Robbie Weber

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Teaching Interests

My interests are in teaching theoretical computer science courses: across the curriculum (from introductory to advanced theory courses) and to different audiences (including non-majors courses). I am also interested in teaching core courses with theoretical components (especially data structures).

Education

University of Washington Seattle, WA

2015-present

- Ph.D. Candidate (Graudation expected June 2020)
- Advisors: Anna Karlin and Shayan Oveis Gharan
- M.S. awarded December 2017

University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, IL

2011-2015

- B.S. LAS in Math and Computer Science

Teaching Experience

Instructor: Data Structures and Algorithms (non-majors)

Summer 2019

- 95 students and 9 TAs
- Overhauled coverage of algorithmic analysis to emphasize best/worst case and remove unnecessary technical distinctions between types of practical analyses.
- Explicitly incorporated problem-solving process in graph modeling problems.

Instructor: CSE 373 Data Structures and Parallelism (CSE majors)

Summer 2018

- 30 students and 2 TAs
- Designed new exercises for theoretical aspects of course.
- Introduced reductions as a connection between data structures content and P/NP discussion.

Teaching Assistant: CSE 446 Machine Learning

Spring 2019

- Led design of discussion section materials (from scratch) shared by all teaching assistants.
- Managed course logistics

Teaching Assistant: CSE 373 Data Structures (non-majors) Spring 2018, Autumn 2018, Winter 2019

- Improved existing section materials (as part of varying two-or-three person teams)
- Designed new homework problems (Autumn 18)
- Led course for one week while instructor was out of town (including three guest lectures) (Spring 18)

Other Teaching Assistant Roles

In reverse chronological order

- At UW:
 - Theory of Computation (CSE 431)
 - Undergraduate Algorithms (CSE 421)
 - Graduate Algorithms (CSE 521)
 - Algorithms for non-majors (CSE 417)
 - Foundations of Computing I (CSE 311)
- At Illinois:
 - Algorithms and Models of Computation (1 semester)
 - Discrete Mathematics (4 semesters)
 - Intro to Computer Science (2 semesters)

Research

- A Strategy-Proof Alternative to Round-Robin Subtournaments

With Nick Liu, Jainul Vaghasia, and Sierra Wang

Pre-print forthcoming

A Simply Exponential Upper Bound on the Maximum Number of Stable Matchings

With Anna Karlin and Shayan Oveis Gharan

STOC 2018. https://arxiv.org/abs/1711.01032

- Embedded-Width: A Variant of Treewidth for Plane Graphs

With Glencora Borradaile, Jeff Erickson, and Hung Le

Pre-print. https://arxiv.org/abs/1703.07532

Talks

- Guest lectures for theory of computation (Autumn 2019), undergraduate algorithms (Winter 2019, Autumn 2019), graduate algorithms (Autumn 2018), and data structures (Spring 2018, Autumn 2019, Winter 2019).
- Invited talk at Highlights of Algorithms Conference (2019)
- Twelve minute Research talks at UW CSE colloquia
 - 2018 "A Simply Exponential Upper Bound on the Maximum Number of Stable Matchings" video
 - 2019 "A Strategy-Proof Alternative to Round-Robin Subtournaments" video

Mentoring

- Led research project with three undergraduates (Winter, Spring 2019)
 - Pre-print based on work forthcoming.
 - First research experience for all three undergraduates.
 - Two of the three undergraduates are now applying for graduate school.
- Led workshops on running office hours and leading discussion sections for new graduate students at universitywide TA conference (September 2019)
- Panelist for new CSE Ph.D. student orientation (Fall 2019)

Service

- Organizer for October 3, 2019 CSE colloquium
- Reader for Ph.D. student applications (2019)
- Scheduler for prospective Ph.D. student Visit Days (2017,2018)
- Organizer for theory group student reading group (Winter-Spring 2017)
- Volunteer tutor for CSE tutoring program (five quarters: Winter 2016 to Spring 2017)
- Student host for two faculty interviews (organized student attendance for meeting with faculty candidate and moderated discussion)
- Organizer for CSE intramural softball team

Awards

UW CSE Bob Bandes TA Award (2018-19)

- One of three winners in 2019.
- First Ph.D. student honoree since 2015.