

Jonathan W. Siegel

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EDUCATION

University of California at Los Angeles 2013-2018
Ph.D. in Mathematics Los Angeles, CA
Advisor: Russel E. Caflish
Thesis: “Accelerated First-Order Optimization with Orthogonality Constraints”

University of California at Santa Cruz 2009-2013
B.Sc. (Honors) in Mathematics Santa Cruz, CA

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Assistant Professor 2022-present
Texas A&M University College Station, TX

Assistant Research Professor 2021-2022
Pennsylvania State University University Park, PA

Postdoctoral Scholar 2018-2021
Pennsylvania State University University Park, PA

RESEARCH PAPERS

Journal Articles

1. Sharp Convergence Rates for Matching Pursuit. *To appear in IEEE Transactions on Information Theory*, 2025. With Jason Klusowski
Preprint available at: <https://arxiv.org/abs/2307.07679>
2. Convergence and Error Control of Consistent PINNs for Elliptic PDEs. *To appear in IMA Journal of Numerical Analysis*, 2025. With Andrea Bonito, Ronald DeVore, and Geurgana Petrova.
Preprint available at: <https://arxiv.org/abs/2406.09217>
3. Efficient Structure-Informed Featurization and Property Prediction of Ordered, Dilute, and Random Atomic Structures. *Computational Materials Science* 247 (2025): 113495. With Adam Krajewski and Zi-Kui Liu.

Preprint available at: <https://arxiv.org/abs/2404.02849>

4. Weighted variation spaces and approximation by shallow ReLU networks. *Applied and Computational Harmonic Analysis* 74 (2025): 101713. With Ronald DeVore, Robert Nowak and Rahul Parhi.
5. Sharp Lower Bounds on the Manifold Widths of Sobolev and Besov Spaces. *Journal of Complexity* 101884, 2024.
6. Entropy-based convergence rates of greedy algorithms. *Mathematical Models and Methods in Applied Sciences* 34(05):779-802, 2024. With Yuwen Li.
7. Optimal Approximation Rates for Deep ReLU Neural Networks on Sobolev and Besov Spaces. *Journal of Machine Learning Research* 24:357:1-52, 2023.
8. Greedy Training Algorithms for Neural Networks and Applications to PDEs. *Journal of Computational Physics* 484:112084, 2023. With Qingguo Hong, Xianlin Jin, Wenrui Hao, and Jinchao Xu.
9. Extended Regularized Dual Averaging Methods for Stochastic Optimization. *Journal of Computational Mathematics* 41(3):525-541, 2023. With Jinchao Xu.
10. Sharp Bounds on the Approximation Rates, Metric Entropy, and n -widths of Shallow Neural Networks. *Foundations of Computational Mathematics* 1-57, 2022. With Jinchao Xu.
11. Characterization of the Variation Spaces Corresponding to Shallow Neural Networks. *Constructive Approximation* 1-24, 2023. With Jinchao Xu.
12. Uniform Approximation Rates and Metric Entropy of Shallow Neural Networks. *Research in the Mathematical Sciences* 9.3:1-21, 2022. With Limin Ma and Jinchao Xu.
13. Optimal Convergence Rates for the Orthogonal Greedy Algorithm. *IEEE Transactions on Information Theory* 68.5:3354-3361, 2022. With Jinchao Xu.
14. Extensible Structure-Informed Prediction of Formation Energy with Improved Accuracy and Usability employing Neural Networks. *Computational Materials Science* 208:111254, 2021. With Adam Krajewski, Zi-Kui Liu, and Jinchao Xu.
15. High-Order Approximation Rates for Shallow Neural Networks with Cosine and ReLU^k Activation Functions. *Applied and Computational Harmonic Analysis* 58:1-26, 2022. With Jinchao Xu.
16. Approximation Rates for Neural Networks with General Activation Functions. *Neural Networks* 128:313-321, 2020. With Jinchao Xu.
17. Accuracy, Efficiency and Optimization of Signal Fragmentation. *Multiscale Modeling and Simulation* 18(2):737-757, 2020. With Russel Caflisch and Hung Hsu Chou.
18. Accelerated Optimization with Orthogonality Constraints. *Journal of Computational Mathematics* 39(2):207-226, 2020.
19. Compact Support of L^1 Penalized Variational Problems. *Communications in Mathematical Sciences* 15(6):1771-1790, 2017. With Omer Tekin.

Conference Papers

1. On the Expressiveness and Spectral Bias of KANs. *Thirteenth International Conference on Learning Representations* 2025. With Yixuan Wang, Ziming Liu, and Thomas Y. Hou.
2. Achieving Acceleration Despite Very Noisy Gradients. *38th Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems* 2024. With Kanan Gupta and Stephan Wojtowytsch.
3. Equivariant Frames and the Impossibility of Continuous Canonicalization. *Forty-first International Conference on Machine Learning* 2024. With Nadav Dym and Hannah Lawrence.

Under Review

- Approximation Rates for Shallow ReLU^k Neural Networks on Sobolev Spaces via the Radon Transform. *Submitted to SIAM Journal on Mathematical Analysis, 2024*. With Tong Mao and Jinchao Xu.
Preprint available at: <https://arxiv.org/abs/2408.10996>
- Optimal Approximation of Zonoids and Uniform Approximation by Shallow Neural Networks. *Submitted to Constructive Approximation, 2023*.
Preprint available at: <https://arxiv.org/abs/2307.15285>
- Sharp Lower Bounds on Interpolation by Deep ReLU Neural Networks at Irregularly Spaced Data. *Submitted to Journal of Approximation Theory, 2023*.
Preprint available at: <https://arxiv.org/abs/2302.00834>
- On the Activation Function Dependence of the Spectral Bias of Neural Networks. *Submitted to Computer Methods in Applied Mechanics and Engineering, 2024*. With Qingguo Hong, Qingyang Tan and Jinchao Xu
Preprint available at: <https://arxiv.org/abs/2208.04924>

Preprints

- Training Sparse Neural Networks using Compressed Sensing, 2021. With Jianhong Chen, Pengchuan Zhang and Jinchao Xu.
Preprint available at: <https://arxiv.org/abs/2008.09661>
- Accelerated First-Order Methods: Differential Equations and Lyapunov Functions, 2019.
Preprint available at: <https://arxiv.org/abs/1903.05671>

GRANTS

Penn State Institute for CyberScience Seed Grant (co-PI)	2018-2019
<i>PIs: Jinchao Xu and Zi-Kui Liu</i>	
“Deep Learning for CALPHAD Database Development and Uncertainty Quantification”	\$35,000
DMS-2424305 (PI) (transferred from NSF DMS-2111387 PI: Jinchao Xu)	2024-2025
“Comparative Study of Finite Element and Neural Networks Discretizations for Partial Differential Equations”	\$140,889

NSF DMS-2216799 (PI)	2022
“US Participation at the Twenty-sixth International Domain Decomposition Conference”	\$15,000
NSF CCF-2205004 (co-PI)	2022-2025
<i>PI: Jia Li</i>	
“CIF: Small: Interpretable Machine Learning based on Deep Neural Networks: A Source Coding Perspective”	\$600,000
SciTech Services (PI)	2024-2025
“Three-Dimensional Compression of Spatial-Spectral Information Using Machine Learning Technique”	\$75,263
KAUST OFP 2023 (Sub-award)	2024-2025
<i>PI: Jinchao Xu</i>	
“Multilevel Training Algorithms for Scientific Computing”	\$17,090

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Texas A&M University	Fall 2023, 2024
<i>Instructor</i>	College Station, TX
Math 689 - Principle of Deep Learning (Graduate Course)	
Texas A&M University	Spring 2023, 2025
<i>Instructor</i>	College Station, TX
Math 667 - Foundations and Methods of Approximation (Graduate Course)	
Texas A&M University	Fall 2022
<i>Instructor</i>	College Station, TX
Math 308H - Honors Differential Equations	
Pennsylvania State University	Fall 2021
<i>Instructor</i>	University Park, PA
Math 141 - Integral Calculus	
Pennsylvania State University	Spring 2021
<i>Co-Instructor</i>	University Park, PA
Math 555 - Optimization Theory (Graduate Course)	
Pennsylvania State University	Fall 2020
<i>Instructor</i>	University Park, PA
Math 140 - Differential Calculus	
Pennsylvania State University	Spring 2020

Instructor University Park, PA
Math 251 - Differential Equations
Math 251H - Honors Differential Equations

Pennsylvania State University Fall 2019
Instructor University Park, PA
Math 141 - Integral Calculus

Pennsylvania State University/Peking University Summer 2019
Co-Instructor Beijing, China
Math 497 - Introduction to Deep Learning

Pennsylvania State University Fall 2018
Instructor University Park, PA
Math 141 - Integral Calculus

University of California, Los Angeles 2014-2017
Teaching Assistant Los Angeles, CA
Math 32B - Integral Vector Calculus
Math 32A - Differential Vector Calculus
Math 110B - Finite Group Theory

INVITED SEMINAR AND CONFERENCE TALKS

UT Austin February 20, 2025
Workshop on Mathematical Machine Learning

RWTH Aachen October 21, 2024
Conference in Honor of Wolfgang Dahmen

Texas A&M University September 11, 2024
Interdisciplinary Lecture Series: Science and Engineering at the Frontiers

University of Houston September 6, 2024
Applied Mathematics Seminar

Pennsylvania State University May 21, 2024
Computation and Applied Mathematics Seminar

Oberwolfach Workshop April 9, 2024
Mathematics of Entropic AI in the Natural Sciences

Texas A& M University March 21, 2024
AI, ML, and Health Collaborations Workshop

National Yang Ming Chiao Tung University <i>Webinar on Scientific Machine Learning</i>	November 3, 2023
Steklov Institute <i>Conference in Honor of Vladimir Temlyakov</i>	November 1, 2023
Southern Methodist University <i>Math Colloquium</i>	October 4, 2023
Brigham Young University <i>Applied Math Seminar</i>	September 21, 2023
Duke University <i>Workshop on Computational and Data Science</i>	August 17, 2023
Duke University <i>Summer School on Computational and Data Science</i>	August 15, 2023
Morgan State University <i>CBMS Conference on Deep Learning and Numerical PDEs</i>	June 22, 2023
Texas A&M University <i>Inaugural CAMDA Conference</i>	May 23, 2023
University of Texas at El Paso <i>Applied Mathematics Seminar</i>	February 17, 2023
SUNY Albany <i>Data Science Seminar</i>	January 23, 2023
Brown University <i>Crunch Seminar on Scientific Computing</i>	December 23, 2022
Texas A&M University <i>TAMIDS Seminar</i>	December 8, 2022
University of Oslo <i>Scientific and Machine Learning Seminar</i>	December 1, 2022
King Abdullah University of Science and Technology (KAUST) <i>Mathematics and Computational Science Seminar</i>	November 22, 2022
King Abdullah University of Science and Technology (KAUST) <i>Conference on Scientific Computing and Machine Learning</i>	November 15, 2022

Texas State University <i>SyDATA Symposium</i>	September 30, 2022
Texas A&M University <i>CAMDA Seminar</i>	August 31, 2022
Czech Technical University in Prague <i>27th International Conference on Domain Decomposition Methods, Invited Plenary Talk</i>	July 26, 2022
Princeton University <i>Wilks Seminar</i>	May 16, 2022
Georgia Institute of Technology <i>Applied and Computational Mathematics (ACM) Seminar</i>	April 4, 2022
Illinois Institute of Technology <i>Mathematics Department Colloquium</i>	January 21, 2022
Texas A&M University <i>Mathematics Department Colloquium</i>	December 6, 2021
University of South Carolina <i>Mathematics Department Colloquium</i>	November 29, 2021
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute <i>Mathematics in Imaging, Data and Optimization Seminar</i>	October 6, 2021
RWTH Aachen <i>Applied Mathematics Group Lunch Seminar</i>	October 4, 2021
ETH Zurich <i>FoMICS Seminar Talk and Lecture</i>	June 2, 2021
University of Texas, Austin <i>Applied Mathematics Seminar</i>	May 21, 2021
University of California, San Diego <i>CCoM Seminar</i>	May 11, 2021
Purdue University <i>Mathematical Data Science Webinar</i>	May 10, 2021
University of Notre Dame <i>ACMS Applied Mathematics Seminar</i>	April 15, 2021

University of California, Irvine March 15, 2021
Computational Mathematics Seminar

California Institute of Technology February 17, 2021
CMX (Computational Mathematics) Seminar

Pennsylvania State University December 15, 2020
CCMA Workshop on Mathematical Machine Learning and Applications

INVITED MINI-SYMPOSIUM TALKS

SIAM Annual Meeting July 18, 2024
Recent Advances in Optimization for Training Neural Networks

North American High Order Methods Conference at Dartmouth June 18, 2024
Design and analysis of machine learning algorithms inspired by traditional numerical methods

AMS Sectional Meeting at the UW Milwaukee April 20, 2024
Recent Advances in Numerical PDE Solvers by Deep Learning

AMS Sectional Meeting at Florida State University March 23, 2024
Mathematical Advances in Scientific Machine Learning

Foundations of Computational Mathematics Conference June 19, 2023
Approximation Theory Session

Copper Mountain Conference on Multigrid Methods April 17, 2023
Artificial intelligence and multilevel methods

SIAM Conference on the Mathematics of Data Science September 27, 2022
Recent Advances in Machine Learning and Optimization

SIAM Conference on Uncertainty Quantification April 12, 2022
Recent Advances in Machine Learning and Data-Driven Methods for Physical Sciences and Engineering

AMS Fall Western Sectional Meeting October 23, 2021
Special Session on Theoretical and Applied perspectives in Machine Learning

SIAM Conference on Analysis of PDEs March 16, 2021
Mathematics of Machine Learning Methods for PDEs

Kunming, China August 15, 2019
International Multigrid Conference (IMG)

SERVICE

Students Advised

- Jianhong Chen, Penn State Graduate Student, 2019-2020 (co-advised)
- Xianlin Jin, Peking University Graduate student, 2021-present (co-advised)
- Kanan Gupta, Texas A&M University Graduate Student, 2022-present (co-advised)
- Jiyoun Park, Texas A&M University Graduate Student, 2023-present
- Ali Hamza Abidi Syed, Texas A&M University Graduate Student, 2025-present

Conferences Co-Organized

- CCMA Workshop on Mathematical Machine Learning and Applications, December 14-16, 2020.

Seminars Co-Organized

- Computational and Applied Mathematics (CAM) Colloquium at Penn State, Fall 2020-Fall 2021

Ad-Hoc Reviewer for

- **Journals:** Mathematical Programming, Neural Networks, Numerical Algorithms, Calculus of Variations and Partial Differential Equations, Expert Systems with Applications, IEEE Transactions on Neural Networks and Learning Systems, SIAM Journal on Optimization, SIAM Journal on Numerical Analysis, SIAM Journal on Scientific Computing, SIAM Journal on Mathematics of Data Science, Journal of Machine Learning Research, Analysis and Applications, Annals of Statistics
- **Conferences:** AISTATS, CAMDA Conference Proceedings
- **Funding Agencies:** NSF Panel Member, 2025

AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

University of California, Los Angeles 2018

- Pacific Journal of Mathematics Dissertation Award

University of California, Los Angeles 2013-2014

- University of California Regents Fellow

University of California, Santa Cruz 2012

- Stephen M. Palais Award

University of California, Santa Cruz 2011

- Putnam Mathematical Competition Honorable Mention

AFFILIATIONS

American Mathematical Association (AMS) 2021-present

Society of Industrial and Applied Mathematicians (SIAM) 2021-present

INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE

Google Intern

June 6, 2016-August 26, 2016

Mountainview, CA

I worked with the Network Architecture team on improving the efficiency of a Monte Carlo network reliability simulation. Specifically, I implemented importance sampling, which reduced the number of samples required by a factor of 3.

Google Intern

June 12, 2017-September 1, 2017

Los Angeles, CA

I worked with the Budgetplanner Team (a division working on advertisement). I built a data processing pipeline that collected and processed data which was scattered across multiple relational databases to create training data for a machine learning model. Then I used TensorFlow to design and test multiple machine learning models on the resulting dataset.

TECHNICAL STRENGTHS

Programming Skills: C/C++, Java, Matlab, Latex, Python