Talia Lily Ringer

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https://dependenttyp.es
https://github.com/tlringer

ACADEMIA

University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign *2021 – Present*
Assistant Professor (1.5 YOE)

University of Washington *2015 – 2021*
Ph.D. in Computer Science (advised by Dan Grossman).
Ph.D. Thesis: Proof Repair. Defense video.

University of Maryland, College Park *2008 – 2012*
B.S. in Mathematics and Computer Science. (advised by Larry Washington).
Honors Thesis: An Elliptic Curve Threshold Key Establishment Scheme

INDUSTRY

Industrial Research (1 YOE)
Visiting Researcher, Google (N2Formal) *Summer 2022 – Present*
Research Scientist Intern, Amazon (Automated Reasoning Group) *Summer 2016*

- Working on machine learning tools for proof assistants at Google.
- Developed a solver-aided language for automated test input generation at Amazon.

Software Engineering (4 YOE)
Software Development Engineer II, Amazon *2015*
Software Development Engineer I, Amazon *2012 – 2014*
Software Development Engineer Intern, Amazon *Summer 2011*
Software Intern, Carr Astronautics *2010 – 2011*

- Helped launch Amazon Business.
- Wrote customer-facing code used company-wide at Amazon.
- Deleted more lines of code during my time as an engineer at Amazon than I added. :)

INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS FOUNDED

I am the **founder and president** of the **Computing Connections Fellowship**, which provides institution-independent transitional funding and research visits for computer science Ph.D. students seeking healthier environments. Our two year pilot is in programming languages.

I am also the **founder and chair** of **SIGPLAN-M,** a cross-institutional long-term mentoring program for the programming languages research community. It currently reaches more than **200 mentors** and **300 mentees** across more than **41 countries**, and has been described by mentees as **“life changing”** and **“a career saver**.**”**

RESEARCH IMPACT

My work introduced proof repair, which has since been implemented and adapted at **Amazon** and **NASA**, and is the subject of a **DARPA** AI Exploration, a grant for which I am primary PI.

RESEARCH VISION

How can we build a world in which programmers of **all skill levels** across **all domains** can prove the absence of costly or dangerous bugs in software systems---that is, **formally verify** them? I lead a group that builds **proof engineering** technologies to make that world a reality. My group loves to use the whole toolbox---everything from **dependent type theory** to **program transformations** to **neural proof synthesis**---all in service of **real humans**.

CURRENT ADVISING

Cosmo Viola (Ph.D., 2021 – Present)
Extending proof repair to handle relations more general than type equivalences.

Chris Lam (Ph.D., 2021 – Present)
Compiling proofs alongside programs.

Hannah Leung (Ph.D., coadvised with Christopher Fletcher, 2022 – Present)
Formally verifying security properties of Path ORAM.

Dylan Zhang (Ph.D., coadvised with Maxim Raginsky, 2022 – Present)
Developing neurosymbolic proof models to infer deep semantic relations between types.

Thomas Reichel (masters student, 2022 – Present)
Developing a neural proof repair model.

Timothy Zhou (undergraduate, 2021 – Present)
Improving neural tactic prediction models for proof synthesis and repair.

Max Fan (undergraduate, 2022 – Present)
Building practical proof repair tools for relations more general than type equivalences.

Arpan Agrawal (visiting research programmer, 2022 – Present)
Building machine learning models for proofs into practical user-facing tools.

STUDENTS ADVISED

Taylor Blau (undergraduate, coadvised with Dan Grossman, 2019 – 2020)
Verifying Strong Eventual Consistency in δ-CRDTs (senior thesis)

Jasper Hugunin (undergraduate, coadvised with Dan Grossman, 2018 – 2019)
Constructing Inductive-Inductive Types in Cubical Type Theory (FOSSACS 2019)

GRANTS AWARDED

PLATO: Enriched Tactic Prediction Models for Proof Synthesis & Repair. DARPA PEARLS AI Exploration. PI: **Talia Ringer** (UIUC). Co-PIs: Yuriy Brun (UMass Amherst) and Alex Sanchez-Stern (UMass Amherst). Budget: $1,000,000.

POLYMORPH: Promotion to Optimal Languages Yielding Modular Operator-driven Replacements and Programmatic Hooks. DARPA V-SPELLS. Primary PIs: Galois. Co-PIs: Northeastern, UW, **UIUC**, Alabama, and Syracuse. Budget: $11,342,650.

Neurosymbolic Proof Synthesis & Repair. Amazon Research Awards 2022. PI: **Talia Ringer** (UIUC). Budget: $40,000.

INVITED TALKS

Concrete Problems in Proof Automation *2022*
AI for Theorem Proving (AITP), EuroProofNet Large Libraries of Proofs

You and Your Environment *2022*
Programming Languages Mentoring Workshop (PLMW) at POPL

Proof Engineering Tools for a New Era *2021*
Caltech, UCLA, UMass Amherst, Aarhus, Vermont, Illinois, Virginia, Tufts

Proof Repair Across Type Equivalences *2020 – 2021*
Cornell, CMU, NUS

Proof Transformation *2020*
Logic Supergroup Seminar Series

Proof Engineering Tools for a New Era *2019*
Rising Stars in CS Lecture Series at UMass Amherst

INVITED SEMINARS AND WORKSHOPS

NeurIPS Queer in AI Workshop: Queerness and Faculty Panel *Winter 2022*
Invited Panel

NeurIPS Workshop on MATH-AI: Toward Human-Level Math Reasoning *Winter 2022*
Invited Panel

ICML Workshop on Human-Machine Collaboration and Teaming *Summer 2022*
Invited Panel: Human-Machine Teams for Mathematicians

Dagstuhl Seminar *Canceled (COVID-19)*
Static Methods for Correctness of Model and Program Transformations

Coq Users and Developers Workshop *Summer 2018, 2019*
An Event for Understanding, Improving, and Extending Coq

Rising Stars *Fall 2019*
An Academic Career Workshop for Women in EECS

REFEREED CONFERENCE & JOURNAL PUBLICATIONS

Emily Ruppel*, Sihang Liu*, Elba Garza, Sukyoung Ryu, Alexandra Silva, Talia Ringer.
Long-Term Mentoring for Computer Science Researchers.
To appear in Communications of the ACM (CACM).

Talia Ringer, RanDair Porter, Nathaniel Yazdani, John Leo, Dan Grossman.
Proof Repair Across Type Equivalences.
PLDI 2021. Talk video, PUMPKIN Pi tool repository.

Talia Ringer, Alex Sanchez-Stern, Dan Grossman, Sorin Lerner.
REPLICA: REPL Instrumentation for Coq Analysis.
CPP 2020. Talk video.

Talia Ringer, Karl Palmskog, Ilya Sergey, Milos Gligoric, Zachary Tatlock.
QED at Large: A Survey of Engineering of Formally Verified Software.
Foundations and Trends® in Programming Languages: Vol. 5: No. 2-3, pp 102-281. 2019.
Project website.

Talia Ringer, Nathaniel Yazdani, John Leo, Dan Grossman.
Ornaments for Proof Reuse in Coq.
ITP 2019. Talk video, DEVOID tool repository.

Talia Ringer, Nathaniel Yazdani, John Leo, Dan Grossman.
Adapting Proof Automation to Adapt Proofs.
CPP 2018. Talk video, PUMPKIN PATCH tool repository.

Talia Ringer, Dan Grossman, Daniel Schwartz-Narbonne, Serdar Tasiran.
A Solver-Aided Language for Test Input Generation.
OOPSLA 2017. Talk video.

Talia Ringer, Dan Grossman, Franziska Roesner.
AUDACIOUS: User-Driven Access Control with Unmodified Operating Systems.
CCS 2016. Talk video.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Arpan Agrawal, Emily First, Zhanna Kaufman, Tom Reichel, Shizhuo Zhang, Timothy Zhou, Alex Sanchez-Stern, Talia Ringer, and Yuriy Brun.
Proofster: Automated Formal Verification.
Under Submission to ICSE (Demo Track).

Alex Sanchez-Stern*, Emily First*, Timothy Zhou, Zhanna Kaufman, Yuriy Brun, Talia Ringer.
Passport: Improving Automated Formal Verification Using Identifiers.
Under Submission to TOPLAS.

Hannah Leung, Talia Ringer, and Christopher Fletcher.
Towards Formally Verified Path ORAM in Coq.
CoqPL 2022.

Seth Poulsen, Matthew West, Talia Ringer.
Autogenerating Natural Language Proofs for Proof Education.
The Coq Workshop 2022.

LEADERSHIP, DIVERSITY, & SERVICE

International Programs:

- Computing Connections Fellowship, Founder & President *2022 – Present*
- SIGPLAN-M (long-term mentoring), Founder & Chair *2021 – Present*

Conferences & Workshops:

- Beyond Bayes Workshop Co-Chair *2022*
- Coq Workshop Co-Chair *2022*
- SPLASH Hybridization Committee (first major hybrid conference in my field) *2021*
- ICFP Programming Languages Mentoring Workshop (PLMW) Co-Chair *2020*
- ICFP Mentoring Chair *2020*
- POPLmark 15 Year Retrospective Panel Lead Organizer *2020*
- Shut Down PL Co-Organizer (anti-racist workshop) *2020*
- DeepSpec Summer School Student Talks Organizer *2017*

Departmental & University Service:

- Grainger IDEA Institute Core Faculty Member *2022 – Present*
- UW CSE Academic Jobs Panel *2022*
- Illinois CS BPC Committee *2022 – Present*
- Illinois Mental Health Ambassador *2021 – Present*
- Illinois CS CARES Committee *2021 – Present*
- UW CSE Care Committee Founder & Organizer (support network) *2019 – 2021*
- UW CSE Graduate Admissions Committee *2018*

Reviewing & Program Committees (PCs):

- **Conference PCs:** ICFP (2023), ITP (2022), PLDI (2022), CAV (2021).
- **Journal Reviewing:** JAR (2022), Mathematical Structures in Computer Science (2020).
- **Workshop PCs:** TYPES (2022), AIPLANS (2021), HATRA (2020), CoqPL (2019).
- **Artifact Evaluation Committees:** CAV (2019), POPL (2018, 2019).

Mentoring:

- Mentor for SIGPLAN-M, the program that I founded and chair. *2021 – Present*
- Mentor for undergraduate and graduate women in CS at UW. *2015 – 2020*
- Mentor for LGBT students through the UW Queer Mentoring Program. *2016 – 2019*
- Technical and career mentor for software engineers at Amazon. *2012 – 2015*

Community:

- Creator and administrator of the Neurodivergent at UIUC Slack (2022 – Present).
- Creator and administrator of the Neurodivergent in CS Slack (2021 – Present).
- Creator and administrator of the Midwest PL Slack (2021 – Present).
- Packer and food delivery driver for food banks in Seattle (2020 – 2021).
- ESL tutor & friendly visitor for an elderly refugee with JFS (2017 – 2021).
- Author of a blog interview series about LGBT CS researchers (2016 – 2018).

HONORS & AWARDS

Amazon Research Awards Recipient, PEO Scholar, NSF GRFP Fellow

TEACHING

CS 598 TLR: Proof Automation *Spring 2022, Fall 2022*
A new graduate seminar on proof automation.
A lot of thought went into its design. Check it out!

MEDIA

Proof Repair
Thesis Review podcast about my thesis work and how it has informed my work since.

Tenure, Sexism, and ADHD
Type Theory Forall podcast about my work and my experiences.

How Will Proof Engineering Affect the Future of Software Development?
A podcast interview about my work and future vision. From DevDiscuss Season 6, Episode 4.

Proof Repair & Code Generation
A Galois blog post by Valentin Robert about using my tools for industrial applications.

Proof Engineering for the People
A podcast interview about my work and future vision. From Building Better Systems.

AMA on Mentoring
Invited Ask Me Anything (AMA) session at ICFP 2021 about SIGPLAN-M.

GAP Interview
Interview about the academic job search.

JUST FOR FUN

I enjoy **distance running**. I used to compete for **Club Northwest**, a top distance running club in Seattle. I served on the board of Club Northwest from 2015 to 2016. I ran **NCAA Division I Cross-Country** in 2009. These days, though, I'm getting more into **judo**.

I also enjoy **solving logic and number puzzles**, **writing poetry**, **singing**, **studying languages, making bagels**, **playing Dance Dance Revolution, foraging edible mushrooms**, and **composing music for the piano.**