

David M. Austin

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EDUCATION

Ph.D., Mathematics, University of Utah	1989
M.A., Mathematics, Rice University	1984
B.A., Mathematics, Rice University	1983
B.A., Physics, Rice University	1983

EMPLOYMENT

Professor, Grand Valley State University	2005 –
Associate Professor, Grand Valley State University	1999 – 2005
Awarded tenure, 2002	
Assistant/Associate Professor, University of British Columbia	1990 – 1999
Awarded tenure and promoted to Associate Professor, 1995	
Research Member, Institute for Advanced Study	1989 – 1991
Teaching and Research Fellow, University of Utah	1984 – 1989

GRANTS AND AWARDS

Deborah and Franklin Tepper Haimo Award, MAA	2021
Outstanding Teacher Award, GVSU	2012
Pew Teaching with Technology Award, GVSU	2004
Teaching Development and Renewal Grant	2003
Faculty Teaching and Learning Center, GVSU	
Teaching Initiatives Grant	2000
Faculty Teaching and Learning Center, GVSU	
Research in the Mathematical Sciences Operating Grant	1991 – 2000
National Science and Engineering Research Council, Canada	
Faculty of Science Teaching Award	1996
University of British Columbia	
Visiting Fellowship	1995
St. Catherine's College, University of Oxford	
Postdoctoral Research Fellowship	1989 – 1991
National Science Foundation	

GRADUATE STUDENT AND POSTDOCTORAL SUPERVISION

Olivier Collin, Postdoctoral Fellow	1997 – 1999
Vaughn Anderson, Ph.D.	1995
Peter Milley, M.Sc.	1998

MEMBERSHIP IN PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES

American Mathematical Society (AMS)
 American Indian Science and Engineering Society
 Mathematical Association of America (MAA)
 Society of Industrial and Applied Mathematics

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

Math for Data Science, Panelist National Workshop on Data Science Education	2021, June
“Supporting Indigenous Students’ Mathematical Identities” University of Texas Dana Center Launch Years Conference	2021, May
“Stories my Students Taught Me” Joint Mathematics Meetings	2021, January
“A tale of trees, teeth, and time” Brigham Young University, Provo, UT	2020, February
“Making Linear Algebra Meaningful” Two presentations to 2017 Project NExT Fellows at MathFest	2019, July
“Stacking dominos” 2019 Navajo Math Camp, Farmington, NM	2019, June
“Making Linear Algebra Meaningful” Two presentations to 2017 Project NExT Fellows at MathFest	2018, July
“Sequences, Spirals, and Seeds” Keynote address at 2018 Navajo Math Camp, Farmington, NM	2018, June
“Game. SET. Line.” Calvin College Mathematics Colloquium	2018, March
“Understanding Linear Algebra, a new open-access textbook” Joint Mathematics Meetings, San Diego, CA	2018, January
“Making Linear Algebra Meaningful” Two presentations to 2017 Project NExT Fellows at MathFest	2017, July
“Tangles and Square Dances” Summer math camp at Western State Colorado University	2017, July
“Tangles and Square Dances” Role model presentation at the Navajo Math Circle	2017, July
“Resources and Ideas for Teaching AP Calculus” Advanced Placement Teaching and Learning Conference (with Matt Boelkins)	2017, May
“The Game of SET” Albion College Mathematics Colloquium	2017, March
“Making Linear Algebra Meaningful” Two presentations to 2016 Project NExT Fellows at MathFest	2016, August
“Re-energize your career” Panelist at 2016 MathFest	2016, August
“The Stern-Brocot tree: a tale of trees, teeth, and time” Calvin College Mathematics Colloquium	2014, September
“How to make a 3D print” Hope College Mathematics Colloquium	2014, April

“Using the JPEG algorithm in a first linear algebra course” MathFest, the summer meetings of the Mathematical Association of America	2011, August
“Pixar’s Harmonious Functions” Summer REU Undergraduate Conference, Grand Valley State University	2010, July
“Frequency Modulation and Music Synthesis” Albion College Mathematics Colloquium	2010, March
“Frequency Modulation and Music Synthesis” Calvin College Mathematics Colloquium	2009, October
“Frequency Modulation and Music Synthesis” Hope College Mathematics Colloquium	2009, March
Sage Days 9, Mathematical Graphics and Visualization Workshop Delivered three lectures over a one-week summer school	2008, August
“Wiki Math” One-hour presentation at the Joint Meetings of the AMS and MAA	2008, January
“Circle Packings from Penrose Tilings” Calvin College Mathematics Colloquium	2007, November
“Seeds and Tiles: A Golden Tale” (with Matt Boelkins) Invited talk at the Kalamazoo Area Math and Science Center	2007, September
“Circle Packings from Penrose Tilings” Invited Address at the Michigan MAA Spring Conference	2007, May
“Playing Penrose’s Tile Game” Public lecture in Allendale, Michigan	2006, September
“Discovering the Cauchy-Riemann Equations” Mathfest, the summer meeting of the MAA	2006, August
“Playing Penrose’s Tile Game” Public lecture in Portland, Oregon	2005, June
MSRI Summer School on Mathematical Graphics Delivered five lectures over a two-week summer school	2005, June-July
Department of Mathematics Colloquium Hope College	2005, March
MSRI Summer School on Mathematical Graphics Delivered five lectures over a two-week summer school	2003, June
Lower Michigan Mathematics Competition Grand Valley State University	2000
Canadian Undergraduate Conference Canadian Mathematical Society	1998
Fields, Strings and Particles Pacific Institute of Mathematics	1997
Global Analysis and Differential Geometry Seminar University of Oxford	1995
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West Coast Topology Conference Stanford University	1994
Global Analysis and Differential Geometry Seminar University of Oxford	1993
Global Analysis and Topology Seminar University of Texas	1993
Mathematisches Forschungsinstitut Oberwolfach	1992
Topology Seminar	1989

Princeton University

CONFERENCES, SUMMER SCHOOLS, AND LECTURE SERIES (CO-)ORGANIZED

Workshop for Oklahoma Teachers of Indigenous Students	2019
Navajo Math Camp	2019
Navajo Math Camp	2018
Navajo Math Circle	2017
Sage Days 9, Mathematical Graphics and Visualization	2008
"The Art of Mathematics," a series of four public lectures	2006
MSRI Summer School on Mathematical Graphics	2005
MSRI Summer School on Mathematical Graphics	2003
Pacific Rim Geometry Conference	1998
Cascade Topology Seminar	1997
Pacific Northwest Geometry Seminar	1997
Cascade Topology Seminar	1994
Pacific Northwest Geometry Seminar	1994
AMS Special Session	1993

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Group Theory in the Bedroom, and Other Mathematical Diversion, A Book Review, The Notices of American Mathematical Society, Vol. 56, No. 2, (2009) 237-239, a solicited book review.

What is ... JPEG?, The Notices of American Mathematical Society, Vol. 55, No. 2, (2008) 226-229, a solicited and refereed article.

A new method for computing the center of population, The Professional Geographer, Vol. 58, No. 1 (2006) 65-69 (with Edward Aboufadel), refereed.

Up and Down the Tiles, The Notices of American Mathematical Society, Vol. 52, No. 6, (2005) 610-611, a solicited and refereed article.

Enhancing the Mathematical Understanding of Prospective Teachers: Using Standards-Based, Grades K-12 Activities, in Perspectives on the Teaching of Mathematics, National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (2004), 151-163 (with C.E. Beckmann, P.J. Wells, J. Gabrosek, E.M.H. Billings, E.F. Aboufadel, P. Curtiss, W. Dickinson and A. Champion), refereed.

The Mathematical Explorer: An interactive mathematics book, The Notices of the American Mathematical Society, June/July 2002, a solicited book review.

Hamiltonian paths in Cartesian powers of directed cycles. Graphs and Combinatorics, Vol. 19 (2003) 459-466 (with Heather Gavlas and David Witte), refereed.

The Alexander polynomial and the homotopy of knots, Canadian Bulletin of Mathematics, Vol. 42, No. 3 (1999) 257-262 (with Dale Rolfsen), refereed.

Equivariant Floer theory and gluing Donaldson polynomials, Topology, Vol. 35, No. 1 (1996) 167-200 (with Peter Braam), refereed.

Equivariant Floer groups for binary polyhedral spaces, Mathematische Annalen, Vol. 302 (1995) 295-322, refereed.

Equivariant Homology, Mathematical Proceedings of the Cambridge Philosophical Society, Vol. 118 (1995) 125-139 (with Peter Braam), refereed.

Bott-Morse theory and equivariant cohomology, in The Memorial Volume to Andreas Floer, edited by Hofer, Taubes, Weinstein, Birkhauser 1995, 123-185 (with Peter Braam), refereed.

Boundary values of hyperbolic monopoles, Nonlinearity, Vol. 3 (1990) 809-823 (with Peter Braam), refereed.

SO(3)-instantons on $L(p, q) \times \mathbf{R}$, Journal of Differential Geometry, Vol. 32 (1990) 383-413, refereed.

EDITORSHIP

Feature Column, a monthly online column published by the American Mathematical Society, one of four contributing co-editors (www.ams.org/featurecolumn)

Articles written for the *Feature Column* (not referred):

Lost (and found) in space, March 2021

Pooling strategies for Covid-19 testing, November 2020

Transmitting data with polar codes, June 2020

What's the 411?, February 2020

You're in for a shock, December 2019

Puppies, kittens, and the golden ratio, August 2019

Non-negative matrix factorizations, March 2019

Upgrading slums using topology, December 2018

Getting in sync, August 2018

Neural nets and how they learn, March 2018

How to differentiate with a computer, December 2017

Untangling your square dance, August 2017

Patterns in permutations, March 2017

Finding holes in the data, December 2016

Game. SET. Polynomial., August 2016

Knot quandries quelled by quandles, March 2016

Petals, flowers, and circle packings, December 2015

Game. SET. Line., August 2015

The stable marriage problem and school choice, March 2015

How to grow and prune a classification tree, December 2014

Congressional redistricting and gerrymandering, August 2014

How to make a 3D print, March 2014

Fedorov's Five Parallelohedra, December 2013

The Frobenius Problem: How I bought Chicken McNuggets with exact change
August 2013

Using Projective Geometry to Correct a Camera, March 2013

Who's Number 1? Hodge Theory Will Tell Us, December 2012

It's a Small World After All, August 2012

A (Very Short) Detour for the Traveling Salesman, March 2012

Arrangements and duality or How I learned to slice a Sandwich, December 2011
The Shadow Knows: How to Measure Time with a Sundial, August 2011
Aligning Sequence Reads to Solve the Genome Puzzle, March 2011
How many times do I need to shuffle this deck, December 2010
Multiplication is easier when it's complex, August 2010
Moving Remy in harmony: Pixar's use of harmonic functions, March 2010
Puzzling over Exact Cover Problems, December 2009
We Recommend a Singular Value Decomposition, August 2009
No Static at All: Frequency modulation and music synthesis, March 2009
Trees, Teeth, and Time: The mathematics of clock making, December 2008
Percolation: Slipping through the cracks, August 2008
Random Numbers: Nothing left to chance, March 2008
Pulling digits out of Pi, December 2007
Image Compression: Seeing What's Not There, August 2007
That knotty DNA, March 2007
How Google Finds Your Needle in the Web's Haystack, December 2006
Voronoi Diagrams and a Day at the Beach, August 2006
When kissing involves trigonometry, March 2006
Penrose tilings tied up in ribbons, December 2005
Penrose tiles talk across miles, August 2005
The center of population of the United States, February 2005

Editorial board member, Open Textbook Initiative, sponsored by the American Institute of Mathematics, Fall 2010 – present

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Alliance of Indigenous Math Circles, 2017 – present

TEXTBOOKS

Understanding Linear Algebra, <http://gvsu.edu/s/0Cl>, an open-access, open-source linear algebra textbook. 2017 – present

Contributed illustrations and text for *Multivariable Active Calculus*, an open-access calculus textbook. With Steve Schlicker and Matt Boelkins. 2014 – 2015.

Contributed a chapter to *Active Calculus*, Matt Boelkins' open-access calculus textbook, 2013.

MENTORING

Consultant for Project NExT, organized by the Mathematical Association of America, 2013 – 2014

SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT

SuperDeDuper

A C++ program to remove duplicates from DNA sequence reads, May 2011
 Incorporated into *statgen*, a software library created by the University of Michigan's
 School of Public Health for the analysis of genetic data

Spherical Easel, with Will Dickinson, 2002 - 2003

Dynamic geometry software for studying spherical geometry

GRAPHICS WORK

Illustrated the open-access text *Linear algebra: a discovery-based approach*, 2019
 written by Steve Schlicker and Feryal Alayont

Illustrated the book *Combinatorial Reciprocity Theorems*, 2017-18

written by Matthias Beck and Raman Sanyal, published by the AMS

Illustrated the second edition of *Computing the Continuous Discretely*, 2013–2014

written by Matthias Beck and Sinai Robins, published by Springer

Illustrated and provided an audio interview for an AMS *Mathematical Moment*, 2011

Designed and produced the cover for the February 2008 issue of the *Notices of the American Mathematical Society*.

Penrose 11, a piece of mathematical art, created with Bill Casselman, exhibited at the Institut Henri Poincaré in Paris in 2005, currently part of an exhibit of mathematical art travelling around Europe.

Honorable Mention in the National Science Foundation's Science and Engineering Visualization Challenge, 2005.

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH SUPERVISED

Matthew Stamps, "Circle Packings and Penrose Tilings"

Grand Valley State University Summer Student Scholar grant, 2006

E. Drake Parker, "On the new reading of Archimedes' *Method*"

Grand Valley State University Summer Student Scholar grant, 2011

MEDIA APPEARANCES

Interviewed for a report on fraud and lotteries by Jason Clayworth, a reporter for the *Des Moines Register*, January 2019

Interviewed for the podcast *Relativity Prime*, January 2015

Interviewed with Ed Aboufadel by the *Columbia Missourian* about the U.S. center of population, September 2012

SELECTED SERVICE ACTIVITIES**At Grand Valley**

Department of Mathematics, Personnel Committee, 2013 – 2015, 2018 – present

Department of Mathematics Alumni Newsletter Co-Editor, 2004 – present

New faculty memtor to Norma Ortiz-Robinson, 2018 – 2019

Applied math task force, 2018 – 2019

Linear algebra task force, 2017 – 2018

Department of Mathematics, Assistant Chair, 2015 – 2018
Department of Mathematics, Unit Head, May 2017
WeBWorK Coordinator, oversee departmental and university use of online homework system,
2011 – 2017
Department of Mathematics Foundations Committee, 2010 – 2014
Affiliate Evaluation Group, Chair, 2010 – 2013
Department of Mathematics Advisory Committee, 2008 – 2010
Department of Mathematics Faculty Mentor for new faculty members,
2000 – 2001, 2002 – 2003, 2009 – 2010
Grand Valley Newspaper Advisory Board, 2009 – 2011
Faculty Personal Policy Committee, 2006 – 2009.
University Teaching Excellence Committee, 2006 – 2009.
Chair, 2007 – 2008
Program Committee, Mathematical Association of America Michigan Section Meeting, 2008
Liaison Coordinator, MAA Michigan Section, 2007 – present
Department of Mathematics Search Committee
2007 – 2008
2001 – 2002
Department of Mathematics Seminar Coordinator, 2006 – 2007
Math In Action Conference, Co-Chair, 2004 – 2006.
Department of Mathematics Personnel Committee, 2003 – 2006
Department of Mathematics Assessment Committee, 1999 — 2005,
Chair, 2001 – 2005
Department of Mathematics Instructional Resources Committee, 2000 – 2004,
Chair, 2002 – 2003
Divisional Curriculum Committee, 2002 – 2003.
Maintained Department of Mathematics faculty and staff web pages, 2001 – 2007
Reader of Junior Level Writing Assessment exams, 1999 – 2007
Teaching Effectiveness Committee, 2000 – 2002
Chair, 2001 – 2002
Transfer Equivalency Committee, 1999 – 2000

Community Service

Mathematical Sciences Research Institute, Human Resources Advisory Committee
Allendale FIRST Robotics, Mentor, 2008 – present
Open Doors Center for Self-Directed Teens, Instructor, Fall 2013