



# Thomas R. Hoffman

## Curriculum Vita

*The construction itself is an art, its application to the world  
an evil parasite. –LEJ Brouwer*

### Education

- 1998  
2004
**Ph.D. in Mathematics**, *University of Arizona*, Tucson, AZ.  
Specialized in Computational Algebra.
- 1996  
1998
**M.S. in Mathematics**, *Oregon State University*, Corvallis, OR.  
Specialized in Computational Mathematics.
- 1992  
1996
**B.S. in Mathematics and Computer Science**, *Western Oregon State College*, Monmouth, OR.  
Double major in pure mathematics and computer science.

### Dissertation

- Title *Constructing Basic Algebras for the Principal Block of Sporadic Simple Groups.*
- Advisor Klaus Lux, Ph.D.
- Abstract This dissertation describes an algorithm which constructs basic algebras Morita equivalent to group algebras for sporadic groups. Code and proof of correctness are included.

### Master thesis

- Title *Factoring Polynomials over  $\mathbb{Q}$  with the LLL-algorithm.*
- Advisor Mary Flahive, Ph.D.
- Abstract This work describes an algorithm which uses the LLL-algorithm to factor polynomials with rational coefficients. The significance of this algorithm is that its complexity is polynomial time, whereas most algorithms in current use are average case polynomial time but worst case exponential time.

## Teaching

- Mathematics Have taught most math classes offered at CCU.
- Computer Science Qualified at CCU to teach computer science classes. Have taught Java programming, circuits and assembly programming, and algorithms.

## Experience

- 2021 **Interim Director of Mathematics Learning Center**, *Coastal Carolina University*, Conway, SC.
- 2017 **Chair of Mathematics and Statistics**, *Coastal Carolina University*, Conway, SC.
- 2021  
2016 **Professor of Mathematics**, *Coastal Carolina University*, Conway, SC.
- 2014  
2017 **Associate Chair of Mathematics and Statistics**, *Coastal Carolina University*, Conway, SC.
- 2010  
2016 **Associate Professor of Mathematics**, *Coastal Carolina University*, Conway, SC.
- 2004  
2010 **Assistant Professor of Mathematics**, *Coastal Carolina University*, Conway, SC.
- 1998  
2004 **Graduate Teaching/Research Associate/Assistant**, *University of Arizona*, Tucson, AZ.
- 1996  
1998 **Graduate Research Assistant**, *Oregon State University*, Corvallis, OR.

## Publications

Thomas R. Hoffman and James P. Solazzo. Complex two-graphs. *Houston J. Math.*, 44(1):283–300, 2018.

Thomas R. Hoffman and James P. Solazzo. Complex equiangular tight frames and erasures. *Linear Algebra Appl.*, 437(2):549–558, 2012.

Thomas R. Hoffman and Bart Snapp. Gaming the law of large numbers. *The Mathematics Teacher*, 106(5):378–383, 2012.

David M. Duncan, Thomas R. Hoffman, and James P. Solazzo. Numerical measures for two-graphs. *Rocky Mountain J. Math.*, 41(1):133–154, 2011.

David M. Duncan, Thomas R. Hoffman, and James P. Solazzo. Equiangular tight frames and fourth root Seidel matrices. *Linear Algebra Appl.*, 432(11):2816–2823, 2010.

Sierra Doherty and Thomas R. Hoffman. Hoberman brain twist and schreier-sims. *In preparation*.

## Professional Activities

1996

**Mathematics Association of America**, *Member*.

2018

**Mathematics Association of America**, *Department Liaison*.

2012

2016

2015

**XSEDE Campus Champion**.

2019

Along with two computer science faculty, assist CCU faculty with accessing HPC resources.

## Awards and Honors

2011

**MAASE Distinguished Teaching Award for Beginning Faculty**, MAASE Spring 2011 Meeting, University of Alabama.

## Notable Student Posters

2015

**Solving Rubik's Revenge**, *Kyle Lewis*, National Joint American Mathematical Society and Mathematical Association of America Meeting, San Antonio.

2014

**Hoberman Brain Twist**, *Sierra Doherty*, MAASE Spring 2014 Meeting, Tennessee Tech University.

Poster won the Walt and Susan Patterson Prize for Outstanding Undergraduate Research

## Presentations

2015

**The Wrong Way to Solve the Rubik's Cube**, *Coastal Carolina University, Conway, SC*.

Fall One-Talk-One-Time

2015

**Imaginary Two-Graphs**, *University of Mary Washington, Fredricksburg, VA*.

The Third Annual Conference for the Exchange of Mathematical Ideas

2014

**Imaginary Two-Graphs**, *Coastal Carolina University, Conway, SC*.

Faculty Excellence Summit

2013

**Finding Generating Sets of Condensation Algebras**, *University of St Andrews, St Andrews, Scotland*.

Invited talk at International Workshop "Parallel Programming in GAP"

2013

**The Wrong Way to Solve the Rubik's Cube**, *Coastal Carolina University, Conway, SC*.

One-Talk-One-Time during Spring Pilot

2012

**Determinant, Trace, and Fred?**, *Clayton State University, Morrow, GA*.

Invited Address at Southeastern Sectional Meeting of MAA

2011

**Seidel Matrices and Examples of Frames**, *University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL*.  
Southeastern Sectional Meeting of MAA

2007

**The Effect of Non-Euclidean Geometry on Philosophical Thought**, *Coastal Carolina University, Conway, SC*.

Celebration of Inquiry

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- 2006  
**An Introduction to Computational Group Theory**, *Coastal Carolina University*, Conway, SC.  
 Mathematics Department Seminar
- 2005  
**A Linear Algebra Refresher**, *Coastal Carolina University*, Conway, SC.  
 Mathematics Department Seminar
- 2005  
**A Crash Course in Homological Algebra**, *Coastal Carolina University*, Conway, SC.  
 Mathematics Department Seminar
- 2005  
**The Basic Algebra of  $HS$  in Characteristic 2**, *Joint AMS/MAA Mathematics Meeting*, Atlanta, GA.  
 AMS Session on Group Theory
- 2004  
**Minimal Length Logarithmic Signatures of Finite Groups**, *University of Arizona*, Tucson, AZ.  
 Group Theory Seminar
- 2004  
**Constructing Basic Algebras**, *University of Arizona*, Tucson, AZ.  
 Algebra and Number Theory seminar
- 2004  
**Constructing Basic Algebras**, *Joint AMS/MAA Mathematics Meeting*, Phoenix, AZ.  
 AMS Session on Group Theory
- 2003  
**Basic Algebras**, *University of Arizona*, Tucson, AZ.  
 Graduate Student Colloquium
- 2003  
**An Introduction to Computational Group Theory**, *University of Arizona*, Tucson, AZ.  
 Prospective Student Weekend
- 2002  
**Group Cohomology and Morita Equivalence**, *University of Arizona*, Tucson, AZ.  
 Graduate Student Colloquium
- 2001  
**Using Conway Polynomials to Work in Finite Fields**, *University of Arizona*, Tucson, AZ.  
 Graduate Student Colloquium
- 2001  
**Computing the Basic Algebra of a Group**, *University of Arizona*, Tucson, AZ.  
 Mathematics Graduate Day
- 2000  
**Discrete Fourier Transform and Finite Groups**, *University of Arizona*, Tucson, AZ.  
 Graduate Student Colloquium
- 2000  
**Testing the Irreducibility of Modules Using the MeatAxe**, *University of Arizona*, Tucson, AZ.  
 Algebra and Number Theory seminar
- 2000  
**Factoring Polynomials over Finite Fields**, *University of Arizona*, Tucson, AZ.  
 Graduate Student Colloquium
- 1999  
**Applications of the LLL-algorithm**, *University of Arizona*, Tucson, AZ.  
 Graduate Student Colloquium

1999  
**A Search for Rational Points on a Particular Surface**, *University of Arizona*, Tucson, AZ.  
Research Tutorial Group

1998  
**Factoring Polynomials over  $\mathbb{Q}$  with the LLL-algorithm**, *Oregon State University*, Corvallis, OR.  
Graduate Mathematics Colloquium

## Service

### University Service

2020  
**Nontenure Track Committee.**  
Reviewing University policies and Faculty Manual as they pertain to lecturers and adjunct faculty.

2016  
2017  
**Faculty Grievance Committee.**  
Reviewed grievance cases from faculty as they come up.

2005  
2013  
**Faculty Welfare and Development Committee.**  
Reviewed enhancement grant and scholarly reassignment applications, worked on family tuition waiver and childcare project.

2008  
2013  
**Chair, Faculty Welfare and Development Committee.**  
Organized and ran meetings, worked with the Provost and faculty senate chair on many initiatives including salary decompression for faculty. Made several presentations to faculty senate and the AAUP and also developed and ran CeTeal sessions related to faculty development.

2008  
2013  
**Strategic Planning Committee.**

2009  
2013  
**Faculty Budget Advisory Committee.**

2011  
2013  
**University Wide Assessment Committee—Student Learning.**  
Participated in review of department plans and reports from across the university.

2011  
2012  
**Chair, SACS Readiness Audit Team #2 Faculty.**  
Organized and led the audit of CCU's policies relating to faculty.

2010  
2011  
**Chair, Adhoc Teaching Manual Committee.**  
Organized the writing and editing of a manual for teaching faculty. Also wrote the policy on student evaluations of teachers.

2005  
2006  
**Secretary, Faculty Welfare and Development Committee.**  
Kept minutes at meetings, then typed and submitted them to the chair.

### College Service

2011  
2013  
**College of Science Assessment Coordinator.**  
Organized the review and critical feedback of assessment plans and reports in the College of Science.

2012  
2013  
**College of Science Curriculum Committee.**  
Reviewed curriculum changes in the college as Assessment Coordinator.

2007  
2010  
**College of Natural and Applied Sciences Curriculum Committee.**  
Reviewed curriculum changes in the college.

2006  
2008

### **College of Natural and Applied Sciences Technology Committee.**

Reviewed technology requests and participated in making recommendations to the dean.

### Department Service

2013  
2017

### **Department Advising Committee.**

Alongside two other faculty, advised all math majors.

2013  
2015

### **Department Recruitment and Retention Committee.**

Recruited top students from math courses/placement exam to be math majors. Met with struggling students to advise and help them improve or find another major.

2006  
2019

### **Department Calculator Coordinator.**

Organized request for calculators and supplies from Texas Instruments.

2012  
2016

### **Department Liaison to the MAA.**

2005  
2011

### **Chair, Department Curriculum Committee.**

Organized curriculum changes, completed paperwork, reviewed catalog entries.

2007  
2008

### **Assistant Professor Search Committee.**

Reviewed applications, interacted with applicants, and participated in decision making process.

2008

### **Mathematics Tutoring Lab Director Search Committee.**

Reviewed applications, interacted with applicants, and participated in decision making process.

2007

### **Chair, Lecturer Search Committee.**

Organized review of applications, phone interviews and discussions for decision making process.

2006

### **Chair, Visiting Assistant Professor Search Committee.**

Organized review of applications, phone interviews and discussions for decision making process.

2004  
2006

### **Department Computer Committee.**

2004  
2005

### **Assistant Professor Search Committee.**

Reviewed applications, interacted with applicants, and participated in decision making process.

### Community Service

2016  
2019

**Coached FTC team at Ocean Bay Middle School, Helped to found and coach Horry County's first FIRST Tech Challenge team. The rookie team built two robots and competed at state, not only finishing the competition, but also winning the Inspiration award..**

2014

### **Judged Robotics Design at FLL regional competition.**

2013  
2016

**Coached the Ocean Bay Middle School Lego Robotics (FLL) Team, In 2015, this was the only team from Horry County to win a trophy at the South Carolina state competition. In 2016, this team won the East State Championship and a spot at the FIRST Lego League World Festival.**

2014

**Rubik's Cube Ambassador, Organized the first Rubik's Cube Challenge at the Horry County Schools Technology Fair in 2015. The Rubik's Cube Challenge continued through 2019 but had to take a break the past 2 years.**

## Professional Service

- Referee IEEE Transactions on Information Theory, Linear Algebra and Its Applications  
Poster Judge Repeatedly judged undergraduate posters at Southeastern Section MAA meetings and Joint AMS/MAA national meeting.

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## Computer skills

- Fluent GAP,  $\LaTeX$   
Proficient C, Linux, Maple, NIOS II Assembly, JAVA  
Familiar C++, MPI, OpenMP, Windows, Office Suite, Singular

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## Interests

- Weaving Familiar with rigid heddle and floor loom weaving. Currently focusing on weaving table runners on floor loom to enter in State Fair.
- Puzzles Any puzzle which requires logical thought is intriguing. If an algorithmic solution can be found, then the intrigue increases exponentially.
- DIY Home Repair After spending my working hours in the world of thought and logic, it is nice to be able to make/fix something with my hands.