Thomas Brazelton

Harvard University tbrazel.github.io brazelton@math.harvard.edu

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Employment

Harvard University — Cambridge, MA
NSF Postdoctoral Research Fellow — 2023—2026

Education

The University of Pennsylvania — Philadelphia, PA
Ph.D, Mathematics — 2018—2023
NSF Graduate Research Fellow

The Johns Hopkins University — Baltimore, MD
B.A. + M.A., Mathematics — 2014—2018

Preprints

16. The Chow–Witt rings of the classifying spaces of quadratically oriented bundles, with M. Wendt. 43 pages, 2025.
15. Monodromy in the space of symmetric cubic surfaces with a line, with S. Raman. 28 pages, 2024.
14. Bitangents to symmetric quartics, with C. Bethea. 21 pages, 2024.
13. There is no Cazanave's Theorem for punctured affine space, with W. Hornslien. 3 pages, 2024.

Pubications

12. An enriched degree of the Wronski map, to appear in *New York Journal of Mathematics*, 2025.
11. Equivariant enumerative geometry. *Advances in Mathematics* **461**, 2025.
10. $\mathbb{A}^1$-Brouwer degrees in Macaulay2, with N. Borisov, F. Espino, T. Hagedorn, Z. Han, J. Lopez Garcia, J. Louwsma, G. Ong, and A. Tawfeek. *J. Software Alg. Geom.* **14** (2024) pp. 175–187.
9. Residue sums of Dickson polynomials over finite fields, with J. Harrington, M. Litman, T. H. W. Wong. *J. Number Theory* **264** (2024) pp. 1—26.
8. Lifts, transfers, and degrees of univariate maps, with S. McKean. *Mathematica Scandinavica* **129** (2023) pp. 5—38.
7. Bézoutians and the $\mathbb{A}^1$-degree, with S. McKean and S. Pauli *Algebra & Number Theory* **17(11)**, 2023.
6. Homotopy Mackey functors of equivariant algebraic K-theory. *Journal of Pure and Applied Algebra*, **226(8)**, August 2022.
5. An introduction to $\mathbb{A}^1$-enumerative geometry. In Neumann F., Pál A. (eds) *Homotopy Theory and Arithmetic Geometry — Motivic and Diophantine Aspects.* Lecture notes in Mathematics, vol **2292**. Springer, Cham. 2021.
4. A note on semilinearization and twisted group rings. *Communications in Algebra*, **49:8**, 3380—3386, 2021.
3. The trace of the local $\mathbb{A}^1$-degree, with R. Burklund, M. McKean, M. Montoro, M. Opie. *Homology, Homotopy and Applications* **23(1)** (2021) pp. 1—14.
2. Zeros of newform Eisenstein series on $\Gamma_0(N)$, with V. Jakicic, *J. Number Theory* **190** (2018) pp. 109—130.
1. On consecutive primitive nth roots of unity modulo q, with J. Harrington, S. Kannan, and M. Litman, *J. Number Theory* **174** (2017) pp. 494—504.

Software

`A1BrouwerDegrees`, a Macaulay2 package for $\mathbb{A}^1$-Brouwer degree computation and working with symmetric bilinear forms, with N. Borisov, F. Espino, T. Hagedorn, Z. Han, J. Lopez Garcia, J. Louwsma, G. Ong, and A. Tawfeek.

Professional Service

Co-Organizer, Macaulay2 Workshop 2025, UW-Madison
Co-Organizer, Mid-Atlantic Topology Conference 2024, Northeastern University
Co-Organizer, AMS Special Session on Homotopy Theory, JMM 2024
Project leader, Macaulay2 Workshop 2023

Committee work

Graduate Admissions Committee, Harvard Mathematics, 2024–2025
Community Committee, Harvard Mathematics, 2024–Present

Referee work

Referee: Advances in Mathematics, Annali della Scuola Normale Superiore di Pisa
Reviewer, MathSciNet

Research Talks

Notre Dame Topology Seminar	Jan 2025
UW-Madison Algebra and Algebraic Geometry Seminar	Dec 2024
CU-Boulder Topology Seminar	Nov 2024
Harvard/MIT Algebraic Geometry Seminar	Oct 2024
Enumerative Geometry Beyond Spaces, Banff	Aug 2024
Workshop on Applied and Computational Enumerative Geometry, Fields Institute	Jun 2024
Université du Québec à Montréal, LACIM Seminar	Apr 2024
Algebra Seminar, University of Pennsylvania	Apr 2024
Geometry/Topology Seminar, University of Pennsylvania	Apr 2024
CIMAT Topology Seminar	Feb 2024
University of Minnesota Topology Seminar	Feb 2024
University of Chicago Algebraic Topology Seminar	Feb 2024
University of Chicago No Boundaries Seminar	Feb 2024
Northeastern Topology Seminar	Jan 2024
UC-Irvine Topology Seminar	Jan 2024
UCLA Topology Seminar	Jan 2024
AMS Special Session on Equivariant Algebra	Jan 2024
eCHT Research Seminar	Nov 2023
Texas A&M Geometry Seminar	Nov 2023
MIT Topology Seminar	Oct 2023
Notre Dame Algebraic Geometrty & Commutative Algebra Seminar	May 2023
University of Maryland Algebra & Number Theory Seminar	Mar 2023
Tulane University Algebraic Geometry & Geometric Topology Seminar	Feb 2023
Emory University Algebra Number Theory Seminar	Feb 2023
University of Waterloo Geometry/Topology Seminar	Feb 2023
University of Virginia Topology Seminar	Feb 2023
Brown University Algebraic Geometry Seminar	Feb 2023
JMM Special Session on Applied Enumerative Geometry	Jan 2023
UCLA Topology Seminar	Nov 2022
Rochester University Topology Seminar	Nov 2022
Binghamton University Graduate Conference (BUGCAT)	Nov 2022
Binghamton University Topology Seminar	Nov 2022
AMS Special Session on K-theory and Chromatic Homotopy Theory, U-Utah	Oct 2022
Johns Hopkins University Topology Seminar	Oct 2022
Loyola University Chicago Topology, Algebra, Combinatorics & Operators Seminar	Oct 2022
UChicago Topology Seminar	Oct 2022
Young Topologists Meeting 2022, Copenhagen	Jul 2022
Homotopy Theory with Applications to Arithmetic and Geometry, Fields Institute	Jun 2022
GROOT (Graduates Reminisce Online On Topology)	Jun 2022
Algebraic Structures in Topology, San Juan	Jun 2022
Algebra Seminar, Texas A&M University	Mar 2022
FRG Grant on Trace Methods	Jan 2022
SECANT 2021, Cedar Crest College	Jan 2022
Topology/Geometry Seminar, University of Oregon	Nov 2021
Geometry/Topology Seminar, University of Pennsylvania	Nov 2021
Algebra Seminar, University of Pennsylvania	Nov 2021
Young Topologists Meeting 2020/2021	Jul 2021
Algebra Seminar, University of Pennsylvania	Apr 2020
Binghamton University Graduate Conference (BUGCAT)	Nov 2020
Geometry/Topology Seminar, University of Pennsylvania	Oct 2020
AMS Fall Sectional, UW-Madison	Sep 2019
PIMS Workshop on Arithmetic Topology	Jun 2019
Rényi Institute Number Theory Seminar, Budapest	Sep 2016

Awards and Fellowships

AIM SQuaRE Grant 2023—2026,
Around the Wronski map, with S. Karp, J. Levinson, S. McKean, K. Purbhoo, F. Sottile

AIM SQuaRE Grant 2023—2026,

An algebraic approach to Thom spectra, with M. Calle, D. Chan, L. Keenan, M. Péroux

NSF Postdoctoral Research Fellowship 2023—2026

AMS Travel Grant 2022

Graduate Fellow for Teaching Excellence,
Penn Center for Teaching and Learning 2022—2023

Moez Alimohamed Graduate Student Award for Distinguished Teaching in Mathematics, University of Pennsylvania 2021

Graduate Fellow for Equitable and Inclusive Teaching, Penn Center for Teaching and Learning 2021—2022

Master TA, University of Pennsylvania Mathematics Department 2021—2023

Dean's Scholar, University of Pennsylvania
Honored as one of nine doctoral students across the School of Arts & Sciences. 2020—2021

Good Teaching Award, University of Pennsylvania Mathematics Department Fall 2020

NSF Graduate Research Fellow 2019 — 2024

Calabi Fellow, University of Pennsylvania Mathematics Department 2017 — 2020

J.J. Sylvester Award for Excellence in Mathematics (Johns Hopkins) May 2018

NSF GRFP, Honorable Mention 2018

William Lowell Putnam Award (Johns Hopkins) May 2016

Teaching

Harvard University
MATH266, Unstable motivic homotopy theory Fall 2024

Electronic Computational Homotopy Theory Seminar (eCHT)
Co-organizer, Quadratically enriched curve counting Fall 2024
Designed and co-organized with Sabrina Pauli.
Co-organizer, Algebraic, motivic, and topological vector bundles Fall 2023
Designed and co-organized with Morgan Opie.

University of Pennsylvania
Instructor, MATH8100 Enumerative Geometry Spring 2023
Designed and taught an inquiry-based learning course on enumerative geometry for graduate students and advanced undergrads.

Penn Directed Reading Program Fall 2019 — Spring 2023

Co-founded and co-organized the DRP at Penn with Mona Merling (Fall 2019), co-organized with George Wang (Spring 2020 — Spring 2021), and with Marielle Ong (Fall 2021 — Present). Mentor for the following projects:
$\mathbb{A}^1$-*Milnor numbers*, Zhong Zhang Spring 2023
Algebraic geometry from an $\mathbb{A}^1$-*viewpoint*, Zhong Zhang Fall 2022
Enumerative geometry and string theory II, Zhong Zhang Spring 2022
Enumerative geometry and string theory, Zhong Zhang Fall 2021
Category theory and homotopy theory, Abigail Timmel Spring 2020
Group theory and applications, Stephanie Wu Fall 2019
Persistent homology, Mira Wattal (JHU) Spring 2018

Princeton Prison Teaching Initiative Spring 2021 — Spring 2022

Volunteer math instructor for South Woods State Prison in New Jersey.
Instructor/Team Leader for MATH015 Spring 2022
Instructor for MATH020 Fall 2021
Grader for MATH015 Spring 2021

Penn Summer Prep Philadelphia, PA
Instructor, Introduction to Voting Theory Summer 2021
Designed and taught a two-week course on voting theory for advanced high school students.

University of Pennsylvania Philadelphia, PA
Teaching Assistant, MATH 370 Algebra I Spring 2021
Teaching Assistant, MATH 114 Calculus II Fall 2020

The Johns Hopkins University Baltimore, MD
Teaching Assistant, AS.110.421 Dynamical Systems Spring 2018
Teaching Assistant, AS.110.202 Calculus III Fall 2017

Facilitation

Center for Teaching and Learning, University of Pennsylvania
Designing Problems for STEM Classes Fall 2022
Designed a university-wide workshop on scaffolding and backwards design in problem sets in STEM.

Inclusive and Equitable Teaching in STEM Spring 2022
Designed and facilitated a five-session mini-course on inclusive and equitable teaching in STEM disciplines for graduate students.

Inclusive and Equitable Teaching Fall 2021
Co-facilitated a five-session mini-course on inclusive and equitable teaching for graduate students.

Expository Talks

Texas A&M Undergrad Math Society Nov 2022
Gimbal lock and covering spaces

Penn Undergrad Math Society Nov 2022
A hands-on introduction to homotopy

Penn Geometry/Topology Grad Seminar
Local homotopy theory and Galois descent Sep 2022
The algebraic vector bundle problem Feb 2022
Euler characteristics of real algebraic manifolds Oct 2021

MIT Talbot Workshop, 2021 Oct 2021
Ambidexterity

Penn General Robotics, Automation, Sensing & Perception Laboratory Oct 2019
A brief introduction to topology

Moravian College REU Seminar Jun 2019
A hands-on introduction to homotopy

University of Pennsylvania Graduate Pizza Seminar
How to prevent nuclear war and then decide what to watch on Netflix Feb 2023
Elliptic curves and the NSA Jan 2020
Gimbal lock Dec 2020
Social choice and topology Mar 2019
The generalized Poincaré conjecture Oct 2018

Johns Hopkins Undergraduate Mathematics Seminar Apr 2018
A Crash Course in Homotopy Theory

Selected Conferences and Workshops

(* indicates online)

Enumerative Geometry Beyond Spaces, Banff Aug 2023
PCMI Research Program in Motivic Homotopy Theory Jul 2023
International Workshop on Algebraic Topology, Shanghai Jun 2024
Algebraic Structures in Topology II, San Juan Jun 2024
Workshop on Computational and Applied Enumerative Geometry, Fields Institute Jun 2024
Motives in Mainz Mar 2024
Joint Mathematics Meetings 2024, San Francisco Jan 2024
European Autumn School in Topology 2023 Sep 2023
Stacks Project Workshop 2023, Ann Arbor Aug 2023

Recent Advances in Algebraic K-Theory, IHES	Jul 2023
Motivic and non-commutative aspects of enumerative geometry, Nijmegen	Jul 2023
Scissors K-theory and Trace Methods, Indiana University	Jun 2023
Macaulay2 Workshop, University of Minnesota	May 2023
Mid-Atlantic Topology Conference, Philadelphia	Apr 2023
Joint Mathematics Meeting, Boston	Jan 2023
Banff Workshop on Toric Degenerations	Dec 2022
Binghamton University Graduate Conference in Algebra & Topology	Nov 2022
AMS Sectional, Salt Lake City	Oct 2022
Young Topologists Meeting, Copenhagen	Jul 2022
Homotopical Methods in Fixed Point Theory, CU-Boulder	Jul 2022
Homotopy Theory with Applications to Arithmetic and Geometry, Fields Institute	Jun 2022
Algebraic K-theory, motivic cohomology and motivic homotopy theory, INI	Jun 2022
Algebraic Structures in Topology, San Juan	Jun 2022
Graduate Student Conference in Algebra, Geometry, & Topology, Temple University	May 2022
MIT Talbot Workshop: Ambidexterity in Chromatic Homotopy Theory, Plymouth MA	Oct 2021
Mathematics Teacher-Scholar Symposium, Reed College*	May 2021
Institute for Mathematics and Democracy 2021*	May 2021
Graduate Student Conference in Geometry and Topology*	Apr 2021
Midwest Topology Conference*	Apr 2021
Binghamton University Graduate Conference in Algebra and Topology*	Nov 2020
ICERM: Monodromy and Galois groups in enumerative geometry*	Aug–Sep 2020
Regensburg Transatlantic Transchromatic Homotopy Theory Conference II*	Aug 2020
IHES Motivic, Equivariant and Non-commutative Homotopy Theory*	July 2020
Motives and What Not, Universität Regensburg*	May 2020
Midwest Topology Seminar*	May 2020
MAGUS*	May 2020
Motives & Stacks, Universität Duisburg-Essen	Sep 2019
European Autumn School in Topology 2019, Utrecht	Sep 2019
AMS Fall Sectional, UW-Madison	Sep 2019
PIMS Workshop on Arithmetic Topology, UBC	Jun 2019
Graduate Student Conference in Algebra, Geometry, & Topology, Temple University	Jun 2019
Arizona Winter School 2019: Topology and Arithmetic	Mar 2019
Homotopy Theory Summer Berlin 2018	Jun 2018
Joint Mathematics Meeting, Atlanta	Jan 2017

Service

Penn Homotopy Theory Seminar Spring 2021 — Spring 2023

Co-founder/co-organizer of the Penn homotopy theory seminar with Andres Mejia.

Penn Graduate Student Seminar Fall 2019 — Spring 2020

Co-organizer of the graduate student seminar in the mathematics department with Marielle Ong.

The Franklin Institute Science Museum 2018 — 2022

Volunteer science presenter with Team Boson, responsible for running tables at exhibits and discussing science with the public.

Johns Hopkins Math Club 2015 — 2018

President (2017-2018), Vice President (2016-2017), organizer of speakers and events, test writer / grader / organizer for the Johns Hopkins Math Tournament, held yearly for high school students in the greater DC area. Founder of the Johns Hopkins Undergraduate Math Seminar.

Experience

Noblis, Inc Reston, VA
PhD intern in post-quantum cryptography. Summer 2018

Texas A&M REU College Station, TX
Analytic number theory, supervised by Dr. Matthew Young. Summer 2017

Muhlenberg College REU Allentown, PA
Number theory, supervised by Dr. Joshua Harrington. Summer 2016