

# MSCS Mess

Department of Mathematics, Statistics, and Computer Science  
St. Olaf College, Northfield, MN 55057

September 25, 2015

<http://wp.stolaf.edu/mscs/mscs-mess/>

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## Upcoming Talks

<b>Title:</b>	Introduction to Persistent Homology
<b>Speaker:</b>	Matthew Wright
<b>Date:</b>	Friday, September 25
<b>Time:</b>	3:30 pm- 4:30 pm
<b>Location:</b>	RNS 204

**About the talk:** Recent years have seen increasing interest in the use of topology to analyze data. Persistent homology is one of the most popular and well-studied tools in topological data analysis. I will give an introduction to persistent homology, explaining what it is, what it can do, and how one can compute it. I will also give a brief overview of my research in persistent homology and highlight some ways in which students could be involved.

## M&M Conference

Don't miss the 2015 Math and More (M&M) Undergraduate Mathematics Conference, brought to you by BSM (Budapest Semesters in Mathematics). There will be student and faculty speakers, a career panel and networking time. The conference will be held on Saturday, Oct. 3 from 9:15am - 4pm at St. Olaf college. Registration is free (lunch will be provided) and is open to all student attendees, speakers and faculty mentors.

If you are interested in attending or learning more about the conference, the link to the

information/registration page is:

<http://www.budapestsemesters.com/m-m-conference/>

## NSA Summer Internship

All 2016 NSA (National Security Agency) Undergraduate summer internship, co-op, and scholarship applications are now OPEN at [https://www.nsa.gov/careers/opportunities\\_4\\_u/students/](https://www.nsa.gov/careers/opportunities_4_u/students/). Many of the programs have an October 31 deadline, so it's not too early to start applying!

## St. Olaf-Carleton Mathematical Modeling Team

How can we eradicate Ebola? What happened to flight MH370? Who are the best sports coaches of all time? Mathematical models hold the answers. Join the joint St. Olaf-Carleton Mathematical Modeling Team and get a chance to apply mathematics to real world problems and compete for big prizes! All levels of experience welcome!

Contact

Prof. Thompson ([rthompson@carleton.edu](mailto:rthompson@carleton.edu)) or Prof. Purin ([purin@stolaf.edu](mailto:purin@stolaf.edu)) for more information.

## Don't Forget to Take Your MSCS Picture!

This is a reminder that the MSCS photo shoot is on Wed. Sept. 30 from 2-4pm.

This photo shoot is for MSCS majors, concentrators and faculty. If you do not have a photo or want to re-take and/or replace the photo currently on the board this is time to do it. The pictures will go up on the MSCS bulletin board on 2nd floor, by the TV screen.

Come to RMS 307 and be directed to the photo-taking location nearby (which will depend on weather).

## Meet Your New Professors



### Hwayeon Ryu

Hwayeon is originally from South Korea where she received her B.S. in mathematics from Korea University in 2008. She completed her M.A. and Ph.D. in mathematics from Duke University in 2011 and 2014, respectively. She came to St. Olaf after working as a quantitative analyst at U.S. Bank. Hwayeon is a mathematical biologist whose research interest is in modeling the feedback-mediated dynamics in the kidney and clustering in neural networks. In her free time, she enjoys spending time outside playing tennis during summer and skiing during long Minnesota winter.

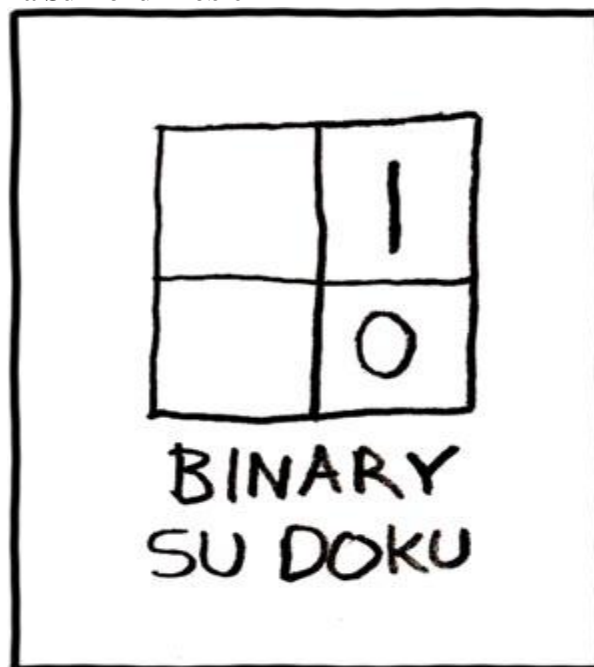


### Matthew Wright

Matthew Wright studied math and computer science at Messiah College, and then completed his Ph.D. in mathematics at the University of Pennsylvania in 2011. He taught for two years at Huntington University and was a Postdoctoral Fellow for two years at the Institute for Mathematics and its Applications (at the University of Minnesota) before coming to St. Olaf in 2015. His research is in the area of applied and computational topology, with the goal of developing topological tools for data analysis. When not doing math, Matthew enjoys juggling, reading, and strategy games.

## From the Editor

### a Su Doku Problem



<b>Editor-in-Chief:</b>	Akina Khan
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