

Aislinn E. Smith
512-962-5090 | aislinnsmith@utexas.edu

EDUCATION

University of Texas at Austin – College of Natural Sciences | Class of 2022

Overall GPA: 3.87/4.00

Bachelor's – Mathematics (Honors Track)

RESEARCH/ PROJECTS

Max Planck Institute for Math in the Natural Sciences - Guest Researcher

Summer 2023 - Present

- Currently leading a remote inquiry-based reading course focused on Riemann surfaces and complex algebraic curves with a survey of other topics in Lie group theory, symplectic geometry, and mapping class groups.

Mathematics Honors Thesis: *"Minimal surfaces in hyperbolic manifolds and link complements"*

Fall 2022

- Advised by Prof. John Luecke
- The project is motivated by REU research, specifically on the topic of geodesics formed by horocyclic edges within minimal surfaces of hyperbolic manifolds with parabolic cusps.

SUMRY REU – Yale University

Summer 2022

- Undergraduate NSF funded research in low dimensional topology and combinatorial hyperbolic geometry mentored by Dr. Franco Vargas-Pallete
- Project was motivated by the converging interests of closed geodesics of hyperbolic surfaces within surfaces of constant mean curvature.
- One of my contributions was the development of a finite element method that could simulate mean curvature flow such that it was compatible with a hyperbolic metric.

Moncrief Internship w/ The UT ODEN Institute for Computational Sciences

Summer 2021 - Spring 2022

- Developed mathematical models/algorithms using principles of stochastic path integral control to aid automated vehicles in avoiding obstacles with a degree of randomized motion and varying levels of allowed risk under advisement of Dr. Takashi Tanaka
- Compared the computational complexity and success of two different models of diffusion-based optimal control. One of which used reinforcement learning and a weighted average of randomly sampled trajectories, while the second method numerically found solutions to the Hamilton-Jacobi-Bellman differential equation.

NSF RTG Undergraduate fellowship w/ UT Analysis of PDE's group

Fall 2020 – Spring 2022

- Independent research project guided by Dr. Stefania Patrizi on the topic non-local diffusion operators/the Fractional Laplacian
- Studied derivation and applications of harmonic extension of Laplacian to model energy minimization of crystal dislocations
- Took a series of three independent study courses on various topics in harmonic analysis and complex analysis following the completion of the year-long fellowship.

Complex Systems REU– University of Minnesota

Summer 2020

- Undergraduate NSF-funded research in nonlinear fluid dynamics led by Dr. Arnd Scheel
- Researched the stability and resonances of non-linear Fischer KPP reaction-diffusion equations.

- The goal of this project was to use heteroclinic bifurcation analysis to explain and characterize a strange resonance pattern that occurred at the threshold of absolute and convective instability in the control parameter of the non-linear ODE.

TALKS/CONFERENCES

CIRM Research School - Renormalization and Visualization for Packing, Billiards, and Surfaces	Summer 2023
• Research school participant	
Joint Mathematics Meeting (JMM)	Winter 2023
• Presented on REU research/honors thesis project as an undergraduate speaker	
The Young Mathematicians Conference @ Ohio State University	Summer 2022
• Presented on Yale REU research	
GROW (Graduate Research Opportunities for Women) @ Duke University	Fall 2022
Texas Undergraduate Mathematicians Conference	Fall 2022
• Presented on Yale REU research and spoke on panel advising on undergraduate research	
UT Math Directed Reading Project Presentation	Spring 2021
• Presented on the computation of homology groups of piecewise linear manifolds	
UT Austin College of Natural Sciences Research Forum	Spring 2021
• Poster presentation on work done during Fellowship with Analysis and PDEs RTG	

TEACHING/ WORK EXPERIENCE/SKILLS

Teaching Assistant – UT Austin Department of Mathematics	Spring 2023
UT Austin Sanger Learning Center – College Math and Physics tutor	Summer 2019 – Fall 2021
Math and Physics Instructor/Tutor @ The Liberal Arts and Science Academy	Fall 2020 – Spring 2021
• Tutored AP Physics afterschool	
• Instructed inquiry-based pre-calculus course for accelerated high school students	
UT Austin Undergraduate Learning Assistant	Fall 2020 & Winter 2021
• Undergraduate TA for Engineering Physics (Electricity and Magnetism)	
Coding Knowledge – Fortran, C++, Python (Scipy, Pyvista), MATLAB	

ACADEMIC ORGANIZATIONS/ AWARDS

2023 NSF Graduate Fellowship – Topology	
UT Austin Dean’s Strategic Fellowship	Fall 2023 - Spring 2028
Nancy Francis and William Arnold McMinn Presidential Scholarship	Fall 2021 - Spring 2022
• 3.5 k College of Natural Sciences departmental scholarship	
NSF Undergraduate Research Training Grant	Fall 2020 - Spring 2021
• 1k research fellowship awarded through PDE’s RTG	
UT Dean’s Scholars Honors Program	Spring 2019 - Fall 2022

PUBLICATIONS:

- [1] Avery, M., Dedina, C., Smith, A., Scheel, A. (2021). Instability in large bounded domains—branched versus unbranched resonances. *Nonlinearity*, 34(11), 7916–7937. <https://doi.org/10.1088/1361-6544/ac2a15>
- [2] Patil, A., Duarte, A., Smith, A., Tanaka, T., & Bisetti, F. (2022). Chance-Constrained Stochastic Optimal Control via Path Integral and Finite Difference Methods. *arXiv*. <https://doi.org/10.48550/arXiv.2205.00628>