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Escuela de Estadística

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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-temporal 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

- October 2024 – present 📖 **Subdirector.** Master's Program in Statistics, University of Costa Rica (UCR), San José, Costa Rica.
- November 2023 – present 📖 **Associate Profesor.** School of Statistics, UCR.
- March 2020 – present 📖 **Researcher.** Center for Research in Pure and Applied Mathematics (CIMPA), UCR.
- March 2022 – November 2023 📖 **Assistant Profesor.** School of Statistics, UCR, San José, Costa Rica.
- 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 in 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:

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











As Associate Researcher:

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

PUBLICATIONS

Journal articles:

- 1 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.](#)
- 2 **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.](#)

- 3 **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.
- 4 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.
- 5 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.
- 6 **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.
- 7 **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.
- 8 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.
- 9 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.
- 10 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>.
- 11 **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.
- 12 **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>.
- 13 **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.

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









- 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 α -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 α -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 α -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



- 2024-present  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.
-  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.
-  Member of the Master’s Program in Statistics Committee, UCR.
- 2020-2022  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 α -stable time-varying $AR(1)$ processes”* at the 23rd 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

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

Research Stays and Academic Visits

- 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. *Active Approach in Teaching Statistics* with Dr. Robert DelMas.





Courses and Certifications

- 2019 IX WWlet – Workshop in Wavelets and Applications. Gramado/RS, Brazil. *Multiscale Analysis and Wavelets: Theory, Development, and Applications*.
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, CPro, EvIEWS, Winsteps, OpenBUGS.