

# Dr. Elizabeth Polgreen

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## Education

- 2016 – 2020 **PhD**, *Computer Science*, The University of Oxford.
- 2010 – 2011 **Masters of Engineering**, *Electrical and Electronic Engineering*, The University of Cambridge.
- 2007 – 2010 **Bachelor of Arts**, *Electrical and Electronic Engineering*, The University of Cambridge.

## Employment

- 2020 – **Lecturer**, *Laboratory for Foundations of Computer Science*, University of Edinburgh.  
My research interests are in program synthesis algorithms, applications of program synthesis and integration of synthesis into verification techniques.
- 2019 – 2020 **Visiting Research Scholar**, *Computer Science*, The University of California, Berkeley.
- Jun 2018 – **Software Development Intern**, *Amazon Web Services*, *Dresden*.  
Sep 2018 Applying formal verification techniques to C code for an x86 hypervisor
- Aug 2017 – **Software Development Intern**, *Amazon Web Services*, *Dresden*.  
Oct 2017 Development of analysis tools based on formal methods for hot-patching an x86 hypervisor
- Sep 2015 – **Research Assistant in Verification**, *Department of Computer Science*, *University of Oxford*.  
Mar 2016 Working with Professor Alessandro Abate on application of machine learning techniques in verification.
- Sep 2013 – **Research Support**, *Department of Computer Science*, *University of Oxford*.  
Aug 2015 Lead aspects of research project execution over a broad variety of research projects within the Systems Verification and Validation group.
- Jan 2013 – **Electronics and Software Engineer**, *Peach Innovations*, *Cambridge*.  
Aug 2013 Manufacture, testing and debugging of real-time rowing instrumentation systems. Analysis of system output data with view to new product development.
- Aug 2011 – **Electronics and Software Engineer**, *Eg Technology*, *Cambridge*.  
Jan 2013 Design engineer developing electronics hardware and software for a variety of consumer and medical devices. Main contributor of C code to embedded software projects using ARM microcontrollers. Further experience in LabVIEW, and contributing to larger team projects written in C#.

## Peer-reviewed Publications

- 2023 **C2TACO: Lifting Tensor Code to TACO**, José' Wesley De Souza Magalhães, Jackson Woodruff, Elizabeth Polgreen, Michael F. P. O'Boyle, GPCE.
- 2023 **Message Chains for Distributed Systems Verification**, Federico Mora, Ankush Desai, Elizabeth Polgreen, Sanjit A. Seshia, OOPSLA.
- 2023 **mlirSynth: Automatic, Retargetable Program Raising in Multi-Level IR using Program Synthesis**, Alexander Brauckmann, Elizabeth Polgreen, Tobias Grosser, Michael O'Boyle, PACT.
- 2023 **Towards Building Verifiable CPS using Lingua Franca**, Shaokai Lin, Yatin A. Manerkar, Marten Lohstroh, Elizabeth Polgreen, Sheng-Jung Yu, Chadlia Jerad, Edward Lee, Sanjit A. Seshia, EMSOFT.

- 2023 **Synthesising Programs with Non-trivial Constants**, *Alessandro Abate, Haniel Barbosa, Clark Barrett, Cristina David, Pascal Kesseli, Daniel Kroening, Elizabeth Polgreen, Andrew Reynolds, Cesare Tinelli*, Journal of Automated Reasoning.
- 2022 **UCLID5: Multi-Modal Formal Modeling, Verification, and Synthesis**, *Elizabeth Polgreen, K. Cheang, Pranav Gaddamadugu, Adwait Godbole, Kevin Laeuffer, Shaokai Lin, Yatin Manerkar, Federico Mora, Sanjit A. Seshia*, Computer Aided Verification (CAV).
- 2022 **Synthesis and Satisfiability Modulo Oracles**, *Elizabeth Polgreen, A. Reynolds, Sanjit A. Seshia*, International Conference on Verification, Model Checking, and Abstract Interpretation (VMCAI).
- 2021 **The SyGuS Language Standard Version 2.1**, *Saswat Padhi, Elizabeth Polgreen, Mukhund Raghothaman, Andrew Reynolds, Abishek Udupa*.
- 2021 **Medley Solver: Online SMT Algorithm Selection**, *N. Pimpalkhare, F. Mora, Elizabeth Polgreen, Sanjit A. Seshia*, International Conference on Satisfiability (SAT).
- 2020 **Using model checking tools to triage the severity of security bugs in the Xen hypervisor**, *Byron Cook, Bjoern Doebel, Daniel Kroening, Norbert Manthey, Martin Pohlack, Elizabeth Polgreen, Michael Tautschnig, Pawel Wieczorkiewicz*, Formal Methods in Computer-Aided Design (FMCAD).
- 2020 **Automated Formal Synthesis of Digital Controllers for State-Space Physical Plants**, *Alessandro Abate, Iury Bessa, Dario Cattaruzza, Lucas Cordeiro, Cristina David, Pascal Kesseli, Daniel Kroening, and Elizabeth Polgreen*, Acta Informatica, <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00236-019-00359-1>.
- 2020 **Gradient Descent over Metagrammars for Syntax-Guided Synthesis**, *N. Chan, Elizabeth Polgreen, Sanjit A. Seshia*, Workshop of Synthesis (SYNT).
- 2020 **Synthesis in UCLID5**, *Federico Mora, Kevin Chan, Elizabeth Polgreen, Sanjit A. Seshia*, Workshop of Synthesis (SYNT).
- 2018 **CounterExample Guided Inductive Synthesis Modulo Theories**, *Alessandro Abate, Cristina David, Pascal Kesseli, Daniel Kroening, Elizabeth Polgreen*, Computer Aided Verification (CAV).
- 2017 **Automated Formal Synthesis of Digital Controllers for State-Space Physical Plants**, *Alessandro Abate, Iury Bessa, Dario Cattaruzza, Lucas Cordeiro, Cristina David, Pascal Kesseli, Daniel Kroening, and Elizabeth Polgreen*, Computer Aided Verification (CAV).
- 2017 **DSSynth: An Automated Digital Controller Synthesis Tool for Physical Plants**, *Alessandro Abate, Iury Bessa, Dario Cattaruzza, Lennon Chaves, Lucas Cordeiro, Cristina David, Pascal Kesseli, Daniel Kroening, and Elizabeth Polgreen*, Automated Software Engineering (ASM).
- 2017 **Automated Experiment Design for Efficient Verification of Parametric Markov Decision Processes**, *Elizabeth Polgreen, Vijay Wijesuriya, Sofie Hesaert, Alessandro Abate*, Quantitative Evaluation of SysTems (QEST).
- 2016 **Data-efficient Bayesian Verification of Parametric Markov Chains**, *Elizabeth Polgreen, Vijay Wijesuriya, Sofie Hesaert, Alessandro Abate*, Quantitative Evaluation of SysTems (QEST).

## Under Submission

- 2023 **Reinforcement Learning for Syntax-Guided Synthesis.**

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## Arxiv

**SynRG: Syntax Guided Synthesis of Invariants with Alternating Quantifiers.**, *Elizabeth Polgreen, Sanjit A. Seshia.*

**Verifying Reachability Properties in Markov Chains via Incremental Induction.**, *Elizabeth Polgreen, Martin Brain, Martin Fraenzle, Alessandro Abate.*

**CounterExample Guided Neural Synthesis**, *Elizabeth Polgreen, Ralph Abboud, Daniel Kroening.*

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## Invited Talks

- 2023 **Sherlock Holmes and the Case of the Untrustworthy Software**, TedX University of Edinburgh.
- 2022 **Beyond Counterexamples: Synthesis Modulo Oracles**, 11th Workshop on Synthesis.
- 2022 **UCLID5: multi-modal modeling, synthesis and verification**, 3rd Workshop on Democratizing Software Verification.
- 2022 **Model checking Xen**, Verified Software Workshop, Isaac Newton Institute for Mathematical Sciences.
- 2021 **CounterExample Guided Inductive Synthesis Modulo Theories**, The Simons Institute for the Theory of Computing.

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## Service

**Seminar Co-Organiser**, *Dagstuhl*, The Future of Reactive Synthesis, September 2023.

**Journal Editor**, *FMSD*, Special Edition on Synthesis, 2024.

**Steering committee**, ETAPS, 2022-onwards.

**Workshop chair**, International Workshop on Synthesis (SYNT), 2021.

**Program committees.**

2024: CAV, TACAS

2023: CAV, SYNT, PriSC, DAV

2022: SMT workshop, SAT, CAV, FMCAD, QEST

2021: CAV (artefact evaluation), TACAS (artefact evaluation), FMCAD, QEST

2019: International Workshop on Synthesis (SYNT)

**Non-program committee reviews.**

Acta Informatica, Transactions on Programming Languages and Systems, Robotics: Science and Systems 2017, CAV 2021, SOFSEM-FOCS2017, QEST 2017, QEST 2016, Information and Software Technology, 13th International Workshop on Discrete Event Systems

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## Research Grants

- 2023 **Royal Academy of Engineering Research Fellowship**, 5 years.
- 2023 **Amazon Research Award**, 1 year.

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## Teaching

- 2024 **System Design Project**, *University of Edinburgh*, Lecturer.
- 2023 **System Design Project**, *University of Edinburgh*, Lecturer.
- 2022 **Introduction to SAT/SMT**, *Scottish Programming Languages and Verification Summer School*, Lecturer.

- 2021 **Formal Verification**, *University of Edinburgh*, Course organiser.
- 2022 **Reasoning and Agents**, *University of Edinburgh*, Tutorials.
- 2021 **Discrete Maths and Probability**, *University of Edinburgh*, Tutorials.
- 2020 **Formal Methods: Specification, Verification, and Synthesis**, *UC Berkeley*, Guest Lectures.
- 2018 **Computer Aided Verification Course**, *University of Oxford*, Guest Lecture.
- 2020 **Outreach Volunteer**, *Lawrence Hall of Science, UC Berkeley*.

## Students

- 2022-present **Advances and applications of synthesis**, *Yixuan Li*, PhD candidate, University of Edinburgh.  
Primary supervisor
- 2022-present **Verified Lifting**, *José Wesley De Souza Magalhães*, PhD candidate, University of Edinburgh.  
Second supervisor