

# Nikolas Schonsheck — Curriculum Vitæ

Department of Mathematical Sciences  
501 Ewing Hall  
Newark, DE 19716

Office: Ewing Hall 408  
Email: [nischon@udel.edu](mailto:nischon@udel.edu)  
Website: <https://niko-schonsheck.github.io/>

## Education & Employment

### University of Delaware

Postdoctoral Fellow July 2021-present  
PI: Chad Giusti

### The Ohio State University

Ph.D. in Mathematics May 2021  
M.S. in Mathematics December 2018  
Supervisor: John E. Harper

### Vassar College

B.A. in Mathematics, general and subject honors May 2015  
Minor in social and political philosophy

## Teaching Experience

### *University of Delaware*

#### Instructor

Math 367: Seminar on Applied Topology Spring 2023  
Math 349: Elementary Linear Algebra Fall 2022  
Math 401: Introduction to Analysis Spring 2022

### *The Ohio State University*

#### Instructor

Math 1149: Trigonometry Summer 2018

#### Co-instructor

Math 1125: Mathematics for Elementary Teachers I Fall 2019  
Math 1149: Trigonometry Summer 2017

#### Graduate Teaching Associate

Regular duties included planning material for and conducting two recitation meetings per week, writing and grading quizzes, grading homework.

Math 1150: Precalculus Fall 2020  
Math 1161: Accelerated Calculus I Fall 2018, Fall 2017  
Math 1151: Calculus I Spring 2018, Fall 2016  
Spring 2016, Fall 2015  
Math 1152: Calculus II Spring 2017

### *Vassar College*

#### Undergraduate Assistant

Fall 2014-Spring 2015  
Held six office hours per week for upper-level mathematics classes.

## Publications & Preprints

**$O(k)$ -equivariant dimensionality reduction on Stiefel manifolds** (with A. Lee, H. Lee, J. Perea, M. Weinstein). Submitted. Available at <https://arxiv.org/pdf/2309.10775.pdf>.

**Spherical coordinates from persistent cohomology** (with S. Schonsheck). Accepted to *Journal of Applied and Computational Topology*. Available at <https://arxiv.org/pdf/2209.02791.pdf>.

**Toroidal coordinates: decorrelating circular coordinates with lattice reduction** (with J. Bush, H. Gakhar, J. Perea, T. Rask, L. Scoccola, L. Zhou). *39<sup>th</sup> International Symposium on Computational Geometry (SoCG 2023)*, **258**, 57:1-57:20 (2023). Available at <https://arxiv.org/abs/2212.07201>.

**On the chromatic localization of the homotopy completion tower for  $O$ -algebras** (with C. Ogle). *New York Journal of Mathematics*, **28**, 1042-1056 (2022).

**TQ-completion and the Taylor tower of the identity functor**. *Journal of Homotopy and Related Structures*, **17**, 201-216 (2022).

**Fibration theorems for TQ-completion of structured ring spectra**. *Tbilisi Math. Journal: Special Issue on Homotopy Theory, Spectra, and Structured Ring Spectra*, 1-15 (2020).

**On the cop number of generalized Petersen graphs** (with T. Ball, R. Bell, J. Guzman, and M. Hanson-Colvin). *Discrete Mathematics*, **340** (6), 1381-1388 (2017).

*In preparation*

**Relative population size modulates learnability of cyclic features of neural code** (with C. Giusti).

**A generalized Dowker theorem** (with C. Giusti, V. Itskov, M. Robinson, R. Sazdanovic, V. de Silva, M. Vaupel, H-R. Yoon).

## Honors, Awards, & Fellowships

### Teaching

**Excellence in Teaching Award (Nominated)** Spring 2023  
University of Delaware, independently nominated for “excellent work and your positive impact on student learning.”

**Phil Huneke Distinguished Graduate Teaching Associate Award** Spring 2021  
Departmental. This award recognizes “mathematics graduate students who have demonstrated excellence in the classroom and a high level of commitment to undergraduate mathematics education.” Awarded for the 2019-2020 academic year, but awards delayed to 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Graduate Associate Teaching Award** Spring 2020  
University-wide. “Ohio State’s highest recognition of teaching done by graduate students.” Ten recipients chosen each year out of over 3,000 graduate TA’s.

**First-year Graduate Teaching Associate Award** Spring 2016  
Departmental. “This award recognizes outstanding first year Graduate Teaching Associates within the OSU Department of Mathematics.”

### Research & Scholarship

**Research Training Groups (RTG) Fellowship** Summer 2020, Spring 2020  
Department of Mathematics, The Ohio State University Spring 2019

**Mary Evelyn Wells and Gertrude Smith Prize**  
Department of Mathematics, Vassar College

Spring 2011

## Research Mentoring and Service

### **Summer Scholars Program**

Summer 2023-present

Undergraduate summer research program at University of Delaware. Supervising two undergraduate students applying persistent cohomological techniques to artificial neural networks and Hebbian learning rules.

### **GEMS Summer Program**

Summer 2022

Summer research program at University of Delaware; supervisor to one undergraduate and one graduate student studying propagation of cyclical data features through feedforward neural networks.

### **Directed Reading Program** (University of Delaware)

Spring 2022-present

Cofounded and continue to organize Directed Reading Program at University of Delaware; supervised reading projects on simplicial homology, elementary number theory, and combinatorial pursuit games.

### **Knots and Graphs undergraduate research working group**

Summer 2020

Summer research program similar to an REU but only open to Ohio State students; volunteered to mentor two groups of four undergraduate students working on problems in graph coloring.

### **Directed Reading Program** (Ohio State)

Spring 2019

Oversaw a reading course on introductory algebraic topology while a graduate student at Ohio State.

## Other Service and Activities

### **JMM Special Session**

January 2024

#### **Applied Topology Beyond Persistence Diagrams**

Co-organized special session on applied topology focusing on applications of homological algebra beyond the industry standard of persistence diagrams. To run January 2024.

### **JMM Special Session**

January 2023

#### **Applied Topology: Theory and Implementation**

Co-organized special session on applied topology with a particular view towards bridging the gap between the theory and implementation of recent research in applied topology and topological data analysis.

### **AMS Mathematics Research Communities**

Summer 2022

Participant in MRC: Data Science at the Crossroads of Analysis, Geometry, and Topology. Worked with two groups of other early career researchers on projects in topological data analysis. Projects are ongoing and in preparation to submit for publication.

### **Addressing Barriers to Participation in STEM**

Fall 2021-present

Member, committee of University of Delaware Anti-Racism Initiative. Activities have included developing materials for holistic admission processes, lobbying for required diversity and inclusion questions in faculty hiring, and successfully advocating the raise of minimum graduate student stipend.

### **Invited Panelist, AWM Chapter at Marian University**

Spring 2021

Served as a panelist for a discussion on transitioning from an undergraduate liberal arts school to graduate school/industry in STEM fields.

### **Buckeye Aha! Math Moments**

Summer 2020

Volunteered to mentor and review student work for this outreach initiative of the Department of Mathematics at OSU.

### **Mentor for TA training**

Summer 2020, 2019, 2018, 2017

Assisted in summer training of incoming TA's at Ohio State.

**TA Peer mentor**

Fall 2019, 2018, 2017, 2016

Served in the peer-mentoring program for new TA's at Ohio state; oversaw a total of 14 new teaching associates.

## Conferences & Research Talks

### *Invited and contributed talks*

<b>JMM Special Session on Applied Topology: Theory, Algorithms, and Applications, San Francisco</b> “Spherical parameterizations of data via persistent cohomology”	January 2024
<b>AMS Sectional Special Session on Discrete, Algebraic, and Topological Methods in Mathematical Biology, Creighton University</b> “Hebbian learning of cyclic structures in neural coding”	October 2023
<b>Computational Neuroscience Annual Meeting, Leipzig, Germany</b> “Relative neural population size modulates learnability of cyclic features of neural code” (Poster presentation)	July 2023
<b>Joint Mathematics Meetings, MRC Special Session</b> “Equivariant dimensionality reduction on Stiefel manifolds”	January 2023
<b>Geometry-Topology Seminar, Oregon State University</b> “Spherical coordinates from persistent cohomology”	October 2022
<b>Topology Seminar, University of Iowa</b> “Fibration theorems, functor calculus, and chromatic connections in $O$ -algebras”	April 2021
<b>Graduate Student Topology and Geometry Conference, Indiana University</b> “Functor calculus and chromatic connections in $O$ -algebras”	April 2021
<b>Topology Seminar, University of Regina</b> “Fibration theorems, functor calculus, and chromatic connections in $O$ -algebras”	January 2021
<b>Graduate Conference in Algebra and Topology, Binghamton University</b> “TQ-completion: fibration theorems and connections to functor calculus”	November 2020
<b>Algebraic Topology Seminar, UCLA</b> “Fibration theorems and functor calculus for structured ring spectra”	October 2020
<b>Topology Seminar, Pennsylvania State University-Altoona</b> “TQ-completion: fibration theorems and connections to functor calculus”	September 2020
<b>Topology Seminar, University of Virginia</b> “TQ-completion: fibration theorems and connections to functor calculus”	September 2020
<b>AMS Sectional Special Session on Homotopy Theory, University of Virginia</b> “TQ-completion of certain fibration sequences” (This conference was canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic; notes available at <a href="http://people.virginia.edu/~jeb2md/Schonsheck2020.pdf">http://people.virginia.edu/~jeb2md/Schonsheck2020.pdf</a> )	March 2020
<b>Young Topologists Meeting, EPFL, Switzerland</b> “Topological Quillen homology of structured ring spectra”	July 2019
<b>Mathematics Colloquium, Vassar College</b> “Homotopy theory—from the fundamental group to structured ring spectra”	February 2019
<b>Young Topologists Meeting, University of Copenhagen</b> “An introduction to symmetric spectra”	July 2018

### *Informal talks*

<b>GOATS 2 Online Mini-Conference</b>	June 2020
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“Fibration Theorems for TQ-completion of structured ring spectra”  
(Available at <https://youtu.be/NZ71N1-CUZQ>)

**GROOT Summer Seminar, online**

May 2020

“Fibration Theorems for TQ-completion of structured ring spectra”  
(Available at <https://youtu.be/DkjCgY1kjF8> and <https://youtu.be/EUAh8fwjF9M>)

**Student Homotopy Seminar, Ohio State Mathematics Department**

2018-2020

“Pro-nilpotent homology types”  
“Fibration theorems for TQ-completion of structured ring spectra”  
“Long homology localization towers”  
“Localization and completion with respect to topological Quillen homology”  
“Cosimplicial resolution model structures”  
“The role of principal fibrations”  
“Completion of spaces and ring spectra with respect to homology”  
“Operads and the recognition principle”  
“Comparing  $H\mathbb{Z}$ -algebras in  $Sp^\Sigma$  to unbounded chain complexes”  
“Why symmetric spectra?”

**Graduate Student Seminar, Ohio State Mathematics Department**

January 2019

“Homotopy theory—from the fundamental group to structured ring spectra”

**Seminar- $\infty$ , Ohio State Mathematics Department**

Fall 2017

“The Dold-Kan Correspondence”  
“Eilenberg-Zilber and geometric realization”

**Various Presentations**

2014-2015

“The game of Cops and Robbers on graphs”

*Conference participation*

**Joint Mathematics Meetings, San Francisco, CA**

January 2024

**Neural Coding and Combinatorics, ICERM, Brown University**

November 2023

**Topology and Geometry in Neuroscience, ICERM, Brown University**

October 2023

**AMS Central Sectional Meeting, Creighton University**

October 2023

**Computational Neuroscience 2023**

July 2023

**Annual meeting, Leipzig, Germany**

**Applied Homological Algebra Beyond Persistence Diagrams**

June 2023

**Workshop, American Institute for Mathematics**

**Joint Mathematics Meetings, Boston MA**

January 2023

**Algebraic Topology and Topological Data Analysis:**

August 2022

**A Conference in Honor of Gunnar Carlsson**

**Institute for Mathematics and its Applications, University of Minnesota**

**Mathematics Research Communities:**

June 2022

**Data Science at the Crossroads of Analysis, Geometry, and Topology**

**American Mathematical Society, Beaver Hollow, NY**

**Hot Topics Workshop:**

May 2022

**Topological and Dynamical Analysis of Brain Connectomes**

**ICERM, Brown University**

**COSYNE: Computational Systems Neuroscience, Lisbon, Portugal**

March 2022

Graduate Student Topology and Geometry Conference, Indiana University	April 2021
Graduate Conference in Algebra and Topology, Binghamton University	November 2020
Midwest Topology Seminar, Virtual, Wayne State University	October 2020
GOATS 2 Online Mini-Conference	June 2020
AMS Sectional Meeting, University of Wisconsin-Madison	September 2019
Young Topologists Meeting, EPFL, Switzerland	July 2019
Midwest Topology Seminar, Michigan State University	May 2019
Graduate Student Topology and Geometry Conference, UIUC	March 2019
Functor Calculus Workshop, Ohio State University	March 2019
Midwest Topology Seminar, University of Kentucky	September 2018
Young Topologists Meeting, University of Copenhagen	July 2018
Midwest Topology Seminar, Indiana University	April 2018
AMS Sectional Meeting, Ohio State University	March 2018
Midwest Topology Seminar, Northwestern University	March 2018
Midwest Topology Seminar, Wayne State University	November 2017
Homotopy Theory: Tools and Applications, UIUC	July 2017