

# MARY LAI SALVAÑA, Ph.D.

## ASSISTANT PROFESSOR IN STATISTICS

ROOM 330, PHILIP E. AUSTIN BLDG., DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS, UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT  
215 GLENBROOK RD., STORRS, CT 06269-4120

832-993-4634 | marylai.salvana@uconn.edu | <http://marylaisalvana.com> | <https://statistics.uconn.edu/person/mary-lai-salvana/>  
(UPDATED JULY 24, 2024)

## Research Interests

---

EXTREME & CATASTROPHIC EVENTS, RISKS, DISASTERS, ANTIFRAGILITY, CLIMATE & ENVIRONMENTAL DATA SCIENCE, SPATIAL & SPATIO-TEMPORAL STATISTICS, HIGH-PERFORMANCE COMPUTING, COMPUTATIONAL STATISTICS, BIG DATA, MULTIVARIATE ANALYSIS, DEEP LEARNING, MACHINE LEARNING

## Education

---

### King Abdullah University of Science and Technology (KAUST)

PHD IN STATISTICS

- Thesis: Lagrangian Spatio-Temporal Covariance Functions for Multivariate Nonstationary Random Fields, Advisor: Marc G. Genton

Jeddah, Saudi Arabia

January 2017 - July 2021

### Ateneo de Manila University

MS IN APPLIED MATHEMATICS

BS IN APPLIED MATHEMATICS

Manila, Philippines

August 2015 - July 2016

June 2011 - March 2015

## Employment

---

### Department of Statistics, University of Connecticut

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR IN STATISTICS

Storrs, CT, USA

December 2023 – Present

### Statistics Department, KAUST

VISITING PROFESSOR

Jeddah, Saudi Arabia

October 2023 – December 2023

### Department of Mathematics, University of Houston

POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCHER

Houston, TX, USA

August 2021 – July 2023

## Honors & Awards

---

2021

Al-Kindi Statistics Research Student Award

KAUST

## Publications

---

- Salvaña, M. L. O., Lenzi, A., & Genton, M. G. (2023). *Spatio-temporal cross-covariance functions under the Lagrangian framework with multiple advections*. *Journal of the American Statistical Association*, 118(544), 2746-2761. <https://doi.org/10.1080/01621459.2022.2078330>.
- Salvaña, M. L. O., Abdulah, S., Ltaief, H., Sun, Y., Genton, M. G., & Keyes, D. E. (2022). *Parallel space-time likelihood optimization for air pollution prediction on large-scale systems*. PASC '22: Proceedings of the Platform for Advanced Scientific Computing Conference, 17, 1-11. <https://dl.acm.org/doi/pdf/10.1145/3539781.3539800>.
- Salvaña, M. L. O., Abdulah, S., Huang, H., Ltaief, H., Sun, Y., Genton, M. G., & Keyes, D. E. (2021). *High performance multivariate spatial modeling for geostatistical data on manycore systems*. *IEEE Transactions on Parallel and Distributed Systems*, 32(11), 2719-2733. <https://ieeexplore.ieee.org/document/9397281>.
- Salvaña, M. L. O., & Genton, M. G. (2021). *Lagrangian spatio-temporal nonstationary covariance functions*. *Book Chapter in Advances in Contemporary Statistics and Econometrics, Festschrift for Prof. C. Thomas-Agnan*, 427-447. [https://link.springer.com/chapter/10.1007/978-3-030-73249-3\\_22](https://link.springer.com/chapter/10.1007/978-3-030-73249-3_22).

- **Salvaña, M. L. O. & Genton, M. G. (2020).** *Nonstationary cross-covariance functions for multivariate spatio-temporal random fields.* *Spatial Statistics*, 37, 100411. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.spasta.2020.100411>.

## Manuscripts

---

- **Salvaña, M. L. O. & Jun, M. (2024)** *3D bivariate spatial modelling of Argo ocean temperature and salinity profiles.* Under review. <https://arxiv.org/pdf/2210.11611.pdf>.
- **Salvaña, M. L. O. & Genton, M. G. (2024)** *Taylor's hypothesis for non-frozen nonstationary spatio-temporal random fields.* In preparation.
- **Salvaña, M. L. O.,** Abdulah, S., Kim, M., Helmy, D., Sun, Y., & Genton, M. G. (2024) *MPCR: Multi- and Mixed-Precision Computations Package in R.* <https://arxiv.org/pdf/2406.02701>. Under review.

## Software

---

- DiffOp: <https://github.com/marysalvana/DiffOp> (Author)
- ExaGeoStat: <https://github.com/ecrc/exageostat> (Contributor)
- MPCR: <https://github.com/stsds/MPCR> (Contributor)

## Presentations

---

<b>Joint Statistical Meeting</b>	<i>Portland, OR, USA</i>
TOPIC-CONTRIBUTED TALK: MPCR: Multi- and Mixed-Precision Computations Package in R	<i>August 2024</i>
<b>EAC-ISBA Conference</b>	<i>The Education University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong</i>
INVITED TALK: MPCR: Multi- and Mixed-Precision Computations Package in R	<i>June 2024</i>
<b>The 37<sup>th</sup> New England Statistics Symposium</b>	<i>University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT, USA</i>
INVITED TALK: Multi- and Mixed-Precision Computations for Spatial and Spatio-Temporal Statistics	<i>May 2024</i>
<b>KAUST: Statistics Workshop</b>	<i>Jeddah, Saudi Arabia</i>
POSTER PRESENTATION: MPCR: Multi- and Mixed-Precision Computations Package in R	<i>November 2023</i>
<b>University of Connecticut</b>	<i>Storrs, CT, USA</i>
SEMINAR: 3D bivariate spatial modelling of Argo ocean temperature and salinity profiles	<i>January 2023</i>
<b>Duke University</b>	<i>Durham, NC, USA</i>
SEMINAR: 3D bivariate spatial modelling of Argo ocean temperature and salinity profiles	<i>January 2023</i>
<b>Pennsylvania State University</b>	<i>University Park, PA, USA</i>
SEMINAR: 3D bivariate spatial modelling of Argo ocean temperature and salinity profiles	<i>January 2023</i>
<b>Michigan State University</b>	<i>East Lansing, MI, USA</i>
SEMINAR: 3D bivariate spatial modelling of Argo ocean temperature and salinity profiles	<i>January 2023</i>
<b>Auburn University</b>	<i>Auburn, AL, USA</i>
SEMINAR: 3D bivariate spatial modelling of Argo ocean temperature and salinity profiles	<i>January 2023</i>
<b>George Mason University</b>	<i>Fairfax, VA, USA</i>
SEMINAR: 3D bivariate spatial modelling of Argo ocean temperature and salinity profiles	<i>January 2023</i>
<b>University of Iowa</b>	<i>Iowa City, IA, USA</i>
SEMINAR: 3D bivariate spatial modelling of Argo ocean temperature and salinity profiles	<i>December 2022</i>
<b>Indiana University</b>	<i>Bloomington, IN, USA</i>
SEMINAR: 3D bivariate spatial modelling of Argo ocean temperature and salinity profiles	<i>December 2022</i>
<b>Texas A&amp;M University Conference on Advances in Data Science: Theory, Methods, and Computation</b>	<i>College Station, TX, USA</i>
POSTER PRESENTATION: 3D bivariate spatial modelling of Argo ocean temperature and salinity profiles	<i>October 2022</i>
<b>ENVR Workshop: Environmental and Ecological Statistical Research and Applications with Societal Impacts</b>	<i>Provo, UT, USA</i>
POSTER PRESENTATION: 3D bivariate spatial modelling of Argo ocean temperature and salinity profiles	<i>October 2022</i>
<b>Institute for Mathematical and Statistical Innovation Workshop: Expressing and Exploiting Structure in Modeling, Theory, and Computation with Gaussian Processes</b>	<i>Chicago, IL, USA</i>
POSTER PRESENTATION: 3D bivariate spatial modelling of Argo ocean temperature and salinity profiles	<i>August 2022</i>
<b>Joint Statistical Meeting (JSM)</b>	<i>Washington DC, USA</i>
TOPIC-CONTRIBUTED TALK: Parallel space-time likelihood optimization for air pollution prediction on large-scale systems	<i>August 2022</i>
<b>Platform for Advanced Scientific Computing (Online)</b>	<i>Basel, Switzerland</i>
TOPIC-CONTRIBUTED TALK: Parallel space-time likelihood optimization for air pollution prediction on large-scale systems.	<i>June 2022</i>

### Joint Statistical Meeting (Online)

TOPIC-CONTRIBUTED TALK: Lagrangian spatio-temporal nonstationary covariance functions

Philadelphia, PA, USA

August 2020

### Joint Statistical Meeting

TOPIC-CONTRIBUTED TALK: Spatio-temporal cross-covariance functions under the Lagrangian framework

Denver, CO, USA

August 2019

### KAUST Statistics Workshop

POSTER PRESENTATION

Jeddah, Saudi Arabia

November 2018, 2019

## Short Course

---

- 2024: *Large Scale Spatial Data Science* (Half day), **Joint Statistical Meeting** Portland, OR, USA
- 2024: *Large Scale Spatial Data Science* (Full day), **The 37<sup>th</sup> New England Statistics Symposium** University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT, USA

## Teaching

---

### Department of Statistics, University of Connecticut

Storrs, CT, USA

- Applied Spatio-Temporal Statistics (STAT 4845/5845)*, 3-credit undergraduate/graduate level, Fall 2024
- Introduction to Mathematical Statistics I (STAT 3375Q)*, 3-credit undergraduate level, Spring 2024

### Statistics Department, KAUST

Jeddah, Saudi Arabia

- Linear Models*, 3-credit graduate level, Fall 2020

## Conference Organization

---

- 2024: Poster and Scholarship Subcommittee, **2024 Statistics in Pharmaceuticals (SiP)** University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT, USA
- 2024: Session Chair, *Sports Analytics Beyond the Field*, **2024 UConn Sports Analytics Symposium (UCSAS)** University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT, USA
- 2023: Session Organizer & Session Chair, *Opportunities & Challenges in the Use of Statistics in Disaster Science*, **2023 New England Statistics Symposium (NESS)** Boston University, MA, USA

## Departmental Service

---

### Department of Statistics, University of Connecticut

Storrs, CT, USA

- 2024: R. Makuch Distinguished Lecture Committee
- 2024: Library/Tech Reports Committee

## Professional Associations

---

- American Statistical Association Member
- New England Statistical Society Member
- Institute of Mathematical Statistics Member
- Ateneo Innovation Center Research Fellow

## Journal Reviews

---

Journal of Computational and Graphical Statistics, Journal of the Royal Statistical Society: Series C, Computational Statistics and Data Analysis, Statistics and Computing, Journal of Data Science, Data Science in Science, STAT, Biostatistics