

CONTACT
INFORMATION

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CURRENT
POSITION

Washington Research Foundation Postdoctoral Fellow, January 2018–present
Paul G. Allen School of Computer Science & Engineering and Department of Biology
University of Washington, Seattle, Washington.

Assistant Professor, starting September 2020
Department of Computer Science
Western Washington University, Bellingham, Washington.

RESEARCH
INTERESTS

I am a computational scientist and applied mathematician with an interest in **networked dynamical systems**, in particular **neural systems**. These systems are often adaptive, meaning they can learn from their environment and exhibit complex behavior. I enjoy research at the intersection of theory, modeling, and data.

PUBLICATIONS

- KD Harris, Y Zhu. *Deterministic tensor completion with hypergraph expanders*. E-print.
- KD Harris, A Aravkin, R Rao, BW Brunton. *Time-varying Autoregression with Low Rank Tensors*. Submitted.
- G Brito, I Dumitriu, KD Harris. *Spectral gap in random bipartite biregular graphs and applications*. Submitted.
- SM Hirsh, KD Harris, JN Kutz, BW Brunton. *Centering Data Improves the Dynamic Mode Decomposition*. SIAM Applied Dynamical Systems (in press). 2020.
- KD Harris. *Additive function approximation in the brain*. Workshop: Real Neurons and Hidden Units. Neural Information Processing Systems. 2019.
- P Kürschner, S Dolgov, KD Harris, P Benner. *Greedy low-rank algorithm for smooth connectome regression*. Journal of Mathematical Neuroscience 9: 9. 2019.
- J Knox, KD Harris, N Graddis, JD Whitesell, H Zeng, JA Harris, E Shea-Brown, S Mihalas. *High resolution data-driven model of the mouse connectome*. Network Neuroscience 3(1), 217–236. 2019.
- KD Harris, T Dashevskiy, J Mendoza, AJ Garcia III, J-M Ramirez, E Shea-Brown. *Different roles for inhibition in the rhythm-generating respiratory network*. Journal of Neurophysiology 118(4), 2070–2088. 2017.
- A Litwin-Kumar, KD Harris, R Axel, H Sompolskiy, LF Abbott. *Optimal degrees of synaptic connectivity*. Neuron 93, 1153–1164. 2017.
- KD Harris, S Mihalas, E Shea-Brown. *High resolution neural connectivity from incomplete tracing data using nonnegative spline regression*. Neural Information Processing Systems, 2016.
- PS Dodds, EM Clark, S Desu, MR Frank, AJ Reagan, JR Williams, L Mitchell, KD Harris, IM Kloumann, JP Bagrow, K Megerdumian, MT McMahon, BF Tivnan, CM Danforth. *Human language reveals a universal positivity bias*. Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences 112(8), 2389–2394. 2015.
- KD Harris, PS Dodds, CM Danforth. *Dynamical influence processes on networks: General theory and applications to social contagion*. Physical Review E 88, 022816. 2013.
- L Mitchell, MR Frank, KD Harris, PS Dodds, CM Danforth. *The Geography of Happiness: Connecting Twitter sentiment and expression, demographics, and objective characteristics of place*. PLoS ONE 8(5): e64417. 2013.
- PS Dodds, KD Harris, CM Danforth. *Limited Imitation Contagion on Random Networks: Chaos, Universality, and Unpredictability*. Physical Review Letters 110, 158701. 2013.
- CA Bliss, IM Kloumann, KD Harris, CM Danforth, PS Dodds. *Twitter reciprocal reply networks exhibit assortativity with respect to happiness*. Journal of Computational Science 3(5), 388–397. 2012.
- KD Harris, E-H Ridouane, DL Hitt, CM Danforth. *Predicting flow reversals in chaotic natural convection using data assimilation*. Tellus A 64, 17598. 2012.
- N Allgaier, KD Harris, CM Danforth. *Empirical Correction of a Toy Climate Model*. Physical Review E 85, 026201. 2012.
- IM Kloumann, CM Danforth, KD Harris, CA Bliss, PS Dodds. *Positivity of the English language*. PLoS ONE 7(1): e29484. 2012.

- PS Dodds, KD Harris, IM Kloumann, CA Bliss, CM Danforth. *Temporal patterns of happiness and information in a global social network: Hedonometrics and Twitter*. PLoS ONE 6(12): e26752. 2011.
- JL Payne, KD Harris, PS Dodds. *Exact solutions for social and biological contagion models on mixed directed and undirected, degree-correlated random networks*. Physical Review E 84, 016110. 2011.
- PS Dodds, KD Harris, JL Payne. *Direct, physically motivated derivation of the contagion condition for spreading processes on generalized random networks*. Physical Review E 83, 056122. 2011.

GRANTS AND HONORS

Washington Research Foundation Postdoctoral Fellowship, 3 yr. grant, 2018–present

Graduate

- Boeing Research Award in Applied Mathematics, University of Washington, 2016
- Big Data for Genomics and Neuroscience Training Grant, University of Washington, 2 yrs. funding, 2015–2017
- Joseph Hammack Research Award in Applied Mathematics, University of Washington, 2014
- Boeing Fellowship, University of Washington, 3 yrs. funding, 2012–2015
- John F. Kenney Award for Excellence in Mathematics, University of Vermont, 2012
- NASA Graduate Research Assistantship, University of Vermont, 2009/2011

Fulbright Scholar, Chile, 2010

- Worked with transportation engineers to optimize the nighttime bus timetables of Santiago.

Undergraduate

- Vermont Scholar, funded 100% financial need, 2005–2009
- URECA! NASA-funded undergraduate research grant, 2008–2009
- Honors College Scholar, *Magna cum laude*, Phi Beta Kappa
- Senior Mathematics Award for Research, 2009

EDUCATION

University of Washington, Seattle, Washington.

- Ph.D., Applied Mathematics, December 2017.
Thesis: *This Brain Is a Mess: Inference, Random Graphs, and Biophysics to Disentangle Neuronal Networks*. Advisor: Eric Shea-Brown
Committee: Ioana Dumitriu, Adrienne Fairhall, Stefan Mihalas, Jan-Marino Ramirez

University of Vermont, Burlington, Vermont.

- M.S., Mathematics, October 2012.
Thesis: *On-off Threshold Models of Social Contagion*.
Advisor: Peter Sheridan Dodds.
- B.A., Mathematics and B.A., Physics, May 2009.
Honors College thesis: *Predicting Climate Regime Change in Chaotic Convection*.
Advisor: Christopher M. Danforth.

Other education

- Methods in Computational Neuroscience. Marine Biological Lab, Woods Hole, MA. 2015.
- Mining and modeling of neuroscience data. Redwood Center for Theoretical Neuroscience. University of California Berkeley, 2013.
- Complex Systems Summer School. Santa Fe Institute, 2011.
- ISEP Exchange Program. Pontificia Universidad Católica de Valparaíso, Chile. 2007.

TEACHING & MENTORING

Instructor of record

- Data Science for Biologists (UW BIO 419/519) Winter 2019
- [Introduction to Computational Models in Biology](#) (UW AMATH 422/522) Fall 2017

Research mentoring

- Seth Hirsh, Physics PhD student. 2018–current.
- Satpreet Singh, Electrical & Computer Engineering PhD student. 2018–current.
- Yuchen Wang (now at Adobe), Computer Science & Engineering undergrad. 2018–2019.
- Nathan Lee, Applied Mathematics PhD student. 2018–2019.
- Joseph Knox (now data scientist at Facebook), Allen Institute for Brain Science. 2017–2018.
- Nile Graddis, Allen Institute for Brain Science. 2015–2018.

- Joshua Mendoza (now at Pacific Northwest National Lab). Applied Mathematics Honors thesis: *The effects of network structure in creating a two-phase breathing pattern in the Böttinger and pre-Böttinger complexes*, 2014–2015. UWIN Postbac Fellowship, 2016.

Teaching assistant

- [Summer Workshop on the Dynamic Brain](#) (UW/Allen Institute for Brain Science) Summer 2016
- Women in Science and Engineering undergraduate program, UW Summer 2014
- STEM Bridge undergraduate program, UW Summer 2013
- Introduction to Nonlinear Dynamics and Chaos (UW AMATH 402/502) Winter 2013, 2014
- Fundamentals of Calculus I (UVM MATH 19) Fall 2008
- Basic Combinatorial Theory (UVM MATH 173) Spring 2007

Instructor, Champlain Valley Union High School ACCESS community classes

- Intermediate Spanish: Advanced Spring 2012
- Spanish for Beginners Fall 2011

Guest lecturer

- Computational Modeling of Biological Systems (UW AMATH 422/522) Fall 2016
- Introduction to Nonlinear Dynamics and Chaos (UW AMATH 402/502) Winter 2015
- Linear Algebra (UVM MATH 124) Fall 2009
- Introduction to Numerical Analysis (UVM MATH 237) Fall 2009
- Chaos and Fractals (UVM MATH 266) Spring 2009

Tutor

- UVM Learning Coop “in-house” undergraduate tutor December 2006–March 2009
- VSAC Tutor Academy training 2008

Ski instructor, Mad River Glen Freeride, students age 11–18

Winter 2009–2010

SELECTED TALKS

KD Harris. *Brain network reconstruction as an inverse problem*. Invited talk, Workshop: Inverse Problems in Imaging. SIAM PNW 2019, Seattle, WA. 2019.

KD Harris, I Dumitriu, G Brito. *Spectral gap in random bipartite biregular graphs and applications*. Theory seminar. Computer Science & Engineering, University of Washington, Seattle, WA. 2019.

KD Harris, J Harris, S Mihalas, H Choi, J Whitesell. *The Mouse Mesoscale Connectome: Data-driven Models and Organization of Cortical Networks*. Showcase Symposium team talk. Allen Institute for Brain Science, Seattle, WA. 2018.

KD Harris, A Litwin-Kumar, R Axel, H Sompolinsky, LF Abbott. *Connections between dimensionality and network sparsity*. Invited talk, Workshop: How does learning reshape dimensionality of collective network activity? CNS 2018, Seattle, WA. 2018.

KD Harris. *Advances and challenges in connectome inference and analysis*.

- Institute for Disease Modeling, Bellevue, WA. 2017.
- Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, Richland, WA. 2017.

KD Harris, N Graddis, J Harris, S Mihalas, ET Shea-Brown. *Construction of a voxel-based mesoscopic mouse connectome*. Synergy Lecture. Allen Institute for Brain Science, Seattle, WA. 2016.

KD Harris, T Dashevskiy, J Mendoza, AJ Garcia III, J-M Ramirez, and ET Shea-Brown. *Role and limits of inhibition in an excitatory burst generator*. Invited talk, Connecting Network Architecture and Network Computation. BIRS, Banff, AB. 2015.

KD Harris, T Dashevskiy, J-M Ramirez, and ET Shea-Brown. *Combined Effects of Connectivity and Inhibition in a Model of Breathing Rhythmogenesis*. SIAM Dynamical Systems Conference. Snowbird Resort, Little Cottonwood Canyon, UT. 2015.

KD Harris, PS Dodds, CM Danforth. *Limited Imitation Social Contagion as a Model of Fashions*.

- Dynamics Days 2013. Marriott City Center, Denver, CO. 2013.
- SIAM Dynamical Systems Conference. Snowbird Resort, Little Cottonwood Canyon, UT. 2013.

KD Harris, M Munizaga, A Gschwender. *Timetable optimization for Transantiago night service—Fulbright studies in Chile*. Transportation Research Center Brown Bag Series. University of Vermont, Burlington, VT. 2011.

KD Harris, PS Dodds, CM Danforth, IM Kloumann, CA Bliss. *Geographical variation of happiness as expressed by users of Twitter*. Student Research Conference. University of Vermont, Burlington, VT. 2011.

KD Harris, M Munizaga, A Gschwender. *Programación de servicios nocturnos—Proponiendo un horario optimizado para Transantiago* (Programming nightly bus service—Proposing an optimized schedule for Transantiago). Seminar “Herramientas avanzadas para la ciudad del futuro.” Universidad de Chile, Santiago, Chile. 2010.

KD Harris, E-H Ridouane, D Hitt, CM Danforth.

Forecasting Flow Reversals in a Chaotic Toy Climate.

- SIAM Dynamical Systems Conference. Snowbird Resort, Little Cottonwood Canyon, UT. 2011.
- Applied Mathematics Seminar. University of Vermont, Burlington, VT. 2009.
- Graduate Student Seminar. University of Vermont, Burlington, VT. 2009.
- Student Research Conference. University of Vermont, Burlington, VT. 2009.
- MAA Northeastern Sectional Meeting. St. Michael’s College, Burlington, VT. 2008.
- URECA! Awards Ceremony. University of Vermont, Burlington, VT. 2008.

TECHNICAL SKILLS Programming languages: Python (scipy, numpy, networkx, scikit-learn, pandas), MATLAB, C/C++

Data: Experience with PostgreSQL + PostGIS, Hadoop + Pig, R

Computer systems: cluster environments, Linux, L^AT_EX, git

Spoken language: Spanish (fluent), English (native), French (basic)

SERVICE AND
PROFESSIONAL
SOCIETIES

Member: Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics, Organization for Computational Neuroscience

Referee: Network Neuroscience, NeuroImage, Physical Review Letters, NeurIPS, PLOS ONE, Physical Review E, New Media and Society, SIAM Workshop on Network Science

Volunteer, SIAM Math Fair at Lockwood Elementary School, 2014

Computational neuroscience journal club co-organizer, 2014–2016

Organized UW Applied Math ski day, 2015

REFERENCES

Bingni Wen Brunton

Associate Professor, Department of Biology, University of Washington
bbrunton@uw.edu

Eric Shea-Brown

Professor, Department of Applied Mathematics, University of Washington
etsb@amath.washington.edu

Ioana Dumitriu

Professor, Department of Mathematics, University of California San Diego
dumitriu@ucsd.edu

Christopher M. Danforth

Professor, Department of Mathematics & Statistics, University of Vermont
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