Eion Blanchard

CONTACT eionmb2@illinois.edu

EDUCATION University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Champaign, IL

Doctor of Philosophy, Mathematics

Expected Aug 2023

Advanced to candidacy in Apr 2021 (adviser: Philipp Hieronymi)

Master of Science, Applied Mathematics

May 2020

Computational Science and Engineering (CSE) concentration

University of Florida

Gainesville, FL

Bachelor of Science, Mathematics

May 2018

Degree conferred summa cum laude · Honors Program · GPA 3.97

Interests

applied science, algorithms and complexity theory, mathematical logic, theoretical computer science, voting systems and gerrymandering, optimization, numerical analysis

Publications

Decidability bounds for Presburger arithmetic extended by sine (2023) with P. Hieronymi (arXiv 2204.00099, under review for publication)

Model-Guided Synthesis of Inductive Lemmas for FOL with Least Fixpoints (2022) with P. Madhusudan, et al. (Proc. of the ACM on Programming Languages, vol. 6)

Resilient adjudication in non-intrusive inspection with hierarchical object and anomaly detection (2022) with D. Krofcheck, et al. (Proc. of SPIE Defense + Commercial Sensing, vol. 12104)

A decoder for the color code with boundaries (2020) with B. La Cour, et al. (arXiv 2003.11602)

Measuring Congressional district meandering (2018) with K. Knudson (arXiv 1805.08208)

Work

Simons Laufer Mathematical Sciences Institute

Berkeley, CA

Postdoctoral Fellow

Aug 2023 - Dec 2023

Microsoft Redmond, WA

Research Intern

May 2022 - Aug 2022

- \cdot Reduced runtimes by 12% and resulting file size by 21% for ballot encryption of small plurality and large n-of-m voting contests on Democracy Forward's ElectionGuard
- · Generated and proved correctness of 34 benchmark sets to prove necessity of election record verification checks and for quality assurance of third-party, end-to-end verifiers

Research Intern May 2021 - Aug 2021

- \cdot Reduced runtimes by 33% and memory footprints by 90% for large industry problems in PUBO form on Azure Quantum's optimization solvers
- · Detailed algorithms in C++ and Python for factored forms of cost function terms, accelerating Markov transition cost differencing from linear (in factor length) to constant time

Sandia National Laboratories

Albuquerque, NM

Mathematics and Analytics Research & Development Intern

May 2020 - Aug 2020

- · Improved average precision of object detection by 6% over baseline models from FAIR's Detectron2 by developing a graph theoretic ensemble learning method in Python
- · Crafted graph visualizations and analyzed temporal networks with GCNs

Applied Research Laboratories, University of Texas at Austin

Austin, TX

Research Engineering Scientist Associate

June 2019 - Aug 2019

· Bounded quantum color code error thresholds to 4-8% for Pauli X errors and 0.7-0.8% for Pauli Z errors by implementing decoder with measurement-based lattices in Python

MGGG Redistricting Lab, Tufts University

Cambridge, MA

Voting Rights Data Institute Fellow

June 2018 - July 2018

- · Gathered and analyzed vast demographic and election voting data sets for districting plans via QGIS visualizations, topological data analysis, and Markov chain Monte Carlo methods
- · Prototyped Districtr app in Python to empower self-identification of communities of interest

University of Washington

Seattle, WA

Research Assistant, NSF Research Experience for Undergraduates

June 2016 - Aug 2016

SKILLS	Intermediate: Python Basic: Git, C++, MATLAB, SQL, R		
Awards	University Fellowship, UIUC Mathematics Department List of Teachers Ranked As Excellent, Outstanding Distinction List of Teachers Ranked As Excellent Anderson Scholarship, Highest Distinction Benacquisto Scholarship Bright Futures Florida Academic Scholarship National Merit Scholarship	Fall 2019; Spring 20 Fall 2020, S	
TEACHING	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Research Assistant, Department of Mathematics Developing new Linear Algebra for Data Science course with P	Champaign, IL Aug 2022 - Present	
	Teaching Assistant, Department of Mathematics Aug 2018 - Dec 2021 Led Python programming labs for Linear Algebra with Computational Applications; developed weekly lessons and homework assignments; managed 8 classroom assistants Developed course content and led active-learning sections for Calculus I and II under the Merit program for students underrepresented in STEM		
	Teaching Assistant, Inmas Jan 2021 - Feb 2021 Developed and led NumPy tutorials; led problem-solving sessions for Python workshop		
	Research Mentor, Illinois Geometry Lab Aug 2018 - Dec 2020 Managed team of 5 undergraduate researchers in automated theorem proving Verified mathematical proofs with MSR's Lean and mechanized arithmetic for Ostrowski numeration systems with Walnut		
	University of Florida Teaching Assistant, Department of Computer Science & Engineer. Led weekly discussion sections for Applications of Discrete Stru		
Talks	"Decidability bounds for Presburger arithmetic extended by sine" University of Bonn Oberseminar Mathematische Logik American Mathematical Society Spring Central Meeting Fields Institute Model Theory Seminar University of Illinois Logic Seminar	Bonn, Germany West Lafayette, IN Toronto, ON, Canada Champaign, IL	Oct 2022 Mar 2022 Mar 2022 Apr 2021
	"Ensemble learning with graph inference cliques" Sandia Machine Learning & Deep Learning Workshop	Albuquerque, NM	Aug 2020
	"When is scalar multiplication decidable?" University of Illinois Computability Seminar	Champaign, IL	Apr 2020
	"Measuring Congressional district meandering and gerrymanderin Wolfram Research Summer School	g" Champaign, IL	Nov 2019

SERVICE

Association for Women in Mathematics

Champaign, IL

Member, University of Illinois Chapter

 ${
m Aug}~2018$ - ${
m Present}$

Varsity Vocals
Judge, International Championship of Collegiate A Cappella

Chicago, IL

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Feb 2019 - Present

GestaltDirector of Music, Co-Founder

Gainesville, FL May 2016 - Apr 2018

 \cdot Created and directed a cappella group to 1^{st} place at ICCA Quarterfinals and to Runner-up at ICCA Semifinals, SoJam, BOSS, and NACC

· Garnered 13 nominations and 3 wins at the Contemporary A Cappella Recording Awards

University of Florida Mathematics Society

 $Gaines ville, \, FL$

Secretary

Sept 2014 - May 2017