaker, Australasian Statistical Conference (ASC), Melbourne, Australia.

(2005) The 55<sup>th</sup> Session of the International Statistical Institute (ISI) . Sydney, NSW Australia. Conference Delegate. Funding: Denise Lievesley Young Statisticians Award, and Department of Primary Industries.

(2004) *Design of Experiments*, **Karavarsamis, N.**. Workshop author and Invited Presentor, Department of Primary Industries, Irymple, Victoria.

(2004) International Biometrics Conference joint Statistical Society of Australia (SSAI). Cairns, QLD, Australia. Conference delegate. Funding: Department of Primary Industries (DPI).

(2003) **Karavarsamis, N.**. Energy-adjustment methods for nutrient data. Work in Progress (WIP) Statistics Seminars, Centre for Genetic Epidemiology & School of Public Health, University of Melbourne. Convenor: Prof. John Hopper.

(2001) The Australasian Epidemiological Conference and the Biostatistics Conference. Sydney, NSW, Australia. (Conference delegate).

## **GRANTS, AWARDS AND FUNDING**

(2018) Australian-French Association for Research and Innovation (AFRAN) AUD 3000.

(2009-2014) Ph.D. Scholarship, University of Melbourne.

(2010) Ph.D. Stipend, Fox Control Program, Parks Victoria.

(2010) Melbourne abroad travelling scholarships (MATS), School of Mathematics and Statistics, University of Melbourne.

(2010) The Overseas Research Student Belz Award Scheme. School of Mathematics and Statistics, The University of Melbourne.

(2009) Travel Award, School of Mathematics and Statistics, University of Melbourne.

(2008) Conference funding, Department of Land and Food Sciences, University of Melbourne.

(2005) Denise Lievesley Young Statisticians Award, Statistical Society of Australia.

(2004) Travel award, Department of Primary Industries.

(2001) Travel award, Cancer Epidemiology Centre (CEC), Cancer Council of Victoria.

## **TEACHING COORDINATOR**

La Trobe University, School of Mathematics and Statistics

- (2018) STA3AS Applied Statistics (3rd year undergraduate, advanced statistical methods).
- (2018) STA2ASM Applied Statistical Methods (2nd year undergraduate).
- (2018) STA3LM Linear Models (3rd year undergraduate, advanced statistical methods).

University of Melbourne, School of Mathematics and Statistics

- (2016-2017) Thinking and Reasoning with Data (postgraduate).

**TEACHING  
ASSISTANT**

University of Melbourne, School of Mathematics and Statistics

- (2001-2017) Experimental Design and Data Analysis (MAST10001) (1<sup>st</sup> year undergraduate, introductory statistics for biologists).
- (2008-2017) Data Analysis (1<sup>st</sup> Year Undergraduate).
- (2010-2017) Statistics for Research Workers (postgraduate and professional, intensive 6-day short course ran by the Statistical Consulting Centre).
- (2009) Critical Thinking with Data (1st year undergraduate).
- (2008-2007) Applied Statistics (2nd year undergraduate).
- (2008-2007) Experimental Design/Statistical Methods (2nd year undergraduate).
- (2008) Experimental Design and Data Analysis for Biomedical Science (1st year undergraduate).
- (1999-present) Tutor - private, Primary, secondary (including Year 11 and 12): Maths, Science, Chemistry, Physics. Undergraduate and postgraduate and professional level of private tutoring in statistics, including courses taught at the School of Maths and Stats, and courses from other University faculties.
- (2006-2007) Tutor - volunteer, Hanover Centre for displaced, General reading and comprehension, maths and science to primary and secondary students for the Drop-in After School Tutoring Centre.

**STUDENT  
SUPERVISION**

(2018-present) Co-supervisor, PhD Candidate, Department of Mathematics and Statistics, La Trobe University.

(2018-present) Supervisor to two students on independent projects. AMSI Summer Scholarships, Department of Mathematics and Statistics, La Trobe University.

(2004-2005) Supervisor, Research Assistants, Department of Primary Industries.