# Dr. Rvan J. Giordano

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(805) 501-6754

EDUCATION Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA USA

Department of EECS, Computer Science & Artificial Intelligence Lab

Postdoctoral Research Fellow. Advisor: Tamara Broderick

University of California, Berkeley, CA USA

Ph.D., Statistics. Advisors: M. I. Jordan, J. McAuliffe, T. Broderick

Thesis: On the Local Sensitivity of M-Estimation: Bayesian and Frequentist Applications

2006-2008 London School of Economics, London, UK

2019-present

2013-2019

MSc., Econometrics.

University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, IL, USA 1997-2002

BA., Mathematics, BS., Theoretical and Applied Mechanics.

Professional Google Inc., Mountain View, CA USA 2009 - 2013

Senior Engineer, Quantitiative Analysis EXPERIENCE

> Macquarie Group, London, UK 2008

Risk Management Intern

United States Peace Corps, Kokshetau, KZ 2004-2006

Education Volunteer, successful completion of service

Hewlett-Packard, Boise, ID 2002-2004

Lifetest Coordinator and Reliability Engineer

HONORS AND PhD and following

AWARDS

Notable Paper Award, Artificial Intelligence and Statistics (AISTATS) (2019)

Travel Award, Artificial Intelligence and Statistics (AISTATS) (2019)

Travel Award, Bayesian Nonparametrics Conference (2019)

Student Paper Award, ASA Section on Bayesian Statistical Science (2018)

Travel Award, International Society for Bayesian Analysis (ISBA) (2018)

Berkeley Institute for Data Science Fellow (2017-19)

Junior Travel Support Grant, International Society for Bayesian Analysis (ISBA) Bayes-Comp (2016)

Spotlight Paper, Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS) (2015)

Outstanding Graduate Student Instructor Award (2015)

Travel Award, Neural Information Processing Systems Workshop on Variational Inference (2014)

Hertz Foundation Graduate Fellowship Finalist (2014)

Pre-PhD

Google Operating Committee Award (2010)

Advanced-high speaker of Russian in Peace Corps Aptitude Test (2006)

Advanced-mid speaker of Kazakh in Peace Corps Aptitude Test (2006)

Selected as a Peace Corps "Success Story" for a congressional report (2005)

Best Project & Presentation, Undergraduate Mechanics Research Conference (2002)

Seely, Sinclair, Stippes, TAM Merit Scholarships (1998-2002)

#### Preprints

- T. Broderick, R. Meager\*, & R. J. Giordano\* (2020). An Automatic Finite-Sample Robustness Metric: Can Dropping a Little Data Change Conclusions?
- $\star = \text{equal contribution lead authors.}$  arXiv:2011.14999 [stat.ME]. [pdf]
- **R. J. Giordano**, M. I. Jordan, & T. Broderick (2019). A Higher-Order Swiss Army Infinitesimal Jackknife. arXiv:1907.12116 [stat.ME]. [pdf]

#### **PUBLICATIONS**

- R. J. Giordano, W. Stephenson, R. Liu, M. I. Jordan, & T. Broderick (2019). A Swiss Army Infinitesimal Jackknife. In *The 22nd International Conference on Artificial Intelligence and Statistics*. [pdf]
- **R. J. Giordano**, T. Broderick, & M. I. Jordan (2018). Covariances, Robustness, and Variational Bayes. In *Journal of Machine Learning Research*. [pdf]
- J. Regier, K. Fischer, K. Pamnany, A. Noack, J. Revels, M. Lam, S. Howard, R. J. Giordano, D. Schlegel, J. McAuliffe, & R. Thomas (2019). Cataloging the visible universe through Bayesian inference in Julia at petascale. In *Journal of Parallel and Distributed Computing*. [pdf]
- J. Regier, K. Pamnany, K. Fischer, A. Noack, M. Lam, J. Revels, S. Howard, R. J. Giordano, D. Schlegel, J. McAuliffe, R. Thomas, & Prabhat (2018). Cataloging the Visible Universe through Bayesian Inference at Petascale. In *IEEE International Parallel and Distributed Processing Symposium (IPDPS)*. *IEEE*, 2018. [pdf]
- **R. J. Giordano**, T. Broderick, & M. I. Jordan (2015). Linear Response Methods for Accurate Covariance Estimates from Mean Field Variational Bayes. In *Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems*. [pdf]
- R. Winther, R. J. Giordano, M. D. Edge, & R. Nielsen (2015). The Mind, the Lab, and the Field: Three Kinds of Populations in Scientific Practice. In Studies in History and Philosophy of Science Part C: Studies in History and Philosophy of Biological and Biomedical Sciences. [pdf]

### Workshop Papers

- **R. J. Giordano**<sup>⋆</sup>, R. Liu<sup>⋆</sup>, M. I. Jordan, & T. Broderick (2018). Evaluating Sensitivity to the Stick Breaking Prior in Bayesian Nonparametrics. In *NeurIPs 2018 Bayesian Nonparametrics Workshop*. ⋆ = contributed equally. [pdf]
- **R. J. Giordano**\*, R. Liu\*, N. Varoquaux\*, M. I. Jordan, & T. Broderick (2017). Measuring Cluster Stability for Bayesian Nonparametrics Using the Linear Bootstrap. In *NeurIPs 2017 Advances in Approximate Bayesian Inference Workshop*.
- $\star = \text{contributed equally. [pdf]}$
- R. J. Giordano, T. Broderick, R. Meager, J. Huggins, & M. I. Jordan (2016). Fast Robustness Quantification with Variational Bayes. In 2016 ICML Workshop on #Data4Good: Machine Learning in Social Good Applications. [pdf]

ACADEMIC TALKS	International Society for Bayesian Analysis Annual Meeting A Variational Bayesian Perspective on the EM Algorithm	(upcoming) 2021
	BAYESM:O Effortless Frequentist Covariances of Posterior Expectations in Stan	Nov 2020
	Stancon Effortless Frequentist Covariances of Posterior Expectations in Stan	July 2020
	Splunk Statistics Seminar Series A Higher-Order Swiss Army Infinitesimal Jackknife	Oct 2019
	Google Statistics Journal Club On the Local Sensitivity of M-estimation: Bayesian and Frequentist Applications	Sep 2019
	Berkeley Statistics Student Seminar Series Sensitivity and Uncertainty in Variational Bayes With an Application to the EM	April 2019 Algorithm
	Oxford BNP Evaluating Sensitivity to the Stick Breaking Prior in Bayesian Nonparametrics	June 2019
	Berkeley Institute for Data Science Lunchtime Seminar Series Sensitivity, Uncertainty, and Automatic Differentiation	October 2018
	Berkeley Institute for Data Science Lunchtime Seminar Series Bayesian Inference and Inverse Problems	July 2018
	Stancon Automatic Robustness Measures in Stan	Jan 2018
	Berkeley BSTARS Conference How Bad Could it Be? Worst-case Prior Sensitivity Estimates for Variational Ba	March 2017 yes
	Berkeley BSTARS Conference Measuring Robustness with Variational Bayes	March 2016
	Berkeley-Stanford Student Joint Colloquium Covariance Matrices for Mean Field Variational Bayes	Nov 2014
	Joint Statistical Meetings	Aug 2013

Estimating Average Proportional Changes in Large, Sparse Data

### Professional Service

Teaching

#### Journal Reviewing

- Journal of Machine Learning Research
- Statistics and Computing
- Molecular Biology and Evolution
- The British Journal for the Philosophy of Science

### Conference and Workshop Reviewing

• Teaching Assistant, Introduction to Statics

- Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS)
- International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML)
- International Conference on Artificial Intelligence and Statistics (AISTATS)
- I Can't Believe It's Not Better Workshop (NeurIPS 2020)
- Advances in Approximate Bayesian Inference Symposioum (2015-2017, 2019)

## Student Leadership

Student Leadership	
University of California, Berkeley, Statistics Department	
• Diversity Taskforce Member	2018-2019
• Graduate Student Mentor	2017-2019
• Diversity Committee Member	2017
• Co-organizer of the Gender and Diversity Roundtable	2016-2018
• Student Seminar Committee Member	2014-2017
Universty of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, Engineering Mechanics Department	
• President, Student Society for Experimental Mechanics	2000-2002
• Organizer, Free University Opera for Engineering Students	2001-2002
University of California, Berkeley, USA	
• Teaching Assistant, STAT215 Applied Statistics (Graduate-level)	Fall 2014
Kokshetau Elementary School #3, Kokshetau, Kazakhstan	
• Elementary school teacher of mathematics and English as a second language	2004-2006
University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, USA	
• Teaching Assistant, Mechanics of Materials Lab	Fall 1999

Spring 1999