Huck Bennett

Department of Computer Science University of Colorado Boulder

Email: huck.bennett@colorado.edu

Website: https://home.cs.colorado.edu/~hbennett/

RESEARCH INTERESTS Theoretical computer science, with an emphasis on lattices and geometric algorithms.

ACADEMIC

University of Colorado – Boulder, CO Spring 2024 – Present

POSITIONS Assistant Professor of Computer Science

 ${\bf Oregon~State~University}-{\rm Corvallis,~OR}$

Assistant Professor of EECS Fall 2021 – Fall 2023 Courtesy Appointment Spring 2024 – Present

University of Michigan – Ann Arbor, MI Fall 2019 – Summer 2021

Adjunct/Visiting Assistant Research Scientist (Postdoc)

Mentor: Chris Peikert.

Northwestern University – Evanston, IL Fall 2017 – Summer 2019

Postdoctoral Fellow

Research mentors: Anindya De and Aravindan Vijayaraghavan.

EDUCATION Courant Institute of Mathematical Sciences,

New York University

 $Fall\ 2012-Summer\ 2017$

- Ph.D. in Computer Science.
- Advisors: Daniel Dadush (CWI, Amsterdam) and Chee Yap (NYU).

University of Colorado - Boulder

Fall 2010 – Spring 2012

- M.S. in Computer Science.
- Advisor: Sriram Sankaranarayanan.

University of Wisconsin - Madison

Fall 2006 - Spring 2010

• B.S. in Mathematics, certificate (minor) in Computer Science.

PUBLICATIONS Peer-Reviewed Conference Papers:

- [C1] Huck Bennett, Karthik Gajulapalli, Alexander Golovnev, and Evelyn Warton. Matrix Multiplication Verification Using Coding Theory. International Conference on Randomization and Computation (RANDOM) 2024.
- [C2] Willow Barkan, Huck Bennett, and Amir Nayyeri. *Topological k-metrics*. International Symposium on Computational Geometry (SOCG) 2024. **Invited to the special issue of Discrete and Computational Geometry**.
- [C3] Huck Bennett and Chris Peikert. Hardness of the (Approximate) Shortest Vector Problem: A Simple Proof via Reed-Solomon Codes. International Conference on Randomization and Computation (RANDOM) 2023.
- [C4] Huck Bennett, Mahdi Cheraghchi, Venkat Guruswami, and João Ribeiro. Parameterized Inapproximability of the Minimum Distance Problem over all Fields

- and the Shortest Vector Problem in all ℓ_p Norms. Symposium on Theory of Computing (STOC) 2023. Preliminary version of [J1].
- [C5] Divesh Aggarwal, Huck Bennett, Zvika Brakerski, Alexander Golovnev, Rajendra Kumar, Zeyong Li, Spencer Peters, Noah Stephens-Davidowitz, and Vinod Vaikuntanathan. *Lattice Problems Beyond Polynomial Time*. Symposium on Theory of Computing (STOC) 2023.
- [C6] Huck Bennett, Atul Ganju, Pura Peetathawatchai, and Noah Stephens-Davidowitz. Just how hard are rotations of \mathbb{Z}^n ? Algorithms and cryptography with the simplest lattice. International Conference on the Theory and Applications of Cryptographic Techniques (EUROCRYPT) 2023.
- [C7] Huck Bennett, Chris Peikert, and Yi Tang. Improved Hardness of BDD and SVP Under Gap-(S)ETH. Innovations in Theoretical Computer Science (ITCS) 2022.
- [C8] Huck Bennett, Anindya De, Rocco Servedio, and Emmanouil V. Vlatakis-Gkaragkounis. Reconstructing Weighted Voting Schemes from Partial Information about their Power Indices. Conference on Learning Theory (COLT) 2021.
- [C9] Divesh Aggarwal, Huck Bennett, Alexander Golovnev, and Noah Stephens-Davidowitz. Fine-grained hardness of CVP(P)— Everything that we can prove (and nothing else). Symposium on Discrete Algorithms (SODA) 2021.
- [C10] Huck Bennett and Chris Peikert. Hardness of Bounded Distance Decoding on Lattices in ℓ_p Norms. Computational Complexity Conference (CCC) 2020.
- [C11] Huck Bennett, Alexander Golovnev, and Noah Stephens-Davidowitz. On the Quantitative Hardness of CVP. Foundations of Computer Science (FOCS) 2017.
- [C12] Huck Bennett, Daniel Dadush, and Noah Stephens-Davidowitz. On the Lattice Distortion Problem. European Symposium on Algorithms (ESA) 2016, Track A.
- [C13] Huck Bennett, Evanthia Papadopoulou, and Chee Yap. Planar Minimization Diagrams via Subdivision with Applications to Anisotropic Voronoi Diagrams. Eurographics Symposium on Geometry Processing (SGP) 2016.
- [C14] Huck Bennett, Daniel Reichman, and Igor Shinkar. On Percolation and NP-hardness. International Colloquium on Automata, Languages, and Programming (ICALP) 2016, Track A. Preliminary version of [J3].
- [C15] Huck Bennett and Chee Yap. Amortized Analysis of Smooth Quadtrees in All Dimensions. Scandinavian Symposium and Workshops on Algorithm Theory (SWAT) 2014. Preliminary version of [J4].

Peer-Reviewed Journal Papers and Surveys:

- [J1] Huck Bennett, Mahdi Cheraghchi, Venkat Guruswami, and João Ribeiro. Parameterized Inapproximability of the Minimum Distance Problem over all Fields and the Shortest Vector Problem in all ℓ_p Norms. To appear, SIAM Journal of Computing (SICOMP), 2024.
- [J2] Huck Bennett. The Complexity of the Shortest Vector Problem. ACM SIGACT News 54 (1), pp. 37-61, 2023.
- [J3] Huck Bennett, Daniel Reichman, and Igor Shinkar. On Percolation and NP-hardness. Random Structures & Algorithms 54 (2), pp. 228-257, 2019.
- [J4] Huck Bennett and Chee Yap. Amortized Analysis of Smooth Quadtrees in All Dimensions. Computational Geometry: Theory and Applications 63, pp. 20-39, 2017.

Preprints:

- [P1] Huck Bennett and Kaung Myat Htay Win. Relating Code Equivalence to Other Isomorphism Problems. Preprint, 2024.
- [P2] Huck Bennett, Surendra Ghentiyala, and Noah Stephens-Davidowitz. The more the merrier! On the complexity of finding multicollisions, with connections to codes and lattices. Preprint, 2024.
- [P3] Huck Bennett. An Enumeration Technique for Lattice Basis Reduction. Preprint, 2019.

Other:

- [O1] Huck Bennett. AlphaGo and Artificial Intelligence. Blog post, March 2016. https://hdbennett.wordpress.com/2016/03/18/alphago-and-artificial-intelligence/.
- [O2] Huck Bennett, Evanthia Papadopoulou, and Chee Yap. A Subdivision Approach to Weighted Voronoi Diagrams. Fall Workshop on Computational Geometry (FWCG) 2014. Preliminary version of [C13].
- [O3] Huck Bennett and Chee Yap. Amortized Analysis of Balanced Quadtrees. Fall Workshop on Computational Geometry (FWCG) 2013. Preliminary version of [C15].
- [O4] Huxley Bennett and Sriram Sankaranarayanan. Model Counting Using the Inclusion-Exclusion Principle. Short paper and poster. Theory and Applications of Satisfiability Testing (SAT) 2011.

TEACHING As Lead Instructor:

- Honors Analysis of Algorithms. Oregon State University, Winter 2023.
- Analysis of Algorithms. Oregon State University, Fall 2021, Winter 2023, Fall 2023.
- Foundations of Computer Science. University of Michigan, Fall 2019 (joint with Chris Peikert and Ilya Volkovich).
- Lattices in Computer Science. Northwestern University, Spring 2019; Oregon State University, Spring 2022; University of Colorado, Spring 2024.
- Mathematical Foundations of Computer Science. Northwestern University, Winter 2018, Spring 2018, Fall 2018.
- Computational Geometry. Northwestern University, Fall 2017, Winter 2019.

As Teaching Assistant:

- Programming Languages (master's level), New York University, Summer 2015.
- Programming Languages (junior level), University of Colorado, Spring 2012.

MENTORSHIP Ph.D. Students:

Evelyn Warton	(co-advised with Amir Nayyeri)	2022 – Present

M.S. Students:

Kaung (John) Myat Htay Win	2023 - 2024
Willow Barkan (co-advised with Amir Nayyeri)	2022 - 2023

Undergraduate Students:

Ian Tassin (senior honors thesis) 2021 - 2023

• Ian wrote the paper "Wang Tilings in Arbitrary Dimensions," which was published in the Rose-Hulman Undergraduate Mathematics Journal, based on his thesis.

Rvan Little 2021 - 2022Andrew Hwi Gue Cho 2018

FUNDING

NSF Award No. 2312297. Collaborative Research: AF: SaTC: Medium: Theoretical Foundations of Lattice-Based Cryptography. Joint PI with Noah Stephens-Davidowitz. Total: \$1.2 million, my share: \$600,000.

SERVICE

Reviewing: APPROX, CRYPTO, FOCS, ICALP, IMACC, ITCS, MFCS, SOCG, SODA, STACS, STOC, WADS, Algorithmica, Information and Computation, Journal of Combinatorial Optimization, SIDMA.

Organization: Workshop on Fine-Grained Cryptography at FSTTCS 2022 (jointly organized with Divesh Aggarwal, Alexander Golovnev, Rajendra Kumar, and Noah Stephens-Davidowitz).

WORK **EXPERIENCE**

Centrum Wiskunde & Informatica – Amsterdam, Netherlands Fall 2016 Google – Mountain View, CA; Kirkland, WA Summer 2013, Summer 2014 Private Tutoring – New York, NY Various Fusion-io - Superior, CO Summer 2012 Epic Systems – Verona, WI Summer 2010, Summer 2011

SKILLS

Programming Languages/Software:

Mostly imperative: C, C++, Java, Python, Visual Basic Mostly functional: OCaml, Scala, Scheme, Standard ML Mathematical: Lua, Mathematica, NumPy, R, Sage

Constraint solving: MiniSat, Prolog, Z3

Assembly: MIPS, x86

Web: CSS, HTML, JavaScript

LATEX, Lex/Yacc variants, Linux, OpenGL Other:

AWARDS

Warren Postdoctoral Fellowship	2018 - 2019
MacCracken Fellowship	2012 - 2017
University Fellowship	2010 - 2011
William F. Vilas Scholarship	2006 - 2010
National Merit Finalist	2006

OTHER

1st Place, U.S. Open (Go) 3-dan division 2009 1st Place, U.S. Open (Go) 1-dan division 2008

Mountain Climbing – Including 31 of 54 of Colorado's 14,000+ foot peaks.

Erdős Number – 3 (Huck Bennett \rightarrow {Daniel Reichman, Igor Shinkar} \rightarrow Noga Alon \rightarrow

Paul Erdős).

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Legal Name: Huxley David Bennett Citizenship: United States of America