

# SOUMIK PURKAYASTHA

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## Education

University of Michigan, Dept. of Biostatistics	Sep. 2019 – Aug. 2024 (expected)
Ph.D. in Biostatistics, Advisor: <a href="#">Peter X. K. Song</a>	
University of Michigan, Dept. of Biostatistics	Sep. 2019 – Apr. 2021
M.S. in Biostatistics.	<b>GPA 4.0+</b>
Indian Statistical Institute	July 2017 – June 2019
M.S. in Statistics, with specialization in Biostatistics.	<b>GPA 4.0</b>
St. Xavier's College (Autonomous), Kolkata	July 2014 – June 2017
B.Sc. (Hons) in Statistics and minors in Mathematics and Computer Science.	<b>GPA 4.0</b>

## Publications and pre-prints

h-index: 9 ([Google scholar](#)) as of October, 2023; † denotes equal contribution.

### Peer-reviewed publications

- (P13) **Purkayastha, S.**, & Song, P. X. K. (2023). fastMI: a fast and consistent copula-based estimator of mutual information. *The Journal of Multivariate Analysis (to appear)*. Retrieved from <http://arxiv.org/abs/2212.10268> doi: 10.48550/arXiv.2212.10268
- (P12) Salvatore, M., **Purkayastha, S.**, Ganapathi, L., Bhattacharyya, R., Kundu, R., Zimmermann, L., ... Mukherjee, B. (2022). Lessons from SARS-CoV-2 in India: A data-driven framework for pandemic resilience. *Science Advances*, 8(24). Retrieved from <https://www.science.org/doi/full/10.1126/sciadv.abp8621> doi: 10.1126/sciadv.abp8621
- (P11) Bhaduri, R., Kundu, R., **Purkayastha, S.**, Kleinsasser, M., Beesley, L. J., Mukherjee, B., & Datta, J. (2022). Extending the susceptible-exposed-infected-removed (SEIR) model to handle the false negative rate and symptom-based administration of COVID-19 diagnostic tests: SEIR-fansy. *Statistics in Medicine*, 41(13), 2317–2337. Retrieved from <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/abs/10.1002/sim.9357> doi: 10.1002/sim.9357
- (P10) Zimmermann, L., Bhattacharya, S., **Purkayastha, S.**, Kundu, R., Bhaduri, R., Ghosh, P., & Mukherjee, B. (2021). SARS-CoV-2 Infection Fatality Rates in India: Systematic Review, Meta-analysis and Model-based Estimation. *Studies in Microeconomics*, 9(2), 137–179. Retrieved from <https://doi.org/10.1177/23210222211054324> doi: 10.1177/23210222211054324
- (P09) **Purkayastha, S.**, Kundu, R., Bhaduri, R., Barker, D., Kleinsasser, M., Ray, D., & Mukherjee, B. (2021, July). Estimating the wave 1 and wave 2 infection fatality rates from SARS-

CoV-2 in India. *BMC Research Notes*, 14(1), 262. Retrieved from <https://doi.org/10.1186/s13104-021-05652-2> doi: 10.1186/s13104-021-05652-2

- (P08) **Purkayastha, S.**, Bhattacharyya, R., Bhaduri, R., Kundu, R., Gu, X., Salvatore, M., ... Mukherjee, B. (2021). A comparison of five epidemiological models for transmission of SARS-CoV-2 in India. *BMC Infectious Diseases*, 21(1), 533. Retrieved from <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12879-021-06077-9> doi: 10.1186/s12879-021-06077-9
- (P07) Salvatore, M., Basu, D., Ray, D., Kleinsasser, M., **Purkayastha, S.**, Bhattacharyya, R., & Mukherjee, B. (2020). Comprehensive public health evaluation of lockdown as a non-pharmaceutical intervention on COVID-19 spread in India: national trends masking state-level variations. *BMJ Open*, 10(12). Retrieved from <https://bmjopen.bmj.com/content/10/12/e041778> doi: 10.1136/bmjopen-2020-041778
- (P06) **Purkayastha, S.**, & Song, P. (2021). Discussion on “The timing and effectiveness of implementing mild interventions of COVID-19 in large industrial regions via a synthetic control method” by Tian *et al.* *Statistics and Its Interface*, 14(1), 21–22. Retrieved from <https://dx.doi.org/10.4310/20-SII652> doi: 10.4310/20-SII652
- (P05) Tang, L., Zhou, Y., Wang, L., **Purkayastha, S.**, Zhang, L., He, J., ... Song, P. X.-K. (2020). A Review of Multi-Compartment Infectious Disease Models. *International Statistical Review*, 88(2), 462–513. Retrieved from <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/abs/10.1111/insr.12402> doi: 10.1111/insr.12402
- (P04) **Purkayastha, S.**, Salvatore, M., & Mukherjee, B. (2020). Are women leaders significantly better at controlling the contagion during the COVID-19 pandemic? *Journal of health and social sciences*, 5(2), 231–240. Retrieved from <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC7457824/>
- (P03) Zhou, Y., Wang, L., Zhang, L., Shi, L., Yang, K., He, J., ... Song, P. (2020). A Spatiotemporal Epidemiological Prediction Model to Inform County-Level COVID-19 Risk in the United States. *Harvard Data Science Review*(1). Retrieved from <https://hdsr.mitpress.mit.edu/pub/qqg19a0r/release/1> doi: 10.1162/99608f92.79e1f45e
- (P02) Ray, D., Salvatore, M., Bhattacharyya, R., Wang, L., Du, J., Mohammed, S., ... Mukherjee, B. (2020). Predictions, role of interventions and effects of a historic national lockdown in India’s response to the COVID-19 pandemic: data science call to arms. *Harvard Data Science Review*, 2020(1). Retrieved from <https://hdsr.mitpress.mit.edu/pub/r1qq01kw/release/8> doi: 10.1162/99608f92.60e08ed5
- (P01) Giri, S., **Purkayastha, S.**, Hazra, S., Chanda, A., Das, I., & Das, S. (2020). Prediction of monthly Hilsa (*Tenualosa ilisha*) catch in the Northern Bay of Bengal using Bayesian structural time series model. *Regional Studies in Marine Science*, 39, 101456. Retrieved from <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S2352485520305843> doi: 10.1016/j.rsma.2020.101456

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## Under preparation/submission

- (S02) **Purkayastha, S., & Song, P. X. K.** (2022). *Asymmetric predictability in causal discovery: an information theoretic approach*. arXiv. Retrieved from <http://arxiv.org/abs/2210.14455> doi: 10.48550/arXiv.2210.14455
- (S01) **Purkayastha, S., & Basu, A.** (2020). On minimum bregman divergence inference. *Metrika (under review)*. Retrieved from <https://arxiv.org/abs/2008.06987> doi: 10.48550/arXiv.2008.06987

## Professional Experience

- (PE3) **Michigan Medicine**, Ann Arbor, USA. **Research Assistant** *May 2020 – Aug. 2023*  
Performed **statistical analyses** in **SAS** and **R** for the NIH-funded [Diabetes Foot Consortium](#). Built and maintained an **automated data-pooling and analysis pipeline** and an **RShiny**-based dashboard for faster dissemination of interactive **Plotly visualization** and **model-based findings** that is **accessible to clinicians**.
- (PE2) **Apple Inc.**, Cupertino, USA. **AI-ML intern** *May 2021 – Aug. 2021*  
Developed **Pytorch**-based natural language models to analyze **user speech patterns**. Built multi-level predictors of **user search intent** in **Python** to improve data quality for algorithm training and evaluation. Built Siri Search products by implementing **semi-supervised language models** on partially labelled user data in **Python**.
- (PE1) **Walmart Labs**, Bangalore, IND. **Statistician intern** *May 2018 – Jul. 2018*  
Worked on data query and analysis of very large data sets and improved existing online grocery **forecasting models** in **R** and **C++**.

## Teaching Experience

- (TE2) Lecturer, Summer Institute in Biostatistics Program, University of Michigan. *Jul. 2022*  
Linear regression (39 students). Materials: [slides](#) and [handout](#).  
Probability theory (39 students). Materials: [slides](#) and [handouts](#).
- (TE1) Teaching assistant, BIOSTAT 802, University of Michigan. *Jan. – Apr. 2021*  
Advanced inference II (25 students).

## Honors and Awards

- **Rackham Predoctoral Fellowship:** *University of Michigan* *Sep. 2023 – Aug. 2024*
- **Best Paper and Runner-up Presentation** awards: *WNAR of IBS* *Jun. 2023*
- **Rising Star Award:** *University of Michigan* *Apr. 2023*
- **Richard G. Cornell Fellowship:** *University of Michigan* *Dec. 2020*
- **Michigan Data Science Challenge Winner:** *University of Michigan* *Dec. 2019*
- **Sabyasachi Roy Memorial Gold Medal:** *Indian Statistical Institute* *Jul. 2019*
- **Scholarship for academic performance:** *Indian Statistical Institute* *2017 – 2019*

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## Professional Service

**Journal peer review:** Annals of Applied Statistics (2022), New England Journal of Statistics in Data Science (2022), and PLOS One (2021).

**Professional affiliations:** International Biometric Society, Western North American Region (WNAR) (2022+), American Statistical Association (2021+), Institute of Mathematical Statistics (2021+), International Biometric Society, Eastern North American Region (ENAR) (2021+)

**University service:** **STATCOM:** Statistics in the community, Co-president (2022-23); Leadership team member (2022 - 2024); Department of Biostatistics Seminars and Brown Bag Committee (2020-2022)

## Selected Press

- Bastian, H., *Women Versus Men Leaders in the Pandemic: An Update and Dig Into the Latest Data*. **PLOS Blogs**, 2022. url: <https://absolutelymaybe.plos.org/2022/06/28/women-versus-men-leaders-in-the-pandemic-an-update-and-dig-into-the-latest-data/>
- Laguipo, A., *A study of the COVID fatality rates in India during waves 1 and 2*. **News-Medical.Net**, 2021. url: <https://www.news-medical.net/news/20210603/A-study-of-the-COVID-fatality-rates-in-India-during-waves-1-and-2.aspx>
- Mukherjee, B., **Purkayastha, S.**, Salvatore, M., Mishra, S. *Underreporting does hurt the COVID fight*. **The Hindu**, 2021. url: <https://www.thehindu.com/opinion/lead/under-reporting-does-hurt-the-covid-fight/article34474676.ece>
- Ellis-Petersen, H. *India's 1.3bn population locked down to beat coronavirus*. **The Guardian**, 2021. url: <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/mar/24/indias-13bn-population-locked-down-to-beat-coronavirus>
- Basu, D., Salvatore, M., Kleinsasser, M., Purkayastha, S., Bhattacharya, R., and Mukherjee, B., *We're Focusing on National Data on COVID-19 When We Should Be Looking at State-Level Trends* **The Wire**, 2020. url: <https://thewire.in/health/covid-19-india-national-data-state>