

EDUCATION

University of Washington Ph.D. in Statistics (<i>Advisor: Dr. Zaid Harchaoui</i>)	Seattle, WA Fall 2020–Spring 2025 (Expected)
Coursework: Generative Models, Reinforcement Learning, Natural Language Processing, Convex Optimization, Statistical Theory, Measure-Theoretic Probability	
Johns Hopkins University M.S.E. in Applied Mathematics & Statistics (<i>Advisor: Dr. Joshua Vogelstein</i>)	Baltimore, MD Fall 2018–Spring 2019
Thesis: “Independence Testing for Multivariate Time Series”	
Coursework: Nonlinear Optimization, Matrix Analysis, Bayesian Statistics	
Johns Hopkins University B.S. in Applied Mathematics & Statistics	Baltimore, MD Fall 2015–Spring 2018
Coursework: Time Series Analysis, Data Structures, C/C++ Programming, Analysis of Algorithms	

WORK EXPERIENCE

D.E. Shaw & Co. Quantitative Analyst Intern in Futures	New York, NY Summer 2023
Distributed training of large language models.	
Amazon Research Scientist Intern in Supply Chain Optimization Technology	Menlo Park, CA Summer 2022
Deep sequence models and graph neural networks for time series forecasting. Work featured in KDD23 Workshop on Deep Learning on Graphs.	
Facebook (now Meta) Applied Research Science Intern in Enterprise Products	Menlo Park, CA Summer 2021
Multimodal machine learning, interpretable AI.	
Microsoft Research Research Intern in Special Projects	Redmond, WA Summer 2020
Representation learning, continual/lifelong learning.	
Johns Hopkins University Department of Biomedical Engineering Assistant Research Engineer in NeuroData Laboratory	Baltimore, MD Fall 2017–Spring 2020
Nonparametric time series methods, uncertainty estimation, continual/lifelong learning.	
Goldman Sachs Software Engineering Intern in Finance & Risk Technology	New York, NY Summer 2018
Large-scale data streaming, time series analysis, user-driven software design.	
Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory Research Intern in Large-Scale Analytics Systems	Laurel, MD Summer 2017
Sentiment analysis, network science.	

PUBLICATIONS AND PREPRINTS

- [1] **R. Mehta**, J. Diakonikolas, and Z. Harchaoui, *A Primal-Dual Algorithm for Faster Distributionally Robust Optimization*, Under review, 2024. arXiv: 2403.10763 [stat.ML].
- [2] **R. Mehta**, V. Roulet, K. Pillutla, and Z. Harchaoui, “Distributionally Robust Optimization with Bias and Variance Reduced Gradients”, in *ICLR, Spotlight (top 5% of submissions)*, 2024.
- [3] A. Li, R. Perry, C. Huynh, T. M. Tomita, **R. Mehta**, J. Arroyo, J. Patsolic, B. Falk, S. Sarma, and J. Vogelstein, “Manifold Oblique Random Forests: Towards Closing the Gap on Convolutional Deep Networks”, *SIAM Journal on Mathematics of Data Science*, 2023.
- [4] **R. Mehta**, V. Roulet, K. Pillutla, L. Liu, and Z. Harchaoui, “Stochastic Optimization for Spectral Risk Measures”, in *AISTATS*, 2023.
- [5] S. Yang, M. Wolff, S. Ramasubramanian, V. Quenneville-Belair, **R. Mehta**, and M. Mahoney, “GEANN: Scalable Graph Augmentations for Multi-Horizon Time Series Forecasting”, in *KDD 2023 Workshop on Mining and Learning with Graphs*, 2023.

WORKS IN PROGRESS

- [1] L. Liu, **R. Mehta**, and Z. Harchaoui, *A New Variance-Reduced Estimation Scheme*, 2024.
- [2] **R. Mehta**, J. Diakonikolas, and Z. Harchaoui, *Optimal Primal-Dual Algorithms for Dual-Linearizable Saddlepoint Problems*, 2024.

TEACHING

University of Washington

Teaching Assistant - Graduate Courses

Statistical Inference (STAT 513)	Winter 2024
Statistical Inference (STAT 513)	Winter 2023
Machine Learning for Big Data (STAT 548 / CSE 547)	Winter 2022
Statistical Machine Learning for Data Scientists (DATA 558)	Spring 2021
Applied Regression (STAT 504)	Winter 2021

Teaching Assistant - Undergraduate Courses

Introduction to Machine Learning (STAT 416 / CSE 416)	Fall 2021
Statistical Methods in Engineering & Science (STAT 390)	Fall 2020

John Hopkins University

Instructor of Record

Mathematical Thinking and Proof-Writing for Engineers (EN.553.109)	Winter 2020
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Teaching Assistant - Graduate Courses

Matrix Analysis & Linear Algebra (EN.553.792)	Fall 2019
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Teaching Assistant - Undergraduate Courses

Probability & Statistics for the Biological Sciences & Engineering (EN.553.311)	Spring 2019
Probability & Statistics for the Physical Sciences & Engineering (EN.553.310)	Fall 2018
Computational Molecular Medicine (EN.553.450)	Spring 2018

TALKS

Primal-Dual Algorithms for Faster Distributionally Robust Optimization

UW IFDS Seminar, April 2024

Seattle, WA

Distributionally Robust Optimization with Bias and Variance Reduced Gradients

NSF TRIPODS Workshop 2024

San Diego, CA

INFORMS Annual Meeting 2023

Phoenix, AZ

SIAM PNW Conference 2023

Bellingham, WA

Stochastic Optimization for Spectral Risk Measures

JSM 2023

Toronto, ON

SIAM OPT 2023

Seattle, WA

Stochastic L-Risk Minimization

UW IFDS Seminar, February 2023

Seattle, WA

JSM 2022

Washington, D.C.

SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS

Weil Neurohub and NeuroTEC Travel Award

2023

To fund the development of high-impact projects that leverage imaging, engineering, genomics and molecular therapies, and computation and data analytics; To support collaborative research projects with near-term transformational potential, novel research ideas led by pioneering investigators, and the training of the next generation of clinicians and scientists.

JSM Student and Early-Career Travel Award

2023

To encourage students and early-career professionals to become engaged in the statistical community through participation in ASA-sponsored professional meetings. The selection of individuals to support is based on both merit and financial need.

JSM Student Paper Award Honorable Mention in Risk Analysis

2023

For exceptional student papers regarding theoretical development or applications of risk analysis, including environmental risk, financial risk, the risk to engineering structures, health risks, risks to defense and national security. Presented at Joint Statistical Meetings (JSM) 2023.

Institute for Foundations of Data Science (IFDS) Scholarship

2022

To promote fundamental research in the mathematical foundations of data science. Supported by the NSF Transdisciplinary Research in Principles of Data Science (TRIPODS) program.