

ZHIYANG ZHOU

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Assistant Professor of Biostatistics

University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

METHODOLOGICAL RESEARCH TOPICS

Functional/longitudinal data analysis, deep learning, transfer learning, survival analysis, tensor data analysis, design of experiments.

COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

I have collaborated with investigators from many areas including the atmospheric science, cardiovascular disease, diabetes, infectious disease, mental health, and nutrition science.

EMPLOYMENT

University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee , U.S. Assistant Professor of Biostatistics (Tenure-track)	<i>2023–</i>
University of Manitoba , Canada Assistant Professor of Statistics (Tenure-track)	<i>2021–23</i>
Northwestern University , U.S. Research Scholar	<i>2020–21</i>
Simon Fraser University , Canada Sessional Instructor	<i>2019</i>

EDUCATION

Simon Fraser University , Canada Ph.D. in Statistics Supervisor: Richard Lockhart, Professor, Fellow of Royal Society of Canada	<i>2015–20</i>
Nankai University , China M.Sc. in Probability and Statistics Supervisor: Runchu Zhang, Professor	<i>2009–12</i>
Beijing Normal University , China B.Sc. in Statistics	<i>2005–09</i>

FUNDING

Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) Principal Investigator, NSERC Discovery Grants Individual Program	<i>2022–27</i>
Principal Investigator, NSERC Discovery Launch Supplements	<i>2022–23</i>

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed

14. H. Golandouz, M. Doupe, **Z. Zhou**, & L. Lix. (2026). Evaluating accuracy and fairness of machine-learning osteoporosis case definitions in linked administrative data. *2026 International Population Data Linkage Network Conference (IPDLN)*, in press.
13. **Z. Zhou**, Y. Deng, L. Liu, H. Jiang, Y. Peng, X. Yang, Y. Zhao, H. Ning, N. Allen, J. Wilkins, K. Liu, D. Lloyd-Jones, & L. Zhao. (2025). Deep neural network with a smooth monotonic output layer for dynamic risk prediction. *Statistics in Medicine*, in press. doi:10.1002/sim.70401
12. J. Liu, **Z. Zhou**, X. Cheng, D. Zhang, L. Li, & N. Vangeepuram. (2024). Food insecurity trends and disparities according to immigration status in the US households, 2011–2021. *Preventive Medicine* 187:108121. doi:10.1016/j.ypmed.2024.108121
11. J. Liu, **Z. Zhou**, X. Cheng, & N. Vangeepuram. (2023). Geographic and sociodemographic variations in prevalence of mental health symptoms among US youths, 2022. *American Journal of Public Health* 113:1116–1119. doi:10.2105/AJPH.2023.307355
10. Y. Deng, L. Liu, H. Jiang, Y. Peng, Y. Wei, **Z. Zhou**, Y. Zhong, Y. Zhao, X. Yang, J. Yu, Z. Lu, A. Kho, H. Ning, N. B. Allen, J. T. Wilkins, K. Liu, D. M. Lloyd-Jones, & L. Zhao (2023). Comparison of state-of-the-art neural network survival models with the pooled cohort equations for cardiovascular disease risk prediction. *BMC Medical Research Methodology* 23:22. doi:10.1186/s12874-022-01829-w
9. **Z. Zhou** & P. Sang (2022). Continuum centroid classifier for functional data. *Canadian Journal of Statistics* 50:200–220. doi:10.1002/cjs.11624
8. Y. Zhao, Y. Wang, J. Liu, H. Xia, Z. Xu, Q. Hong, **Z. Zhou**, & L. Petzold (2021). Empirical quantitative analysis of COVID-19 forecasting models. *2021 International Conference on Data Mining Workshops (ICDMW)* 517–526. (Best Paper Award) doi:10.1109/ICDMW53433.2021.00069
7. **Z. Zhou** (2021). Fast implementation of partial least squares for function-on-function regression. *Journal of Multivariate Analysis* 185:104769. doi:10.1016/j.jmva.2021.104769
6. **Z. Zhou** (2019). Functional continuum regression. *Journal of Multivariate Analysis* 173:328–346. doi:10.1016/j.jmva.2019.03.006
5. **Z. Zhou** & R. Zhang (2014). A generalized general minimum lower order confounding criterion for nonregular designs. *Journal of Statistical Planning & Inference* 148:95–100. doi:10.1016/j.jspi.2013.12.003
4. W. Wang, D. Gong, **Z. Zhou**, & Y. Guo (2012). Robustness of the aerosol weekly cycle over Southeastern China. *Atmospheric Environment* 61:409–418. doi:10.1016/j.atmosenv.2012.07.029

Under Review

3. **Z. Zhou** & L. Zhao. (2025). Parsimonious joint model of survival outcome and multiple longitudinal risk factors.

Preprint

2. Y. Yang, & **Z. Zhou** (2025). Transfer learning for function linear regression via control variates. arXiv:2601.17217
1. **Z. Zhou**, & R. Lockhart. (2020). Partial least squares for sparsely observed curves with measurement errors. arXiv:2003.11542

SERVICE

Editorial Board Member

hLife (2024–28), *Journal of Multivariate Analysis* (2024–26)

Conference Committee Member

Scientific Committee for the International Applied Statistics Conference (UYIK, 2024–26)

Program Committee for ICSA-Canada Chapter 2024 Symposium

Grant Reviewer

NSERC Discovery Grants

Journal Reviewer

American Journal of Public Health, Biometrics, Biostatistics & Epidemiology, Chemometrics and Intelligent Laboratory Systems, Computational Statistics, Canadian Journal of Statistics, Environmental Modeling & Assessment, hLife, IISE Transactions, Journal of Alzheimer's Disease, Journal of Applied Statistics, Journal of Computational and Graphical Statistics, Journal of Medical Internet Research, Journal of Multivariate Analysis, Knowledge-Based Systems, Mathematical Modelling and Analysis, Statistics and Computing, Statistics in Biosciences, Statistics in Medicine, Statistics & Probability Letters, Technometrics, The American Statistician, Trials

Conference Reviewer

Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS), International Conference on Learning Representations (ICLR)

Committee Member @uwm.edu

Non-Academic Misconduct Hearing Committee (Dean of Students Office, 2025–26)

Committee Member @manitoba.ca

Graduate Committee (Dept. Stat., 2022–23), IT Committee (Dept. Stat., 2022–23), Research & Seminar Committee (Dept. Stat., 2021–22), Statistical Consulting Committee (Dept. Stat., 2022–23), Executive Committee (Faculty of Science, 2022–23)

Others

Official Nominator for the VinFuture Prize

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

2026

ICSA China Conference;
International Conference on Frontiers of Data Science.

2025

Joint Conference on Statistics and Data Science in China;
WNAR/IMS Annual Meeting.

2024

International Joint Conference on Computational and Financial Econometrics (CFE) and Computational and Methodological Statistics (CMStatistics), CFE-CMStatistics 2024;
International Conference on Econometrics and Statistics (EcoSta 2024);
Joint Conference on Statistics and Data Science in China;
SFU Statistical Learning for Large Scale Data Conference;
ICSA-Canada Chapter Symposium;
Southeast Wisconsin Data Science (SEAWINDS) Collaborative First Annual Research Symposium.

2023

International Conference of the ERCIM WG on Computational and Methodological Statistics (CM-Statistics 2023);

ICSA International Conference.

2022

International Conference of the ERCIM WG on Computational and Methodological Statistics (CM-Statistics 2022);

Biostatistics and Bioinformatics Round, George & Fay Yee Centre for Healthcare Innovation;

Biostatistics Seminar Series, Northwestern University;

ICSA-Canada Chapter Symposium;

Machine Learning Special Interest Group Meeting, George & Fay Yee Centre for Healthcare Innovation;

ICSA Applied Statistics Symposium.

2021

NIC-ASA & ICSA Midwest Chapter Joint Fall Meeting;

ICSA Applied Statistics Symposium.

TEACHING

Supervision

- **Doctoral Students:** Sanaa Mohammed Sami Raja Mahmoud (2025–, Nursing, uwm.edu, with Dr. Jennifer Doering as the major supervisor), Donald Cramer (2023–, Biostatistics, uwm.edu).
- **Master Students:** Liliana Kasta (2024–25, Biostatistics, uwm.edu), Ian Nadolski (2023–25, Biostatistics, uwm.edu), Kelly Wikoff (2023–24, Biostatistics, uwm.edu) Ke Wang (2022–24, Statistics, umanitoba.ca), Yuting Kang (2023–25, Math, ctgu.edu.cn, with Drs. Chang-Lin Xiang and Changyu Guo as major supervisors).
- **Undergraduate Students:** Omar Hassan (2022–23, Physics & Astronomy, umanitoba.ca, with Dr. Wouter Deconinck as the major supervisor).

Courses

- **University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee:** Introduction to Biostatistics (2026), Practice of Biostatistical Consulting (2026), Data Management and Visualization in R (2025–26), Probability and Statistical Inference (2024–25), Applied Survival Analysis (2024, 26).
- **University of Manitoba:** Multivariate Analysis (2022–23), Introduction to Statistical Inference (2022), Statistical Inference (2022).
- **Simon Fraser University:** Statistical Theory (2019).