

# David G. White, Ph.D.

## Résumé

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🌐 [dave-white.github.io](http://dave-white.github.io) | 🌐 [GitHub: dave-white](https://github.com/dave-white) | **in** [LinkedIn](#)

### SYNOPSIS

- **Widely adept IT professional holding a Ph.D. in mathematics**, seeking a role to integrate scientific expertise with proficiency in programming and other computing technology.
- Profound understanding computer systems plus familiarity with a broad array of programming languages and paradigms, development frameworks and Unix environment configuration.
- Advanced knowledge in numerous mathematical fields, both continuous and discrete, with a proven capacity for intense study and research.
- Assiduous management of projects, data and code through version control and other organizational tools.

### EXPERIENCE

2023-2025 **IT Security Consultant**, [atsec information security corp.](#), Austin, TX

Validation of compliance to FIPS 140-3 requirements as part of the [Cryptographic Module Validation Program](#) (CMVP).

- Performed code review of software written in C/C++ and Rust as well as hardware description in SystemVerilog.
- Reported on cryptographic module security on the basis of code review, physical and functional testing, and analysis of clients' documentation.
- Trained by NIST-certified experts on the specifications and implementation of cryptographic algorithms such as AES (and its approved modes), SHA and Keccak, RSA, ECDSA, hash-based signature schemes, Diffie-Hellman, DRBGs and the post-quantum module-lattice-based algorithms, as well as on statistical analysis of entropy sources.
- Co-directed new-hire training.
- Individual development efforts:
  - Rust library serving as a bridge between a testing application, written in C, and the driver of a hardware security module, written in Rust.
  - Docker container furnishing a complete environment for cross-compiling the above Rust library.
  - C-code test harness module, wrapping the Mbed TLS cryptographic API. Documented using Doxygen.
  - Python implementation of the client in NIST's [Automated Cryptographic Validation Protocol](#) (ACVP). Handles SSL client certificates, TOTP, JSON Web Tokens and paginated results.
  - jq and POSIX shell scripts for processing JSON files.

- 2024 (intermittent) **Volunteer private consulting**, *Supporting academic research*, Austin, TX  
 Assisted in environment configuration for and debugging of numerical linear algebra software experiments, implemented in MATLAB, Python, C++ and Fortran, and run on a high-performance computer. Specific activities include:
- Compiled a project which utilizes [cuBLAS](#), Nvidia’s CUDA-accelerated linear algebra API.
  - Set up a remote-shell development environment through Linux [Environment Modules](#) and shell `rc` scripts, ensuring correct versions of toolchain components are loaded into the file system and utilities such as GNU Screen start up at login.
  - Used `gdb` within MATLAB to debug MEX binaries built from OpenMP-parallelized Fortran and C++ code.
  - Generated visualizations of experimental data via [Matplotlib](#).
  - Configured [Conda](#) environments supplying versioned dependencies of [Jupyter](#) projects for specific processor architectures.
- Aug.-Dec. 2022 **Research Program Associate**, [Simons Laufer Mathematical Sciences Institute](#), Berkeley, CA  
 Member of a collaborative research program on Floer homotopy theory. Participated in activities of the concurrent program on gauge theory.
- 2017-2023 **Graduate Research & Teaching Assistant**, [NC State Dept. of Mathematics](#), Raleigh, NC
- Instructor of record for courses in multivariable calculus and in topics from discrete mathematics.
  - Administered distance-education courses in geometry, differential equations and linear algebra.
  - Teaching assistant for several calculus courses.
- 2015–2016 **Associate Software Developer**, [iPipeline, Inc.](#), Exton, PA  
 Bux fixing and new-feature development on an application consuming parameters posted from a web portal, performing actuarial calculations based on various client-specific rules and models, and writing the results to a PDF “illustration” of the changing values over time associated with insurance products.
- Web UI development in Javascript, CSS and HTML.
  - Server-side development in VB.NET and C#, as well as debugging in PostScript.
  - Wrote SQL scripts and stored procedures for testing.
  - Experience with project management, especially issue tracking, in Jira.
  - Automated deployment and integration testing with Microsoft IIS.
- 2011–2013 **Senior Developer & Systems Architect**, [BPM Specialists, Inc.](#), Alpharetta, GA
- [Pega](#)-certified Senior Developer & Systems Architect.
  - Second lead developer on project team, with a pronounced mentoring role withing the overall organization.
  - Directly collected and documented business requirements from clients and translated them into technical specifications.
  - Developed Java-based RESTful web services driven by business rules engines for clients such as Wells Fargo and TSYS.

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## EDUCATION

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- 2017–2023 **Ph.D. – Mathematics**, [North Carolina State University](#), Raleigh, NC  
 Advised by [Tye Lidman](#). My [dissertation](#) studies an application of Floer theory to low-dimensional topology and knot theory, drawing upon the fields of
- symplectic geometry,
  - algebraic topology
  - functional analysis,
  - gauge theory,
  - algebraic geometry,
  - category theory.
- 2016-2017 **Post-baccalaureate study**, [University of North Carolina at Charlotte](#), Charlotte, NC
- 2007–2011 **B.A.**, [Duke University](#), Durham, NC  
 Double major: philosophy and mathematics.  
**Awards:** Dean’s List, Spring 2008.

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## SERVICE

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- Jan.-Aug. 2024 **Volunteer instructor**, *Texas Prison Education Initiative (TPEI)*, Austin, TX  
Delivered credit-bearing [UT Austin](#) courses on to incarcerated students at the [TDCJ](#) Coleman Unit, Lockhart, TX:
- Guest lecturer on topology for course *Mathematics in Art*.
  - Teaching assistant for precalculus course.
- Jun. 2021 **L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X + Vim Workshop**, *NC State AMS chapter*, Raleigh, NC  
Led a multi-session workshop on authoring L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X in Vim.

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## COMPETENCIES

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### Computing

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- Languages C/C++, Rust, Java, Python, Javascript/Typescript, Perl, PHP, Lua, POSIX shell, SQL, Fortran, Haskell, VB, C#, T<sub>E</sub>X, PostScript, (System)Verilog
- Development frameworks MATLAB, Maple, Mathematica, TensorFlow (w/ Keras), scikit-learn, PyTorch, CUDA, NumPy, SymPy, SciPy, pandas, SageMath, Macaulay2
- Build tools GCC, Clang, GNU Make, CMake, Ninja, Cargo
- Version control Git, Subversion
- Utilities awk, sed, gdb / lldb, dracut, jq, SSH, Tmux/GNU Screen, GPG
- Other tools & platforms Jupyter, Conda, Docker, Doxygen, spreadsheet and other “office” applications
- Personal projects
- Completed the Titanic Tutorial and “House Prices - Advanced Regression Techniques” machine learning competition on [Kaggle](#).
  - [C program](#) executing Git commands on all git repos beneath a specified point in the file tree.

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### Mathematics

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Beyond my doctoral research, I have studied scholarly literature and attended academic conference talks covering the following topics in the fields of applied topology and numerical linear algebra:

- persistent homology,
- directed homotopy theory,
- matrix compression,
- fast direct solvers,

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### Languages

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- English Native
- French Advanced *Proficient reader; intermediate to advanced listening comprehension; developing speaker. Advanced undergraduate-level coursework (2019).*
- German Intermediate *Intermediate-level reader; basic listening comprehension and speaking skills. Advanced undergraduate coursework (2007).*