

CONTACT
INFORMATION

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Summary

Quantitative talent:

- Ranked 2nd in Canada on the Euclid 12th grade mathematics competition.
- Ranked 5th in Canada on the Putnam mathematics competition during second year of college.
- Completed B.Sc. (Honours) in Pure Mathematics in 20 months.
- Earned PhD in mathematics from UC Berkeley in May, 2013.
- Awarded 3-year research faculty position at the NSF Mathematical Biosciences Institute in September, 2013 (deferred)
- Worked as a financial trader at Jane Street Group in NYC.

Technical skill:

- Extensive coding experience in OCaml, VBA, Bash, and Macaulay2, and some experience with R and Python, for business, trading, and mathematical computing applications.
- Published thesis on applications of algebraic geometry to Hidden Markov models, a time series analysis tool.
- Experience analyzing EEG data using Bayesian network models.
- Developed a tensor manipulation package for Macaulay2.

Management and team project experience:

- Co-founded the Center for Applied Rationality (CFAR, <http://rationality.org/>), a non-profit which teaches workshops on improving decision-making by using recent advances in cognitive science, earning over \$500K in admissions revenue to date, now with 9 full-time employees.
- Co-developed Werewolves social computer game for International House, Berkeley.
- Co-developed Credence Calibration game for CFAR.

Well-regarded as a speaker and consultant:

- Invited to present at diverse venues, including the 2014 Thiel Foundation Summit in San Francisco, Harvard Effective Altruism 2014 speaker series, Thiel 20 Under 20 Summit in New York City, TEDxYouth@Tallinn in Tallinn, Estonia, the 2013 Effective Altruism Summit, the Carnegie Mellon statistics seminar, the Duke University algebraic geometry seminar, the NCSU symbolic computation seminar, McGill University causal inference seminar, the 2013 Thiel Foundation Appathon, Griffiths cognitive science laboratory, and the Founders Fund 2012 annual business meeting in Maui, Hawaii.
 - Consulted on decision processes and training for numerous companies, including Founders Fund venture capital, MetaMed research, and the US Army's University of Foreign Military and Cultural Studies.
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Details

EDUCATION

PhD in mathematics, UC Berkeley (May, 2013)
Visiting scholar in mathematics, Uni Roma Tre (January - July 2010)
M.Sc. in Mathematics, University of Toronto (August 2008)
B.Sc. (Hons) in Pure Mathematics, Memorial University (May 2006)
High school diploma, Clarenville High School (June 2004)

RESEARCH INTERESTS	Algebraic statistics; human cognition and de-biasing; applications of algebraic geometry to machine learning and statistical modeling; causal inference; hidden Markov models; graphical models; singular learning theory; tensor network models; parameter identifiability; financial market research.	
PUBLICATIONS	<p><i>Tensor representations of discrete data</i>, with Shaowei Lin, Luca Weihs, and Piotr Zwiernik. In preparation.</p> <p><i>Polynomial constraints on representing entangled qubits as matrix product states</i>, with Jason Morton (2012). SIGMA 10 (2014), 095.</p> <p><i>Binary hidden Markov models and varieties</i> (2012). arXiv:1206.0500. Journal of algebraic Statistics, Vol 4, No 1 (2013): AS2012 Special Volume, part 2</p> <p><i>A note on the proportionality between some consistency indices in the AHP</i>, with M. Brunelli, and M. Fedrizzi (2010). arXiv:1203.6431v1. Applied Mathematics and Computation 219 (14) (2013), 7901-7906.</p> <p><i>Resolving the Banach-Tarski paradox: inseparability of rigid bodies</i> (2006). B.Sc. Honors thesis.</p> <p><i>Pushing the limit (generalized limits and limit extrema)</i> (2006), AEJM 1 no. 1, pp. 47-55.</p>	
SOFTWARE	<p><i>Tensors.m2</i>, with Claudiu Raicu (2012), a Macaulay2 package for studying varieties of tensors and tensor networks.</p> <p><i>Credence Game</i>, with Alexei Andreev and Zachary Alethia (2012), a game for Windows, Mac, Android and iPhones for calibrating reported subjective credence levels to actual success rates.</p>	
PROGRAMMING LANGUAGES	<p>OCaml (proficient)</p> <p>VBA (proficient)</p> <p>Bash (proficient)</p> <p>Macaulay2 (proficient)</p> <p>Python (some experience)</p> <p>R statistical language (some experience)</p>	
INVITED TALKS	<p>Thiel Foundation Summit in San Francisco</p> <p>Harvard Effective Altruism speaker series</p> <p>TEDxYouth@Tallinn in Tallinn, Estonia</p> <p>Thiel 20 Under 20 Summit in New York City</p> <p>Effective Altruism Summit</p> <p>Thiel Foundation Appathon</p> <p>Carnegie Mellon statistics seminar</p> <p>Duke University algebraic geometry seminar</p> <p>NCSU symbolic computation seminar</p> <p>McGill University causal inference seminar</p> <p>UC Berkeley algebraic geometry seminar</p> <p>Griffiths cognitive science laboratory</p> <p>RTG Workshop on Tensors and their Geometry at UC Berkeley</p> <p>York University statistics seminar</p> <p>Queen's University algebraic geometry seminar</p> <p>Autonomous electrical engineering and computer science seminar at UC Berkeley</p> <p>Summer Program on Applied Rationality and Cognition in Berkeley</p> <p>CFAR Westminster Retreat in Alamo, California</p> <p>Center for Applied Rationality workshop in Berkeley, California</p> <p>Algebraic Statistics in the Alleghenies at Pennsylvania State University</p> <p>Center for Applied Rationality workshop in Pescadero, California</p>	<p>June 2014</p> <p>April 2014</p> <p>November 2013</p> <p>November 2013</p> <p>July 2013</p> <p>February 2013</p> <p>February 2013</p> <p>January 2013</p> <p>January 2013</p> <p>December 2012</p> <p>November 2012</p> <p>October 2012</p> <p>September 2012</p> <p>September 2012</p> <p>September 2012</p> <p>August 2012</p> <p>August 2012</p> <p>July 2012</p> <p>June 2012</p> <p>June 2012</p> <p>May 2012</p>

Founders Fund annual business meeting in Maui	May 2012
Stanford student algebraic geometry seminar	February 2012
COGS Causal Inference Symposium at UC Berkeley	February 2012
UC Berkeley algebraic geometry seminar	January 2012
Mathematicians Against Police Violence at UC Berkeley	November 2011
UC Berkeley algebraic geometry seminar	November, 2011
UC Berkeley algebraic statistics seminar	September 2011

HONORS AND AWARDS

Outstanding Graduate Student Instructor Award	March 2012
DARPA Graduate Student Research grant – \$24,000	January 2012
NSERC PGS-Doctoral Scholarship – \$42,000	September 2008
NSERC CGS-Doctoral Scholarship – \$105,000 (declined after 1 year)	September 2007
NSERC CGS-Masters Scholarship – \$17,500	September 2006
NSERC Undergraduate Summer Research Assistantship – \$6,000	May 2006
Governor General’s Medal for Memorial University, awarded to the overall top undergraduate student across all faculties and departments.	May 2006
Memorial University Medal for Excellence in Mathematics	May 2006
Putnam mathematics competition – Honorable Mention (~ 5th in Canada)	December 2005
Centenary of Responsible Government Scholarship – \$1,000	November 2005
Memorial University undergraduate mathematics competition – 1st Prize	October 2005
Memorial University Faculty of Science Dean’s departmental prize, awarded annually to the top non-graduating mathematics student.	October 2005
APICS (Atlantic Provinces) mathematics team competition – 1st Prize	October 2005
Memorial University undergraduate mathematics competition – 1st Prize	January 2005
APICS (Atlantic Provinces) mathematics team competition – 1st Prize	October 2004
Memorial University Alumni Scholarship – \$25,000	2004/09
Euclid 12th grade mathematics competition – 2nd in Canada	2004/05

PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

FINRA Series 7 certified General Securities Representative
 FINRA Series 55 certified Equity Trader/Limited Representative
 Start-up experience (cofounded CFAR, <http://rationality.org/>)
 Management experience (as Chief Marketing Officer of CFAR)
 Freelance consulting experience (solicited by Founders Fund venture capital and MetaMed research)
 Trilingual fluency in English, French, and Italian.
 Bertini experience (numerical algebraic geometry package)

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Thiel Under 20 Fellowship mentor (Aug 2013 - present)
 Lead curriculum developer for UC Berkeley’s new *Sense, Sensibility, and Science* course, under physics Nobel laureate Saul Perlmutter, philosophy professor John Campbell, and law professor Robert McCoun (fall 2012 - spring 2013)
 Signatory for THINK at UC Berkeley, facilitating discussion and implementation of high-impact altruism (fall 2012 - present)
 Cofounder and Curriculum Developer for the Center for Applied Rationality (spring 2012 - present)
 Co-organizer for the UC Berkeley student algebraic geometry seminar, first with Charley Crissman, and later with Andrew Dudzik (spring 2011 - spring 2012)

Co-organizer for the COGS Causal Inference Symposium with psychology PhD student Michael Pacer (February, 2012)

Co-organizer for the UC Berkeley algebraic statistics seminar with Shaowei Lin (fall 2011)

Co-organizer for the Math, Productivity, Happiness and Decision-making seminar at UC Berkeley with Stanford mathematics PhD student Nisan Stiennon (fall 2011)

Co-organizer for the Many-Algebro-Geometrically Important Concepts seminar at UC Berkeley (spring 2009)

EMPLOYMENT
HISTORY

Algorithmic Trader 2014/04 – present
Employer: Jane Street Capital 50 hours per week
Work: researching, developing and supervising stock trading algorithms

Postdoctoral Research Fellow 2013/09 (deferred)
Employer: Mathematical Biosciences Institute (NSF) 40 hours per week
Work: researching applications of algebraic geometry to neuroscience and machine learning

Cofounder and Curriculum Developer 2013/05 – 2014/04
Employer: Center for Applied Rationality 60 hours per week
Work: Developing curriculum for statistical improvements in decision-making and cognitive debiasing.

Graduate Student Instructor 2010/08 – 2011/12 and 2012/08 – 2013/05
Employer: UC Berkeley 20 hours per week
Work: classroom instruction, office hours, and grading. (except summer)

Graduate Student Researcher 2012/01 - 2012/07
Employer: DARPA / UC Berkeley 20 hours per week
Research on applications of algebraic geometry to machine learning models under Professor Bernd Sturmfels

Graduate Student Instructor 2008/08 – 2009/12
Employer: UC Berkeley 10 hours per week
Work: classroom instruction, office hours, and grading. (except summer)

Lecturer (vector calculus) 2009/06 – 2009/08
Employer: UC Berkeley 15-20 hours per week
Work: classroom instruction, office hours, and grading.

Teaching Assistantships 2006/10 – 2008/05
Employer: University of Toronto 5-10 hours per week
Work: tutorial classes, tutoring, and grading.

Research Assistantship (NSERC-USRA) 2006/05 – 2006/08
Employer: NSERC / University of Toronto full time
Work: researching division algorithms for analytic and quasi-analytic function classes under Professor Edward Bierstone.

Mathematics Tutor 2005/05 – 2006/05
Employer: Memorial's Undergraduate Career Experience Program (MUCEP) variable hours
Work: Tutoring mathematics regularly to residents of Paton College under Student Affairs and Services.

Problem Solver/Designer 2003/06 - 2003/08
Employer: Student Work and Service Program (SWASP) full time
Work: Creating, solving and typesetting problems for a contest training database under Professor M. Parmenter.