CONTACT INFORMATION Department of Population Health Sciences

**Duke University** 

Imperial Building, 215 Morris St Durham, NC 27701

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POSITIONS HELD

Duke University, Durham, NC, USA

**Assistant Professor** in the Department of Population Health

Sciences and the Department of Mathematics

Senior Research Associate in the Department of Surgery

Visiting Scholar in the Department of Mathematics

Visiting Assistant Professor in the Department of Mathematics

1/2012 -7/2015

**EDUCATION** 

# McGill University, Montréal, Canada

2007 - 2011

Ph.D. in Mathematics

- 2013 Doctoral Prize of the Canadian Mathematical Society
- Thesis title: Of Bones and Noise

### Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL), Lausanne, Switzerland

2004 - 2006

Master of Science (M.Sc.) in Theoretical Physics

• Thesis title: Electromagnetic Fluctuations in Charged Fluids Coupled to the Radiation Field

# Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL), Lausanne, Switzerland

2001 - 2004

**Bachelor of Science** (B.Sc.) in Physics

**GRANTS** 

- K99: The Mathematics of Breast Cancer Overtreatment: Improving Treatment Choice through Effective Communication of Personalized Cancer Risk. Agency: NIH-NCI; Role: PI; Duration: 2016-21; Budget: USD \$1,068,714. K-phase mentor: Prof. E.S. Hwang, Chief of Breast Surgery, Duke
- *Mathematical Analysis of Spatial Cancer Models.* Agency: NSF; Role: Co-PI (PI: Prof. R. Durrett); Duration: 2016-19; Budget: USD \$287,214.
- *Genomics meets mathematics: inferring the evolutionary dynamics of breast cancer.* Agency: Triangle Center for Evolutionary Medicine; Role: PI; Duration: 2017-18; Budged: USD \$20,000.
- Advanced Postdoc.Mobility Fellowship: Mathematical Models of Cancer Evolution and HPV Infection. Agency: Swiss National Science Foundation; Role: PI; Duration: 2015-16; USD \$95,000 (second year declined for K99/R00).
- *Quantifying the Phenotypic Evolution during Tumor Growth.* DataPlus Research Program. Agency: Information Initiative Duke; Role: PI; Budget: USD \$13,000
- Complex decisions, real numbers: a big data approach to medical decision making. DataPlus Research Program. Agency: Information Initiative Duke; Role: PI; Budget: USD \$13,000

#### **AWARDS**

- 2013 Doctoral Prize of the Canadian Mathematical Society. CAD \$500.
- Hydro-Québec Doctoral Fellowship, 2010-11. CAD \$15,000.
- Hydro-Québec Doctoral Fellowship, 2009-10. CAD \$15,000.

- Schulich Fellowship, 2008-09. CAD \$12, 500.
- ISM Scholarships for Graduate Studies, 2008-09. CAD \$15,000.
- McGill Graduate Studies Fellowship for excellent academic standing, 2007-08. CAD \$5,000.

#### **PUBLICATIONS**

See attached publication list.

#### IN THE MEDIA

• NIH Director's Blog (5/2018)

Are Some Tumors Just ?Born to Be Bad??

• Duke Today (10/17/2017)

Bacteria Self-Organize to Build Working Sensors

• TIME (12/16/2015)

Who Can Delay Breast Cancer Treatment? A New Math Model Adds Clues

• National Public Radio (10/14/2015)

Treatment Changes For DCIS Haven't Affected Breast Cancer Deaths

• BioCentury Innovations (05/14/2015)

HPV on clearance

• MedicalResearch.com (04/01/2015)

Random Stem Cell Divisions May Play Role in Persistent HPV Infections (interview)

• The Herald Sun (03/25/2015)

Duke study: Chance plays key role in HPV/cancer development

• Sci Guru - Science News (03/24/2015)

Unpredictable division patterns in HPV-infected stem cells determines body's ability to fight it

• WUNC - North Carolina Public Radio (03/16/2015)

Report on the Morning Edition

Pharmacy Times (03/13/2015)

Greater Emphasis on HPV Vaccinations for Boys Could Lead to Better Outcomes

# EDITORIAL SERVICES

- Guest Editor for PLOS Computational Biology
- Guest Academic Editor for PLOS One
- Reviewer for PNAS (1); Cell Reports (1); Cancer Research (2); JNCI (2); PLOS Computational Biology (1); PLOS One (2); The Journal of Theoretical Biology (2); BioMed Central (1); Biomechanics and Mechanobiology (1); BMC Medical Genetics (1); Vaccine (1).

# STUDENT SUPERVISION

### Duke University, Durham, USA

- Yiling Liu: MS student in Biostatistics (2016-present)
- Kevin Murgas: NSF-funded summer student (2015)
- Tayyab Wasim: NSF-funded summer student (2014)
- Michael Lin: NSF-funded summer student (2013)
- Mandy Jiang: PRUV fellow and honors thesis (2012 2013)
- Andrew Yuan: NSF-funded summer student (2012)

# TEACHING EXPERIENCE

#### Duke University, Durham, USA

2012 - present

- Instructor for MATH 353: ODEs and PDEs; undergraduate level (Spring 2015)
- Instructor for MATH 230: Probability Theory (Fall 2014)

- Instructor for MATH 353: ODEs and PDEs; undergraduate level (Fall 2013)
- Instructor for MATH 353: ODEs and PDEs; undergraduate level (Spring 2013)
- 4-week course: Introduction to Stochastic PDEs; graduate level (Fall 2012)

#### Simon Fraser University, Vancouver, Canada

2009-2011

• Teaching assistant for 3 undergraduate-level courses

### McGill University, Montréal, Canada

2007 - 2008

• Teaching assistant for 1 graduate-level and 2 undergraduate-level courses

# Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (EPFL), Lausanne, Switzerland

2004 - 2005

• Teaching assistant for 2 undergraduate-level courses

#### CONFERENCE ORGANIZATION

- Co-organizer of mini-symposium on Spatial Cancer Models, ECMBT 2014, Gothenburg, Sweden
- Group coordinator at the Fifth Montreal Problem Solving Workshop, Montreal, 2013
- Organizer of mini-symposium on Mathematical Modeling in Bone Biology at ICIAM 2011, Vancouver, Canada

- PRESENTATIONS The Impact of Prognostic Estimates on Surgical Decision Making in the Setting of Severe Traumatic Brain Injury: A Survey of Neurosurgeons. Preventing Overdiagnosis 2018, Copenhagen, Denmark, 2018
  - Natural history of ductal carcinoma in situ in the absence of locoregional treatment. Preventing Overdiagnosis 2018, Copenhagen, Denmark, 2018
  - Mechanistic Multi-Scale Models of Carcinogenesis: Building Bridges between Biologic Mechanism and Population Data. Department of Population Health Sciences, Duke University, Durham, NC, 2018
  - Mechanistic Multi-Scale Models of Carcinogenesis: Building Bridges between Biologic Mechanism and Population Data. Lombardi Comprehensive Cancer Center, Georgetown University, Washington DC, 2018
  - Mechanistic Multi-Scale Models of Carcinogenesis: Building Bridges between Biologic Mechanism and Population Data. Canary Center at Stanford for Cancer Early Detection & Stanford Cancer Institute, Stanford University, Palo Alto, CA, 2018
  - Active Surveillance vs. Surgery after Diagnosis with DCIS. Society for Medical Decision Making, Pittsburgh, PA, 2017
  - Reducing Overtreatment of DCIS Through Active Surveillance. Preventing Overdiagnosis, Quebec City, QC, 2017
  - The Mathematics of Cancer: Building Bridges between Biologic Mechanism and Population Data. Research Colloquium, Department of Surgery, Duke University, Durham, NC, 2017
  - DCIS: To treat, or not to treat (right away), that is the question. Shriners Hospital for Children Canada, McGill University, Montreal, QC, 2017
  - The Mathematics of Cancer: Building Bridges between Biologic Mechanism and Population Data. McGill University, Montreal, QC, Canada, 2017
  - The Mathematics of Cancer: Building Bridges between Biologic Mechanism and Population Data. Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETHZ), Basel, Switzerland, 2016
  - DCIS: To treat, or not to treat (right away), that is the question. Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center, Seattle, WA, USA, 2016
  - The Mathematics of Cancer: Building Bridges between Biologic Mechanism and Population Data. Fred Hutchinson Cancer Cancer Seattle, WA, USA, 2016

- Sexual Behavior, HPV Exposure and Cancer Incidence: Connecting the Dots. AMS Sectional Meeting, Raleigh, NC, USA, 2016
- The Mathematics of Cancer: Building Bridges between Biologic Mechanism and Population Data. Cancer Epidemiology Seminar, UNC Chapel Hill, USA, 2016
- Bridging the gap in HPV research. ECMTB, Nottingham, UK, 2016
- Using multi-scale models to bridge basic and population sciences. EUROGIN, Salzburg, Austria, 2016
- Quantifying the dynamics of field cancerization in tobacco-related head and neck cancer. Guest speaker at U01 Co-I Meeting, School of Public Health, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, USA, 2016
- Ductal carcinoma in situ: to treat or not to treat (right away), that is the question. Guest speaker, NIH CISNET Half-Year Meeting, Boston, USA, 2016
- Stage 0 breast cancer: to treat or not to treat (right away), that is the question. Seminar, The Moffitt Cancer Center and Research Institute, Tampa, USA, 2016
- Bridging the gap in cancer research: from biological mechanism to population level data. Biostatistics & Bioinformatics Seminar, Duke University, Durham, USA, 2016
- Treat or wait? Model-based Risk Projections for Active Surveillance in Patients with Ductal Carcinoma in Situ. Computational Biology Seminar, Duke University, 2015
- *HPV clearance and the neglected role of stochastic stem cell dynamics.* 30th International Papillomavirus Conference, Lisbon, Portugal, 2015
- Competing natural history models predict differential patterns of future HPV prevalence in older women. 30th International Papillomavirus Conference, Lisbon, Portugal, 2015
- Active surveillance as a possible management strategy for ductal carcinoma in situ: a computational risk analysis. Preventing Overdiagnosis, Bethesda, MD, USA, 2015
- HPV clearance and the neglected role of stochasticity.
   CMO Workshop: Viral Dynamics and Cancer, Oaxaca, Mexico, 2015
- Human papillomavirus: from biology to public health. Seminar talk at UC Irvine, California, 2015
- Human papillomavirus: from biology to public health.
   Seminar talk at Moffitt Cancer Center, Tampa, Florida, 2014
- Human papillomavirus: from biology to public health. Seminar talk at ETH, Zurich, Switzerland, 2014
- HPV clearance and the neglected role of stochasticity.
   Ecology and Evolution of Cancer, Mathematical Biosciences Institute, Columbus, OH, 2014
- Bone (re)modeling: a spatial game of stochastic nature.
   7th World Congress of Biomechanics, Boston, 2014
- Tracking the invisible: a probabilistic approach to field cancerization.
   9th European Conference on Mathematical and Theoretical Biology, Gothenburg, Sweden, 2014
- *Tracking the invisible: a probabilistic approach to field cancerization.*Conference on *Evolutionary Biology and the Theory of Computing*, Simons Institute, 2014
- Of Noise and Cancer.
   Seminar talk, Department of Mathematics and Statistics, UNC Charlotte, Charlotte, 2014
- Of Noise and Cancer.
   Prize Lecture, Winter Meeting of the Canadian Mathematical Society, Ottawa, December 2013
- On the cost-effectiveness of male HPV vaccination in the USA.

  Mathematical Biology Seminar, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, 2013
- A Stochastic Modeling Approach to Field Cancerization. Mini-symposium, INFORMS, Minneapolis, 2013
- A random dynamic graph approach to HPV transmission in adolescent sexual networks.

Mini-symposium, INFORMS, Minneapolis, 2013

- HPV and cervical cancer: a stochastic model at tissue level.
   Mini-symposium, SIAM Dynamical Systems, Snowbird, UT, 2013
- Of cells and people: multiscale modeling of HPV dynamics.
   STOR Colloquium, University of North of Carolina at Chapel Hill, 2013
- HPV and cervical cancer: a stochastic model at tissue level.
   Applied Math Seminar, Department of Mathematics, University of Florida, 2013
- HPV and cervical cancer: a stochastic model at tissue level.
   Cancer Modeling Seminar, Department of Mathematics, Duke University, 2013
- From physiological remodeling to cancer metastases: a mathematical model of bone cell dynamics. Math Biology Seminar, School of Mathematics, University of Minnesota, USA, 2012
- *Stimulating inhibitors: on the controversial role of OPG in bone metastases.* Mini-symposium, ECCOMAS 2012, Vienna, Austria
- Triviality of the 2D stochastic Allen-Cahn equation.
   8th World Congress in Probability and Statistics 2012, Istanbul, Turkey
- On the well-posedness of nonlinear SPDEs. ICIAM 2011, Vancouver, Canada
- *Stimulating inhibitors: on the controversial role of OPG in bone metastases.* Mini-symposium, ICIAM 2011, Vancouver, Canada
- On traveling waves and hybrid models in bone remodeling.
   Mini-Symposium, ASME Applied Mechanics and Materials Conference, Chicago, USA, 2011
- On the well-posedness of the 2D stochastic Allen-Cahn equation.

  Mathematics Seminar, Simon Fraser University, Vancouver, Canada, 2011
- *On the well-posedness of nonlinear SPDEs in higher dimensions.*Mathematics Seminar, Heriot-Watt University, Edinburgh, UK, 2010
- Bone remodeling and its role in bone metastases: a mathematical approach. Bio-Math Seminar, University of Leeds, Leeds, UK, 2010
- On the well-posedness of nonlinear SPDEs in higher dimensions.
   Mathematics Seminar, University of Manchester, Manchester, UK, 2010
- On the well-posedness of nonlinear SPDEs in higher dimensions.
   PANDA Meeting, University of Leeds, Leeds, UK, 2010
- On the well-posedness of nonlinear SPDEs in higher dimensions. Mathematics Seminar, Reading University, UK, 2010
- Bone remodeling and its role in bone metastases: a mathematical approach. RSBN Seminar, Reading University, UK, 2010
- A nonlinear PDE model of bone remodeling.
   Mini-Symposium, WCCM/APCOM, Sydney, Australia, 2010
- A Nonlinear Spatio-Temporal Model of Bone Remodeling.
   Computational Biology Seminar, University of Western Australia, Perth, Australia, 2010
- *The cellular dynamics of bone remodeling: a nonlinear PDE model.* Mini-Symposium, ECCM, Paris, France, 2010
- Bone growth and destruction at the cellular level: a mathematical model. Mini-Symposium, ISAAC, London, UK, 2009
- *The dynamics of a single bone multicellular unit: a mathematical model.* Seminar at Centre for Nonlinear Dynamics, McGilll University, Montreal, Canada, 2008
- Spatio-temporal dynamics of a single bone remodeling unit. ASBMR, Honolulu, USA, 2007

#### Poster **PRESENTATIONS**

- Quantifying the Natural History and Overtreatment Rate of Ductal Carcinoma in Situ. San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium, San Antonio, TX, 2017
- Using Mechanistic Modeling to Evaluate Sexual Behavior Cohort-Effects on HPV Exposure in U.S. Women. HPV 2017, Capetown, South Africa, 2017
- A stochastic modeling approach to field cancerization. IBECC 2013 - University of California San Francisco, 2013
- On the Well-Posedness of Nonlinear SPDEs in Higher Dimensions. SPDE Conference, Cambridge, UK, 2010
- Role of tumor-derived OPG in supporting cancer growth within bone tissue. ASBMR, Toronto, Canada, 2010
- Impact of the spatial RANKL/OPG distribution on BMU branching. Symposium on Biotechnology in Musculoskeletal Repair, Lausanne, Switzerland, 2008

#### **INTERNSHIPS**

### Swiss Federal Institute for Snow and Avalanche Research,

Davos, Switzerland

August - October 2004

Under the direction of M. Lehning I investigated the numerical simulation of snow transport above alpine terrain, and programmed an appropriate finite element method in both C and MatLab.

# WORKSHOPS/

- IMO Workshop V3.0 Personalized Medicine. Mathematical modeling workshop at the Moffitt SUMMER SCHOOLS Cancer Center, Tampa, FL, 2013
  - SPDEs: Computations and Applications. Workshop at the International Centre for Mathematical Sciences. Edinburgh, UK, 2008
  - Bio-Math Summer School and Workshop: Stochastic Differential Equation Models with Applications to the Insulin-Glucose System and Neuronal Modelling, Middelfart, Denmark, 2008
  - 10th PIMS Graduate Industrial Mathematics Modelling Camp, Edmonton, Canada, 2007
  - 11th PIMS Industrial Problem Solving Workshop, Edmonton, Canada, 2007

#### COMMUNITY SERVICE

- Volunteer for the Let's Talk Science program: leader of hands-on science sessions at Tecumseh Elementary School in Vancouver, January 2009-August 2011
- Member of the Committee for Graduate Student Support at McGill, 2007-08
- Student Representative for the Department of Mathematics at the Post-graduate Student Society, McGill, 2007

# LANGUAGES

- German: Mother tongue.
- French: Fluently written/spoken, university level.
- English: Fluently written/spoken, university level.
- Spanish: Two years of formal education.