Nathan Sanford

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# Professional Summary

A data scientist trained in applied mathematics who is interested in developing and using algorithms to solve problems and analyze data sets that have real-world impacts.

### **EDUCATION**

## Northwestern University

Evanston, Illinois

2013 - expected **Spring 2020** 

GitHub: github.com/natsan91

email: nathansanford2013@u.northwestern.edu

Ph.D. in Applied Mathematics

o Thesis: Rare Events in Mode-Locked Lasers

o Minor: Scientific Computing

## Seattle University

Seattle, Washington

2009 - 2013

B.S. in Mathematics

o Summa Cum Laude, Major GPA: 4.00/4.00, Overall GPA: 3.94/4.00

 $\circ\,$   ${\bf Specialization}:$  Applied Mathematics,  ${\bf Minor}:$  Philosophy

### WORK EXPERIENCE

### Northwestern University

Evanston, Illinois

Research Assistant

June 2014 - Present

- Performed large-scale, parallelized, Monte Carlo simulations to quantify error rates in a mode-locked laser model.
- Investigated algorithmic improvements to importance sampled Monte Carlo schemes in specialized conditions.
- o Identified novel error path features analytically and numerically using rare event and large deviation theory.
- Directed research projects independently while learning and using various languages/platforms autonomously.
- Collaborated with multi-continent research team on algorithm development and paper drafting.
- Presented research at conferences, interdisciplinary workshops, and departmental seminars.

#### Northwestern University

Evanston, Illinois

Sept. 2014 - June 2019

Teaching Assistant

- Assisted professors in teaching core and advanced undergraduate mathematics classes for 12 quarters.
- Collaborated with faculty to develop and compose course assessments and materials.
- o Coordinated with 5-15 person teaching teams to organize instruction for lecture sections of over 300 people.
- Taught students in group settings and provided individualized help to students in office hours.
- Communicated course concepts to students of various backgrounds throughout the University.

#### Seattle University

Seattle, Washington

Jan. 2012 - Sept. 2013

Research Assistant

- Investigated stability of steep waves in an integro-differential shallow water wave model.
- Utilized a mixture of analytical and numerical techniques to assess solutions' stability.
- o Collaborated weekly with water wave research group at the University of Washington.
- Wrote code collaboratively with another student that led to a publication.

#### Programming Skills

• Languages: C/C++, Python, LATEX

• OS and Software: Linux, Windows, MATLAB, R, Mathematica

#### **PUBLICATIONS**

N. Sanford, G.M. Donovan, and W.L. Kath. Slip Rates and Slip Modes in an Actively Mode-Locked Laser. SIAM Journal on Applied Dynamical Systems, accepted.

**N. Sanford**, K. Kodama, J.D. Carter, and H. Kalisch. *Stability of traveling wave solutions to the Whitham equation. Physics Letters A*, 2014.