Hannah Waddel February 23, 2025

Contact

Department of Biostatistics and Bioinformatics 

Emory University 

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EDUCATION 1

## Emory University, Atlanta, Georgia

2025

- Ph.D. Biostatistics
- Advisors: Dr. Max Lau, Dr. Lance Waller
- Dissertation Title: "Phylodynamic inference incorporating pathogen diversity and outbreak data"

Emory University, Atlanta, Georgia

2021

• M.S. Biostatistics

University of Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah

2018

• B.S. Mathematics, Summa Cum Laude

EMPLOYMENT

## • Biostatistics Intern

Summer 2023

Sanofi Vaccines Division, Swiftwater, Pennsylvania (remote)

- $\circ$  Re-analyzed phase II vaccine clinical trial data from over 7,000 patients across 6 trials to assess the impact of the trial protocols' inclusion criteria and follow-up times
- o Completed trainings in international clinical research standards and good clinical practice

#### • Biostatistics Collaboration Core

2019-Present

Department of Biostatistics and Bioinformatics, Emory University (part-time)

- Participated in close consultation and collaboration with researchers from the schools of medicine and public health on design and implementation of studies at all stages of research
- Provided statistical collaboration and/or HPC cluster support on 17 research projects, resulting in coauthorship on 6 manuscripts (2 published, 1 revised and resubmitted, 3 submitted and under review)

#### • Actuarial Intern

Summer 2016

Willis Towers Watson, Denver, Colorado

- Used proprietary software and programming language to calculate expected yearly payments to companies' pension plans
- Completed project recommending more accurate pension mortality assumptions to an international company with over 14,000 employees in their pension plan

RESEARCH PROJECTS

- "Dissecting the evolutionary dynamics of influenza A virus within and between naturally infected swine"
  - Developing joint phylodynamic epidemiological-evolutionary model to integrate disease testing data and pathogen genetic sampling to infer the transmission dynamics of multiple circulating disease variants (as seen in influenza and SARS CoV-2 outbreaks, for example)
  - Implementing large-scale yet efficient C++ algorithm to fit stochastic model to sampling data and perform high-dimensional data imputation for outbreaks
  - Developing and unit-testing R package to distribute method, along with functions for summarization, visualization, and remote HPC cluster interaction (over 24,000 lines of C++, R, and shell code)
  - Work done through the Emory Molecules and Pathogens to Populations and Pandemics (MP3) initiative
- "ScTree: Scalable and robust mechanistic integration of epidemiological and genomic data for transmission tree inference"
  - Developed scalable algorithm to integrate pathogen genomic data and clinical epidemiological data in order to infer transmission tree (who-infected-whom) of disease outbreaks
  - Achieved exponential gain in computation efficiency by an over thousand-fold reduction of model dimension, while still maintaining model accuracy and robustness
  - Developed R package to distribute method and summarize + visualize results (over 29,000 lines of C++, R, and shell code)

#### Publications Articles

- 1. Dorbu, A. D., **Waddel, H. B.**, Chadha, M., López de Romaña, D., Arabi, M., Moore, R. H., Mehta, C., & Pachón, H. (2025). Nutritional Anemia Reductions Due to Food Fortification Among Women of Childbearing Age: A Literature Review and Bayesian Meta-Analysis. *Maternal & Child Nutrition*, e13801. https://doi.org/10.1111/mcn.13801
- Sadan, O., Waddel, H. B., Moore, R., Feng, C., Mei, Y., Pearce, D., Kraft, J., Pimentel, C., Mathew, S., Akbik, F., Ameli, P., Taylor, A., Danyluk, L., Martin, K. S., Garner, K., Kolenda, J., Pujari, A., Asbury, W., Jaja, B. N. R., Macdonald, R. L., Cawley, C. M., Barrow, D. L., & Samuels, O. (2022). Does intrathecal nicardipine for cerebral vasospasm following subarachnoid hemorrhage correlate with reduced delayed cerebral ischemia? A retrospective propensity score—based analysis. Journal of Neurosurgery, 136(1), 115-124. PMID: 34087804
- 3. Akbik, F., **Waddel, H. B.**, Jaja, B. N. R., Macdonald, R. L., Moore, R., Samuels, O. B., & Sadan, O. (2021). Nicardipine Prolonged Release Implants for Prevention of Delayed Cerebral Ischemia after Aneurysmal Subarachnoid Hemorrhage: A Meta-Analysis. *Journal of Stroke and Cerebrovascular Diseases*, 30(10), 106020. PMID: 34365121
- 4. Nadel, B. B., Lopez, D., Montoya, D. J., Ma, F., **Waddel, H. B.**, Khan, M. M., Mangul, S., & Pellegrini, M. (2021). The Gene Expression Deconvolution Interactive Tool (GEDIT): accurate cell type quantification from gene expression data. *GigaScience*, 10(2) PMID: 33590863

## Preprints/Pending

- 1. Waddel, H. B., Koelle, K. V., Lau, M. S. Y., (2024). ScTree: Scalable and robust mechanistic integration of epidemiological and genomic data for transmission tree inference. *Under revision*. Preprint available on bioRxiv.
- 2. Howard, M., Wilmot, G., Jorgensen, C., Cahn, S., **Waddel, H. B.**, Ali, N., Pagano, J., & Rosen, A. (2024). Development and Evaluation of a Novel Reproductive Educational Tool for Patients with Spinocerebellar Ataxia. *Under review*.
- 3. Quillin, A. L., **Waddel, H. B.**, Druss, J., & Laney, D. A. (2024). Optimizing detection of early gastrointestinal symptoms in young children with Fabry disease. *Under review*.
- 4. Moubadder, L., Bliss, M., Maliniak, M., **Waddel, H. B.**, Switchenko, J., Chang, H., Kramer, M., & McCullough, L. (2024). Increasing access, equitability, and rigor in the assessment of Neighborhood Mortgage Discrimination. *Under revision*. Preprint available at Research Square.

## Conference Participation

- Waddel, H. B., Koelle, K. V., Lau, M. S. Y., "Scalable and robust mechanistic integration of epidemiological and genomic data for phylodynamic inference", Oral Presentation, *Epidemics9*, Bologna, Italy, 2023
- Waddel, H. B., Adler, F.A., "The Community Ecology of the Music Canon", Poster, National Conference on Undergraduate Research, Edmond, OK, USA, 2018
- Waddel, H. B., Adler, F.A., "The Community Ecology of the Music Canon", Poster, *Utah Conference on Undergraduate Research*, Cedar City, UT, USA, 2018

## Honors and Awards

- First Place, Senior PhD Student Presentation Day
   Emory University Department of Biostatistics

   Scholarship
   Summer Institute in Statistics and Modeling in Infectious Disease, U. of Washington

   Gibson Senior Award
   Department of Mathematics, University of Utah

   Emeritus Librarian Scholarship
   J. Willard Marriott Library, University of Utah
- Pi Mu Epsilon Mathematics Honor Society
  Department of Mathematics, University of Utah
- National Merit Scholarship 2013

2017

GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS	• Laney Graduate Fellowship Laney Graduate School, Emory University	2018
	• Independent Research Experience Undergraduate Grant (\$1,000) Department of Mathematics and Department of Biology, University of Utah Title: "The Community Ecology of the Music Canon"	2018
	• Independent Research Experience Undergraduate Grant (\$2,000) Department of Mathematics and Department of Biology, University of Utah Title: "The Community Ecology of the Music Canon"	2017
	• ORCA Undergraduate Student Mentoring Grant (\$1,500) Office of Research and Creative Activities, Brigham Young University Title: "Transcription Factor Interactions in Developing Hair Cells"	2016
	• ORCA Undergraduate Student Mentoring Grant (\$1,500) Office of Research and Creative Activities, Brigham Young University	2015

## TEACHING Instructor

• Co-Instructor, Intro to Epidemiology and Biostatistics (HGC 707)

Fall 2022

• SPSS Short Course (Part of HGC 740C)

Title: "Sensory Integration in Zebrafish Larvae"

Summer 2022, 2023, 2024

• Statistical Methods I Lab (BIOS 500L)

Fall 2020

## Teaching Assistant

• Statistical Practice I (BIOS 580)

Fall 2022, Fall 2023

• Biostatistical Methods II (BIOS 591P)

Spring 2020-Spring 2024

• Statistical Methods I Lab (BIOS 500L)

Fall 2019

#### **Guest Lectures**

- "Clean Code to Deal with Dirty Data", Statistical Practice I (BIOS 580), 2024
- "Introduction to the Command Line and the HPC Cluster", Doctoral Seminar in Epidemiologic Practice (EPI 790R), 2024

#### SERVICE

## • Georgia Statistics Day

2024

Student volunteer coordinator

• Ad-hoc Reviewer

2023

Journal of the Royal Society Interface

### • Graduate Student Network executive committee

2020-Present

National Institute of Statistical Sciences (NISS)

- Founding member of the NISS Graduate Student Network with a mission to support the graduate students at NISS-affiliated academic departments throughout their graduate programs and in their early career
- Planned and hosted quarterly events to support GSN's mission including webinars, career fairs, panels, and networking socials

# National Institute of Statistical Sciences (NISS) Graduate Student Research Conference

Conference organizing committee

## • Archival Volunteer

2021-2023

Computer Museum of America

• Organizing and describing documentation and other textual materials which relate to the museum's hardware and software collections

## • Student Council Representative

2019-2022

Department of Biostatistics and Bioinformatics, Emory University

## • COVID-19 Geospatial support

2020

Georgia Department of Public Health

## TECHNICAL SKILLS

- Programming and Software: Advanced proficiency in R, SPSS, SAS. Intermediate proficiency in R package development and testing, Rshiny; Python; C++; Bash/Unix; Linux system administration; Git/Github; and ArcGIS Software. Basic proficiency in Docker (and Rocker); SQL; PySpark; HTML/CSS.
- Statistics: Generalized linear models; Bayesian hierarchical modeling; spatial statistics; causal inference and observational studies via propensity score modeling and instrumental variables; survival analysis; meta-analysis; infectious disease modeling; stochastic processes; time-series analysis; probability theory; fitting Bayesian models via Markov Chain Monte Carlo using Metropolis-Hastings, JAGS (Just Another Gibbs Sampler), or INLA (Integrated Nested Laplace Approximation)

#### Affiliations

- American Statistical Association (ASA)
- International Biometric Society (IBS), Eastern North American Region (ENAR)
- Association for Computing Machinery (ACM)

OTHER

• Society of Actuaries Exam P (Probability)

2016