

# Shu Wei Chou Chen

Escuela de Estadística (School of Statistics),  
Centro de Investigación en Matemática Pura y Aplicada (Research Center in Pure and Applied Mathematics – CIMPA),  
Universidad de Costa Rica (University of Costa Rica),  
Ciudad Universitaria Rodrigo Facio, San José, Costa Rica.  
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🌐 <https://shuwei325.github.io/>

## EDUCATION

- 2016 – 2020     ■ **Ph.D. in Statistics.** University of São Paulo (São Paulo, Brazil).  
Thesis title: *Locally Stationary Processes with Stable and Tempered Stable Innovation*.  
Advisor: Prof. Dr. Pedro A. MORETTIN.
- 2012 – 2015     ■ **M.Sc. in Statistics.** University of Costa Rica (San José, Costa Rica).  
Thesis title: *Un modelo jerárquico Bayesiano espacio-tepmoral con variable respuesta de Poisson: aplicación al caso de VIH/SIDA como enfermedad rara en Costa Rica*.  
Advisor: Prof. Dr. Ricardo ALVARADO.
- 2008 – 2012     ■ **BS. in Statistics.** University of Costa Rica (San José, Costa Rica).

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- March 2025 – present     ■ **Full Professor.** School of Statistics, University of Costa Rica (UCR), San José, Costa Rica.
- March 2026 – present     ■ **Director.** Master's Program in Statistics, UCR.
- 2024- February 2026     ■ **Subdirector.** Master's Program in Statistics, UCR.
- November 2023 – March 2025     ■ **Associate Profesor.** School of Statistics, UCR.
- March 2020 – present     ■ **Researcher.** Research Center in Pure and Applied Mathematics (CIMPA), UCR.
- March 2022 – November 2023     ■ **Assistant Profesor.** School of Statistics, UCR.
- March 2020 – March 2022     ■ **Invited Profesor.** School of Statistics, UCR.
- 2012 – 2015     ■ **Lecturer.** School of Statistics, UCR.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- March 2020 – present     ■ *School of Statistics, University of Costa Rica.*
- *Undergraduate level in Statistics:* Statistical Theory, Professional Practice I and II, Time Series Analysis.
  - *Graduate level in Statistics and Mathematics:* Time Series Analysis, Advanced topics in Time Series, Time Series I and II.

February 2017 – December 2019

■ Institute of Mathematics and Statistics, University of São Paulo. Assistant for the courses of:

- *Statistics for other majors*: Introduction to Probability and Statistics.
- *Graduate level in Statistics*: Time Series, Spectral Analysis of Time Series, Financial Time Series Modeling.

March 2012 – March 2015

■ School of Statistics, University of Costa Rica.

- *Statistics for other majors*: Economic, Social and Biological Sciences.
- *Undergraduate level*: Probability and Statistics Theory.
- *Graduate level in Statistics*: Experimental Design, Regressions, and Statistical Methods.

## EXPERIENCE IN RESEARCH PROJECTS

### As Principal Investigator:

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|--------------|--|
| 2024-present | ■ Análisis espacio-temporal del impacto de factores climáticos y de contaminación sobre las hospitalizaciones respiratorias. <i>School of Statistics, University of Costa Rica (UCR)</i> .                           |
| 2023-present | ■ Desarrollo de modelos aditivos con errores simétricos autorregresivos para series temporales: generalizaciones y los métodos de pronósticos. <i>Research Center in Pure and Applied Mathematics (CIMPA), UCR</i> . |
| 2015-2016    | ■ Análisis espacio-temporal de VIH/SIDA en Costa Rica. <i>Central American Population Center (CCP), UCR</i> .  |

### As Associate Researcher:

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|--------------|---|
| 2023-present | ■ Potencial aumento del riesgo en Costa Rica y Nicaragua por causa de ciclones tropicales en el Caribe. <i>Center for Geophysical Research (CIGEFI), UCR</i> .  |
|              | ■ El costo de una vida digna en Costa Rica. Ingreso vital y la construcción de metodologías para el cálculo de variaciones subnacionales. <i>Institute of Social Research (IIS), UCR</i> .              |
|              | ■ Uso de modelos de aprendizaje automático para el pronóstico de caudales extremos (mínimos y máximos). <i>CIMPA, UCR</i> .   |
|              | ■ Análisis de extremos espacio-temporales con modelos bayesianos jerárquicos. <i>CIMPA, UCR</i> .   |
|              | ■ El efecto de Los determinantes sociales en la propagación de enfermedades infecciosas. <i>CIMPA, UCR</i> .  |
| 2022-2023    | ■ Use of machine learning as a predictive tool for vector-borne diseases in Costa Rica. <i>CIMPA, UCR</i> .   |
| 2020-2023    | ■ Desarrollo e implementación eficiente de modelos para procesos espacio-temporales a través de la aproximación de resolución múltiple. <i>CIMPA, UCR</i> .   |
| 2014         | ■ Determinación de líneas base en indicadores para evaluar el manejo integrado de recursos marino-costeros en Costa Rica. <i>Center for Research in Marine and Limnological Sciences (CIMAR), UCR</i> . |

## PUBLICATIONS

## Journal articles:

- 1 M. Camacho, A. Cedeño, L. A. Barboza, **S. W. Chou-Chen**, M. J. Gómez y H. G. Hidalgo, «Hurricane Impact Index: Capturing Direct and Indirect Cyclone Effects in Central America,» *Earth Systems and Environment*, 2026, ISSN: 2509-9434. DOI: 10.1007/s41748-025-00999-z.
- 2 **S. W. Chou-Chen**, A. Quesada-Román y D. Vargas-Sanabria, «Statistical Modeling of Wildfire Occurrence Based on Geomorphometry in La Amistad International Park's Buffer Zone,» *Environmental Modeling & Assessment*, 2026, ISSN: 1573-2967. DOI: 10.1007/s10666-026-10100-1.
- 3 H. G. Hidalgo, **S. W. Chou-Chen**, K. A. McKinnon et al., «Detection and attribution of trends of meteorological extremes in Central America,» *Climatic Change*, vol. 178, n.º 5, pág. 95, 2025, ISSN: 1573-1480. DOI: Hidalgo2025.
- 4 **S. W. Chou-Chen** y L. A. Barboza, «Forecasting hospital discharges for respiratory conditions in Costa Rica using climate and pollution data,» *Mathematical Biosciences and Engineering*, vol. 21, n.º 7, págs. 6539-6558, 2024, ISSN: 1551-0018. DOI: 10.3934/mbe.2024285.
- 5 **S. W. Chou-Chen**, R. A. Oliveira, I. Raicher y G. A. Paula, «Additive partial linear models with autoregressive symmetric errors and its application to the hospitalizations for respiratory diseases,» *Statistical Papers*, vol. 65, n.º 8, págs. 5145-5166, 2024, ISSN: 1613-9798. DOI: 10.1007/s00362-024-01590-w.
- 6 L. A. Barboza, **S. W. Chou-Chen**, M. Alfaro Córdoba, E. J. Alfaro y H. G. Hidalgo, «Spatio-temporal downscaling emulator for regional climate models,» *Environmetrics*, vol. 34, n.º 7, e2815, 2023. DOI: 10.1002/env.2815.
- 7 L. A. Barboza, **S. W. Chou-Chen**, P. Vásquez, Y. E. García, J. G. Calvo, H. G. Hidalgo y F. Sanchez, «Assessing dengue fever risk in Costa Rica by using climate variables and machine learning techniques,» *PLOS Neglected Tropical Diseases*, vol. 17, págs. 1-13, ene. de 2023. DOI: 10.1371/journal.pntd.0011047.
- 8 **S. W. Chou-Chen**, L. A. Barboza, P. Vásquez, Y. E. García, J. G. Calvo, H. G. Hidalgo y F. Sanchez, «Bayesian spatio-temporal model with INLA for dengue fever risk prediction in Costa Rica,» *Environmental and Ecological Statistics*, vol. 30, n.º 4, págs. 687-713, dic. de 2023, ISSN: 1573-3009. DOI: 10.1007/s10651-023-00580-9.
- 9 **S. W. Chou-Chen** y P. A. Morettin, «A two-step estimation procedure for locally stationary ARMA processes with tempered stable innovations,» *Brazilian Journal of Probability and Statistics*, vol. 37, n.º 1, págs. 155-176, 2023. DOI: 10.1214/23-BJPS565.
- 10 Y. E. García, **S. W. Chou-Chen**, L. A. Barboza, M. L. Daza-Torres, J. C. Montesinos-López, P. Vásquez, J. G. Calvo, M. Nuño y F. Sanchez, «Common patterns between dengue cases, climate, and local environmental variables in Costa Rica: A wavelet approach,» *PLOS Global Public Health*, vol. 3, n.º 10, págs. 1-22, oct. de 2023. DOI: 10.1371/journal.pgph.0002417.
- 11 S. Gómez-Campos, M. Cubero-Corella, M. F. Salas García y **S. W. Chou-Chen**, «Patrones de movilidad en tiempos de COVID-19: un enfoque con big data,» *Epi-SCIENCE*, vol. 1, n.º 1, jun. de 2023. DOI: 10.15517/es.2023.55398.
- 12 P. Vásquez, F. Sanchez, L. A. Barboza, Y. E. García, J. G. Calvo, **S. W. Chou-Chen** y G. Mery, «Mathematical and statistical models for the control of mosquito-borne diseases: the experience of Costa Rica,» *Rev Panam Salud Publica*, vol. 113, n.º 46, 2022. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.26633/RPSP.2022.113>.
- 13 **S. W. Chou-Chen** y P. A. Morettin, «Indirect inference for locally stationary ARMA processes with stable innovations,» *Journal of Statistical Computation and Simulation*, vol. 90, n.º 17, págs. 3106-3134, 2020. DOI: 10.1080/00949655.2020.1797030.

- 14 S. W. Chou-Chen y R. Alvarado-Barrantes, «Un Modelo jerárquico Bayesiano espacio-temporal con variable de conteos: aplicación de VIH/SIDA en Costa Rica.» *Comunicaciones En Estadística*, vol. 11, n.º 1, págs. 9-35, 2018. eprint: <https://doi.org/10.15332/s2027-3355.2018.0001.01>.
- 15 S. W. Chou y E. E. Gutiérrez-Espeleta, «Ecuación para estimar la biomasa arbórea en los bosques tropicales de Costa Rica.» *Revista Tecnología En Marcha*, vol. 26, n.º 2, págs. 41-54, 2013. eprint: <https://doi.org/10.18845/tm.v26i2.1402>. dirección: [https://revistas.tec.ac.cr/index.php/tec\\_marcha/article/view/1402](https://revistas.tec.ac.cr/index.php/tec_marcha/article/view/1402).

## Conference Proceedings

- 1 J. P. Arroyo-Castro y S. W. Chou-Chen, «Unsupervised Detection of Anomaly in Public Procurement Processes.» en *Data Science, Classification, and Artificial Intelligence for Modeling Decision Making*, J. Trejos, T. Chadjipadelis, A. Grané y M. Villalobos, eds., Cham: Springer Nature Switzerland, 2025, págs. 23-32, ISBN: 978-3-031-85870-3.

## Other publications:

- 1 S. W. Chou-Chen y O. Hernández, *Teaching basic statistics to blind students*, ISLP Newsletter of the International Statistical Literacy Project. <https://iase-web.org/islp/documents/Newsletters/ISLP%20Newsletter%20Vol%209.2%20December%202017.pdf>, dic. de 2017.

## CONFERENCES

- 2025 ■ **LXIII Mini-Congreso CIGEFI 2025.** Centro de Investigaciones Geofísicas, Universidad de Costa Rica. “Análisis de datos funcionales sobre el impacto del clima y la contaminación en las hospitalizaciones por problemas respiratorios en Costa Rica.” **Conference, Contributed Talk**.
- **Seminar.** RESEARCH CENTER IN MATHEMATICS AND APPLICATIONS Research Center in Mathematics and Applications (CIMA), University of Évora, Portugal “Additive Partial Linear Models with Symmetric Autoregressive Errors and their Forecasting Methods.” **(Seminar, Invited Talk)**.
- 2024 ■ **Interim Conference of the Asian Regional Section of the International Association for Statistical Computing (IASC-ARS Interim Conference 2024).** “Additive partial linear models with autoregressive symmetric errors and its application to the hospitalizations for respiratory diseases.” **Conference, Contributed Talk**.
- **Seminar.** Department of Statistics and Institute of Data Science, National Cheng Kung University, Tainan, Taiwan. “Additive Partial Linear Models with Autoregressive Symmetric Errors and Its Forecast Methods.” **(Seminar, Invited Talk)**.
- **Simposio Internacional sobre Métodos Matemáticos Aplicados a las Ciencias, SIMMAC XXIV,** Universidad de Costa Rica, Liberia, Costa Rica. “Modelos lineales parciales aditivos con error simétrico autorregresivo para datos de series temporales.” **(Conference, Invited Talk)**.
- 2023 ■ **XII Foro Internacional de Estadística Aplicada.** Facultad de Estadística e Informática, Universidad Veracruzana, Xalapa-Enríquez, Veracruz, México. “Modelos predictivos aplicados a datos climáticos y dengue: un enfoque espacio-temporal y de aprendizaje de máquinas.” **(Conference, Invited Talk)**.
- 2022 ■ **XV Jornadas de Análisis Estadístico.** Escuela de Estadística, UCR. “Predicción de los riesgos de dengue en Costa Rica mediante el uso de variables climáticas y técnicas de aprendizaje automático.” **(Conference, Invited Talk)**.

- **Workshop on climate change, human behavior, and vector-borne diseases.** Department of Public Health Sciences, University of California, Davis, California, United States. "Assessing dengue fever risk in Costa Rica by using climate variables and machine learning techniques." (**Workshop, Invited Talk**).
- 2021 ■ **Seminar.** Escuela de Estadística, UCR, San José, Costa Rica. "Processos localmente estacionarios con innovaciones estables y estables temperadas." (**Seminar, Invited Talk**).
- **Seminar.** Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Norte, Natal, Brasil. "Processo  $\alpha$ -estável localmente estacionário." (**Seminar, Invited Talk**).
- **Seminar.** CIMPA-UCR, San José, Costa Rica. "Proceso localmente estacionario con innovaciones estables" (**Seminar, Invited Talk**).
- 2019 ■ **Seminar.** Universidade Federal de Santa Maria, Santa Maria, Rio Grande do Sul, Brasil. "Processo  $\alpha$ -estável localmente estacionário." (**Seminar, Invited Talk**).
- **18th ESTE - Time Series and Econometrics Meeting.** Gramado, Rio Grande do Sul, Brasil. "Locally stationary ARMA processes with tempered stable innovations." (**Conference, Contributed Talk**).
- **XVI EMR - Escola de Modelos de Regressão.** Pirenópolis, Goiás, Brasil. "Indirect estimation for  $\alpha$ -stable time-varying ARMA processes." (**Conference, Contributed Talk**).
- 2018 ■ **23º SINAPE - Simpósio Nacional de Probabilidade e Estatística.** São Pedro, São Paulo, Brasil. "Indirect estimation for alpha-stable time-varying AR(1) processes." (**Conference, Contributed Talk**).
- 2017 ■ **61st World Statistics Congress.** Marrakech, Marruecos. "Teaching Basic Statistics to Blind Students." (**Congress, Poster Presentation**).
- **XV EMR - Escola de Modelos de Regressão.** Goiania, Goiás, Brasil. "Time series analysis on the Global Mean Sea Level." (**Conference, Poster Presentation**).
- **XVII Escola de Séries Temporais e Econometria.** (**Conference, Passive Participation**).
- 2015 ■ **RSS 2015 Annual Conference. University of Exeter.** "A simulation study of spatio-temporal Bayesian models with Poisson response." (**Conference, Poster Presentation**).
- **60th World Statistics Congress.** International Statistical Institute (**Congress, Passive Participation**).
- 2014 ■ **Joint Statistical Meeting.** American Statistical Association (**Congress, Passive Participation**).
- 2013 ■ **Primer Simposio Centroamericano de Estadística Bayesiana.** Universidad de Costa Rica. "Análisis espacial Bayesiano de tasas de homicidios cantonales en Costa Rica." (**Symposium, Contributed Talk**).
- **XII Jornadas de análisis estadístico.** Universidad de Costa Rica (**Conference, Passive Participation**).
- 2010 ■ **XI Jornadas de análisis estadístico.** Universidad de Costa Rica (**Conference, Passive Participation**).

## **ADMINISTRATIVE AND ACADEMIC MANAGEMENT**

- |              |  |
|--------------|--|
| 2026-present | ■ Director, Master's Program in Statistics, UCR.   |
| 2024-2025    | ■ Subdirector, Master's Program in Statistics, UCR.  |
| 2022-present | ■ Representative of the Graduate Program in Statistics on the Advisory Council of the Research Center for Development Observatory (CIOdD), UCR.<br>■ Representative of the Graduate Program in Statistics on the Scientific Council of CIOdD, UCR. |
| 2020-present | ■ Coordinator of the Evaluation, Guidance, and Student Affairs Committee at the School of Statistics, UCR.   |

- 2020-2022
- Member of the Master's Program in Statistics Committee, UCR.
  - Coordinator of the Professional Practice in the Bachelor's Program in Statistics.

## AWARDS AND HONORS

- UCREA Grant for the project: "*Potencial aumento del riesgo en Costa Rica y Nicaragua por causa de ciclones tropicales en el Caribe.*" Participation as an associate researcher during 2023-2025.
- UCREA Grant for the project: "*El costo de una vida digna en Costa Rica. Ingreso vital y la construcción de metodologías para el cálculo de variaciones subnacionales.*" Participation as an associate researcher during 2023-2025.
- Second place for Best Thesis Award (2019-2020) from the Brazilian Statistical Association, Brazil.
- First place for the best poster titled: "*Indirect estimation for  $\alpha$ -stable time-varying AR(1) processes*" at the 23<sup>rd</sup> SINAPE - National Symposium on Probability and Statistics in São Pedro, São Paulo, Brazil, 2019.
- Graduation with honors in the Academic Master's in Statistics, 2015. University of Costa Rica.
- Graduation with honors in the Bachelor's in Statistics, 2012. University of Costa Rica.
- Highest GPA in the Bachelor's in Statistics program, 2010. University of Costa Rica.
- Highest GPA in the Bachelor's in Statistics program, 2009. University of Costa Rica.

## OTHER PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

### Editorial Board of Journals

- |               |  |
|---------------|--|
| 2022-present. | ■ Member of the Editorial Board of Revista Epi-Science.                          |
| 2020-present. | ■ Member of the Editorial Board of Revista de Matemática: Teoría y Aplicaciones. |

### Journal Review:

- Climate Risk Management, Plos One, Scientific Report, and Revista de Matematica: Teoria y Aplicaciones.

### Workshops and Short Courses Taught

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|----------------|---|
| May 2023       | ■ <i>Statistical Modeling and Machine Learning Applied to Climatic Data and Public Health</i> , Faculty of Statistics and Informatics, Universidad Veracruzana (10 hours) |
| January 2016   | ■ <i>Data Mining</i> , University of Costa Rica (16 hours)  |
| September 2014 | ■ <i>Introduction to R</i> , University of Costa Rica (16 hours)  |
| October 2015   | ■ <i>Introduction to R</i> , University of Costa Rica (16 hours)  |

### Research Stays and Academic Visits

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|----------------|---|
| December 2024  | ■ Institute of Statistical Science, Academia Sinica, Taipei, Taiwan.  |
|                | ■ Department of Statistics and Institute of Data Science, National Cheng Kung University, Tainan, Taiwan.   |
| September 2014 | ■ Department of Educational Psychology, University of Minnesota, United States. <i>Active Approach in Teaching Statistics</i> with Dr. Robert DelMas. |

### Courses and Certifications

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| 2019 | ■ IX WWlet – Workshop in Wavelets and Applications. Gramado/RS, Brazil. <i>Multiscale Analysis and Wavelets: Theory, Development, and Applications</i> . |
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- School of Regression Models. Pirenópolis/GO, Brazil. *Count Data Regression Models: Over- and Under-dispersion.*
- 2018 ■ 23rd National Symposium on Probability and Statistics – SINAPE. São Pedro/SP, Brazil:
  - *Binary Regression Models: Inference and Applications.*
  - *Bayesian Distributional Regression.*
- 2017 ■ XVII ESTE Brazilian School of Time Series and Econometrics, São Carlos, Brazil. *Statistical Inference for Nonstationary Time Series: Functional Data Analysis and Bootstrap perspectives.*
- 2014 ■ School of Statistics, University of Costa Rica. *Time Series with Financial Data.*
- JSM Professional Development, Joint Statistical Meeting, Boston, United States. *Hierarchical Bayesian Modeling and Analysis for Spatial Data.*

## PARTICIPATION IN THESES AND GRADUATION PROJECTS

### Thesis Advisor:

- July 2025 ■ “*Modelo de la influencia de los factores climáticos y la contaminación del aire en la incidencia de enfermedades respiratorias en las regiones y subregiones climáticas de Costa Rica.*” Professional Master’s Degree in Mathematical Methods and Application of Emmanuelle Parra Rodríguez.
- June 2025 ■ “*Modelos de cambio de régimen de Markov aplicados a temperatura del agua de ríos en el macizo Cerro de la Muerte, Costa Rica.*” Professional Master’s Degree in Statistics of Paola Campos Arce.
- August 2024 ■ “*Comparación de técnicas de análisis multivariado para detección de valores extremos con técnicas no supervisadas, una aplicación al caso de anomalías en contratación de bienes en Costa Rica.*” Academic Master’s Degree in Statistics of Jose Pablo Arroyo Castro.
- May 2024 ■ “*Análisis de los casos de intoxicación reportados al Centro Nacional de Control de Intoxicaciones de Costa Rica durante el período de COVID-19 entre los años 2020 y 2022.*” Professional Master’s Degree in Statistics of Edgardo Gutiérrez Vega.
- July 2022 ■ “*Modelo bayesiano espacio-temporal predictivo acumulado de personas fallecidas de Covid-19 por cantones en Costa Rica durante el mes de mayo de 2021.*” Professional Master’s Degree in Statistics of Ricardo Zamora Mennigke.
- January 2022 ■ “*Nexo entre crecimiento económico y desarrollo del sistema financiero: Análisis de cointegración y series de tiempo para el caso de CR.*” Professional Master’s Degree in Statistics of Fabián Brenes Trejos.

## SKILLS

**Languages:** Spanish (near-native), Mandarin (native), English (advanced), and Portuguese (advanced).

**Statistical Programs:** R, SPSS, JMP, STATA, CSPro, Eviews, Winsteps, OpenBUGS.