

# Charlie Godfrey

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## Skills

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- **Research:** empirical science of foundation models, novel deep learning architecture components, interpretable and explainable AI, evaluating and understanding trustworthiness of machine learning systems.
- **Data modalities:** computer vision, reinforcement learning, natural language processing.
- **Tools:** Python (PyTorch, Huggingface, NumPy, SciPy and Pandas), Git, Bash, Linux, cluster computing (SLURM), AWS EC2, Azure VMs.

## Experience

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**Postdoctoral Research Associate**, [Pacific Northwest National Laboratory](#)  
National Security Directorate, Mathematics of Data Science Team

October 2021 - Present

- Adapted high-efficiency MosaicBERT language model training to internal cluster computer environment, obtaining 50% improvement in throughput (tokens/second) and dramatically reducing cost of training; in situations where compute budget was fixed, this resulted in increased model accuracy.
- Improved performance of segmentation models for multispectral satellite images (5 % relative increase in Intersection-over-Union) by implementing multi-GPU distributed training, which facilitated learning for more epochs.
- Accelerated training of neural image compressors (from 3 minutes to 6 seconds per epoch) with a modernized data loading and preprocessing pipeline. This allowed for more rapid hyperparameter sweeps to optimize performance.
- Investigated safety and security of machine learning systems; constructed datasets to measure out-of-distribution performance of computer vision models.
- Presented results to senior leadership and project sponsors in the form of slide decks and technical reports — comfortable conveying research findings at appropriate level of technical detail.

**Program Associate**, [Mathematical Sciences Research Institute](#)

March-May 2019

- Participated in the Birational Geometry and Moduli Spaces semester program.
- Presented research on logarithmic Chow-to-Hodge cycle maps at the institute's graduate student seminar.

## Education

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**PhD in Mathematics**, The University of Washington-Seattle

June 2021

- Extended results on singularities using inductive construction algorithms for semi-simplicial schemes. Built a new Fourier-type transform on differential forms with poles using duality theory. Defined generalizations of ordinary elliptic curves over finite fields and studied their deformations.
- Completed the [eScience Institute's Advanced Graduate Data Science Option](#) (PhD-level courses in machine learning, data visualization and statistical inference, implemented machine learning methods like LASSO, kernel regression and k-means clustering in raw NumPy and SciPy).
- Department of Mathematics Graduate Fellowship (2018-2019)

**Student**, [MSRI Mathematics of Machine Learning Summer Graduate School](#)

July 29-August 9 2019

- Attended mini-courses and problem sessions on statistical learning, convex optimization, deep learning and reinforcement learning.
- Presented an expository account of recent work on linear stochastic bandits.

**Master's of Science in Mathematics**, The University of Washington-Seattle  
**Bachelor's of Science in Mathematics and Physics**, The University of Wisconsin-Madison

June 2018  
May 2014

## Mentoring

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### Industry Mentor, [Math-to-Industry Boot Camp](#)

July 2023-August 2023

- Mentored a team of math PhD students evaluating the usefulness of GPT-type large language models for scientific knowledge retrieval and the robustness of Segment Anything for person (e.g. pedestrian) detection.
- To facilitate this capstone project, implemented a Segment Anything inference endpoint using TorchServe.

### Graduate Mentor, [Washington Experimental Math Laboratory](#)

January 2019-December 2020

- Mentored undergraduate research projects on foundations of quantum mechanics and mathematical epidemiology.

## Publications

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1. Kelsey Lieberman, James Diffenderfer, **Charles Godfrey** and Bhavya Kailkhura. [Neural Image Compression: Generalization, Robustness, and Spectral Biases](#). In *ICML 2023 Workshop Neural Compression: From Information Theory to Applications*, **selected for oral presentation**.
2. **Charles Godfrey**, Henry Kvinge, Elise Bishoff, Myles McKay, Davis Brown, Tim Doster and Eleanor Byler. [How many dimensions are required to find an adversarial example?](#). In *The 3rd Workshop of Adversarial Machine Learning on Computer Vision at CVPR 2023*, **selected for oral presentation**.
3. **Charles Godfrey**, Michael Rawson, Henry Kvinge and Davis Brown. [Fast computation of permutation equivariant layers with the partition algebra](#). In *ICLR 2023 Workshop on Physics for Machine Learning*.
4. Davis Brown, **Charles Godfrey** (equal contribution), Cody Nizinski, Jonathan Tu, Henry Kvinge. [Robustness of edited neural networks](#). In *ICLR 2023 Workshop on Mathematical and Empirical Understanding of Foundation Models*.
5. Henry Kvinge, Davis Brown and **Charles Godfrey**. [Exploring the Representation Manifolds of Stable Diffusion Through the Lens of Intrinsic Dimension](#). In *ICLR 2023 Workshop on Mathematical and Empirical Understanding of Foundation Models*, **featured in The Gradient**.
6. **Charles Godfrey**, Davis Brown (equal contribution), Tegan Emerson and Henry Kvinge. [On the Symmetries of Deep Learning Models and their Internal Representations](#). In *NeurIPS 2022*. **Code available at [github.com/pnnl/modelsym](https://github.com/pnnl/modelsym)**.
7. Higher Direct Images of Ideal Sheaves, Correspondences in Log Hodge Cohomology and Globally F-Full Varieties. PhD thesis, University of Washington 2021.

## Invited Talks

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1. June 2023 [ICERM Mathematical and Scientific Machine Learning Workshop](#).
2. February 2023 [Boston College Math and Machine Learning Seminar](#).
3. January 2023 [Joint Mathematics Meetings](#) (Boston, MA).
4. November 2022 [Purdue Algebraic Geometry Seminar](#).
5. October 2020 AMS Fall Eastern Sectional Special Session on Algebraic Singularities in Arbitrary Characteristic.