

# Alex Cowan

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- ACADEMIC POSITIONS      2024 – Present      University of Waterloo, Postdoc (mentors: Rubinstein, Wang)  
2019 – 2024      Harvard University, Research Scientist (mentor: Elkies)
- EDUCATION      2013 – 2019      Columbia University, PhD in pure mathematics (advisor: Goldfeld)  
2010 – 2013      McGill University, BSc honours math and physics, linguistics minor
- RESEARCH      I do analytic number theory, computational number theory, and arithmetic statistics.
- PUBLICATIONS
13. Alex Cowan. Murmurations and ratios conjectures, 2024. arXiv [2408.12723](#)
  12. Alex Cowan. Conductor distributions of elliptic curves, 2024. arXiv [2408.09745](#)
  11. Alex Cowan, Sam Frengley, and Kimball Martin. Generic models for genus 2 curves with real multiplication, 2024. arXiv [2403.03191](#)
  10. Alex Cowan. Murmurations and explicit formulas, 2023. arXiv [2306.10425](#)
  9. Alex Cowan. A twisted additive divisor problem. *Journal of Number Theory*, 266:1–32, 2025. arXiv [2304.12572](#)
  8. Alex Cowan. Paired comparisons for games of chance, 2023. arXiv [2303.14857](#)
  7. Alex Cowan and Kimball Martin. Counting modular forms by rationality field, 2023. arXiv [2301.10357](#)
  6. Alex Cowan and Kimball Martin. Moduli for rational genus 2 curves with real multiplication for discriminant 5. *Journal de théorie des nombres de Bordeaux*, 36(2):493–525, 2024. arXiv [2206.05752](#)
  5. Alex Cowan. Computing newforms using supersingular isogeny graphs. *Res. Number Theory*, 8(4):Paper No. 96, 2022. arXiv [2010.10745](#)
  4. Alex Cowan. Non-random behavior in sums of modular symbols. *Int. J. Number Theory*, 18(4):879–903, 2022. arXiv [1905.10743](#)
  3. Alex Cowan. Conjecture: 100% of elliptic surfaces over  $\mathbb{Q}$  have rank zero. In *Arithmetic geometry, number theory, and computation*, Simons Symp., pages 335–342. Springer, Cham, [2021] ©2021. arXiv [2009.08622](#)
  2. Alex Cowan. The distribution of multiples of real points on an elliptic curve. *J. Number Theory*, 211:530–544, 2020. arXiv [1901.10656](#)
  1. Renee Bell, Clifford Blakestad, Alina Carmen Cojocaru, Alexander Cowan, Nathan Jones, Vlad Matei, Geoffrey Smith, and Isabel Vogt. Constants in Titchmarsh divisor problems for elliptic curves. *Res. Number Theory*, 6(1):Paper No. 1, 24, 2020. arXiv [1706.03422](#)
- TEACHING
- Differential equations for engineers, Fall 2024, Waterloo
  - Topics in analytic number theory: Automorphic forms and arithmetic statistics, Fall 2023, Harvard
  - Calculus 1, Spring 2019, Columbia
  - Calculus 1, Fall 2015, Columbia
  - TA, Fall 2014 – Fall 2018, Columbia

INVITED TALKS

- December 2024, University of Toronto.
- November 2024, Murmurations in Arithmetic Geometry and Related Topics, Stony Brook.
- September 2024, University of Waterloo.
- September 2024, Mathematics and Machine Learning Program, Harvard CMSA.
- April 2024, SERMON.
- February 2024, University of Waterloo.
- August 2023, Ohio State University.
- July 2023, Murmurations in Arithmetic, ICERM.
- May 2023, Simons Collaboration on Arithmetic Geometry, Number Theory, and Computation.
- May 2023, Columbia University.
- April 2023, Conference on Arithmetic Statistics, Automorphic Forms and Ergodic Methods, Max Planck.
- November 2022, MIT.
- August 2022, ANTS XV.
- March 2022, Five College number theory seminar.
- February 2022, COGENT.
- February 2022, Simons Collaboration on Arithmetic Geometry, Number Theory, and Computation.
- February 2021, UC Irvine.
- February 2021, Simons Collaboration on Arithmetic Geometry, Number Theory, and Computation.
- March 2020, Harvard University.
- January 2020, Joint Mathematics Meetings.
- December 2019, Snapshots of math at Harvard.
- October 2019, Five College number theory seminar.
- September 2019, Johns Hopkins University.
- March 2016, University of Arizona.
- November 2015, Undergraduate Math Society, Columbia University.
- September 2015, Undergraduate Math Society, Columbia University.
- October 2013, Graduate student seminar, Columbia University.
- May 2012, Undergraduate Student Symposium, McGill University.
- October 2011, Marianopolis College.