RobertVandermolen

1201 Hagood Ave. Columbia SC, 29205

Education

| Ph.D. Mathematics | University of South Carolina (Columbia, SC) Thesis Area: Algebraic Geometry <i>Adviser</i> : Dr. Mathew Ballard | Expected May 2020 |
|--------------------------|--|-------------------|
| M.Sc. Mathematics | College of Charleston (Charleston, SC) Majored in Pure Mathematics <i>Thesis: Bounded Operators with finite</i> Z <i>-grading</i> <i>Adviser:</i> Dr. Oleg Smirnov | May 2014 |
| B.Sc. Mathematics | College of Charleston (Charleston, SC) Majored in Pure Mathematics cum laude | May 2012 |
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Teaching

| University of South Carolina | Instructor of Record Calculus Workshop I&II (Fall 2019) Pre-Calculus (Fall 2018) Business Calculus (Spring 2018, Fall 2017, Summer 2016) Vector Calculus (Summer 2017) College Algebra (Fall 2016) Finite Mathematics (Spring 2016, Spring 2017) | 2016-Present |
|------------------------------|--|--------------|
| College of Charleston | Instructor of Record Elementary Statistics (Fall, Spring 2015) Pre-Calculus (Fall 2015) College Algebra (Fall 2013, Spring 2014) | 2013-2016 |
| College of Charleston | Teaching Assistant Advanced Calculus (Spring 2013) Intro to Abstract Mathematics (Spring, Fall 2011, Spring 2012) | 2011-2013 |

Research

Research interests lie in the fields of Algebraic Geometry and non-associative algebras, and recently machine learning. Specifically in the applications of geometry to neural science and theoretical physics. Worked with non-associative algebras such as Hom-Lie algebras and their categorical properties. Studied derived equivalences pertaining categories of D-branes, homological mirror symmetry, and wall crossing kernels for Toric Varieties.

Papers/PrePrints

| Kernels for Grassmannian Flops | 2019 |
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| M. Ballard, N. Chidambaram, D. Favero, P. McFaddin, R. Vandermolen submitted, arXiv:1904.12195 | |
| Universal Embedding of Hom-Lie Triple Systems | 2018 |
| R. Vandermolen <i>submitted</i> , arXiv:1709.08714 | |



NSF Award ID #1725295

Graduate Teaching Mentor

Fall 2018-Spring 2018 Mentored Novice instructors as they transitioned from graduate teaching assistants to graduate student instructors. Conducted monthly observations of the instructors and held individual post observation meetings. Facilitated biweekly group meetings.

Grants/Awards

Grants (Principle Investigator)

S.P.A.R.C. Grant 2019 The Office of the Vice President Research grant Title: Kernels for Homological Duality **Teaching Resource Development Grant** 2018/2019 Center for Teaching Excellence, University of South Carolina Title: Speech to Text Analytic Resource (S.T.A.R.)

Grants (facilitated)

Incubator Grant for Pre-Calculus Active Learning Resources Fall 2019 Senior personnel on an internal incubator grant (\$10,000) funded by the College of Arts and Sciences. Lead a team in developing and implementing the final product of 121 pages of problems and even more pages of lesson plans for Pre-Calculus, allowing graduate students to save (under an initial analysis) of 26-30 hrs/semester of content prep, redirecting time towards student learning.

Awards

| UofSC Education Foundation Outstanding Graduate Teaching Award - S.T.E.M. University of South Carolina | 2018-2019 |
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| Excellence in Teaching Award - Mathematics University of South Carolina | 2016-2017 |
| Peer Excellence Award - Mathematics University of South Carolina | 2016-2017 |
| Outstanding First Year Award - Mathematics University of South Carolina | 2015-2016 |

Presentations/Workshops

Invited Talks

| Emory University | Derived Equivalences from Compactifications Alegraic Geometry and Number Theory Seminar | Nov. 2019 |
|----------------------|---|-----------|
| Duke University | Gauged Linear Sigma Models in VGIT Southeastern regional Mathematical String Theory Meeting | Nov. 2019 |
| Clemson University | Curious Kernels for VGIT Algebraic Geometry and Number Theory Seminar | Oct. 2019 |
| The Fields Institute | Kernels for Grassmann Flops New Structures in Algebraic Geometry and their Symplectic Interpretations | Aug. 2019 |

Workshops and Technical Talks

| Insight of a Graduate Student Instructor CTE Workshop to introduce graduate students instructors and faculty to a cycle of assessment for the instructor to better gauge implementation active learning techniques. This assessment is based on the observation protocol developed in the Peer Mentorship Program. | Sept. 2019 |
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| S.T.A.R. a New Teaching Resource UofSC EdTech Showcase | 2019 |
| Contributed Talks | |
| Curious New Kernels (New) Facets in Algebraic Geometry University of Michigan | Oct. 2019 |
| Matrix Factorizations: The B-side of Mirror Symmetry Graduate Summer School on Homological Algebra of Mirror Symmetry The Fields Institute | June 2019 |
| The Geometry of the Brain Pi Mu Epsilon Student Seminar University of South Carolina | Sept. 2018 |
| Derived Equivalences of Flops Algebraic Geometry Seminar University of South Carolina | Sept. 2018 |
| Service | |
| Event Coordinator 19th Annual High School Math Contest University of South Carolina Math themed game "Block Busters" | Feb. 2019 |
| Committee for Learning Outcome Samples Met with a 'task force' to help aid instructors by collecting and editing sample questions which would be addressing designated learning outcomes. Organized by: Undergraduate Director, Dr. Miller | Spring 2018 suitable for |
| Volunteer AB/BA AP-Calculus Practice Exam University of South Carolina Proctored Exam | May 2018 |
| Event Coordinator 18th Annual High School Math Contest University of South Carolina | Jan. 2018 |
| Event Coordinator College of Charleston Math Meet College of Charleston Math themed Scavenger Hunt | Feb. 2015 |
| Volunteer Lady Cougars STEM Education Day College of Charleston Designed and implemented interactive STEM workshop for middle school students | 2014-2015 |
| Volunteer Lowcountry Regional Science and Engineering Fair College of Charleston | 2014-2015 |

Other

| Programming Languages | LATEX, HTML, Maple, Python, JAVA, Swift, JAVAScript |
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| CRLA Certified | Mathematics Tutoring |
| American Mathematical Society | Student Member |

Conferences

| (All Conferences Attended with Full or Partial Support) | |
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| Facets in Algebraic Geometry University of Michigan | 2019 |
| New Structures in Algebraic Geometry and their Symplectic Interpretations Fields Institute | 2019 |
| Graduate Summer School on Homological Algebra of Mirror Symmetry Fields Institute | 2019 |
| Between Topology and Quantum Field Theory University of Texas Austin | 2019 |
| Georgia Algebraic Geometry Symposium Georgia Tech | 2019 |
| 7th Iberoamerican Congress on Geometry Universidad de Valladolid | 2018 |
| Spring Southeastern Sectional Meeting AMS College of Charleston | 2017 |
| Workshop on Topics in Algebraic Geometry University of North Carolina (Chapel Hill) | 2017 |
| Georgia Algebraic Geometry Symposium University of Georgia | 2017 |
| Workshop and Symposium on Quadratic Forms University of Georgia | 2017 |
| Workshop on Symplectic Varieties and Geometric Representation Theory University of North Carolina (Chapel Hill) | 2016 |