# Joshua M. Cohen

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# Research Interests

## Formal Verification, Proof Assistants, Functional Programming, Algorithms

### EDUCATION

Princeton University
Princeton, NJ
PhD in Computer Science, Advisor: Andrew W. Appel
Thesis: A Foundationally Verified Intermediate Verification Language
University of Pennsylvania
MSE in Computer Science, GPA: 4.0/4.0
BA in Mathematics and Computer Science (summa cum laude), GPA: 3.98/4.0
Princeton, NJ
2020 – 2025

2018 – 2020
2018 – 2020

#### EMPLOYMENT

#### Sandia National Laboratories - Formal Methods R&D Intern

Summer 2022 – Present

• Developing formal semantics for the Why3 intermediate verification language.

# AWS - Applied Scientist Intern

Summer 2021

• Proved correctness theorems about the IAM policy evaluator using Dafny.

## AWS - Software Development Engineering Intern

Summer 2019

- Developed internal tools for AWS Key Management Service HSM team.
- Used several cryptography libraries to interface with Yubikeys.

#### KPMG - Data & Analytics Intern

Summer 2018

• Developed Microsoft Office add-in for automated document generation using Javascript.

#### Publications

- Byun, Chakarov, **Cohen\***, et al. "Formally Verified Cloud-Scale Authorization". In: 47th IEEE/ACM International Conference on Software Engineering (ICSE 2025). To appear. 2025
- Joshua M. Cohen. "Implementing OCaml APIs in Coq". In: CoqPL 2025: The Eleventh International Workshop on Coq for Programming Languages. Denver, Colorado, USA, Jan. 2025
- Joshua M. Cohen and Philip Johnson-Freyd. "A Formalization of Core Why3 in Coq". In: Proceedings of the ACM on Programming Languages 8. POPL (Jan. 2024)
- Joshua M. Cohen and Andrew W. Appel. "Specifying and Verifying a Real-World Packet Error-Correction System". In: Verified Software. Theories, Tools and Experiments. 2024
- Joshua M. Cohen, Qinshi Wang, and Andrew W. Appel. "Verified Erasure Correction in Coq with MathComp and VST". in: CAV 2022: 34th International Conference on Computer-Aided Verification. 2022
- Joachim Breitner, Antal Spector-Zabusky, Yao Li, Christine Rizkallah, John Wiegley, Joshua Cohen, and Stephanie Weirich. "Ready, Set, Verify! Applying hs-to-coq to Real-World Haskell Code". In: Journal of Functional Programming 31 (2021)

\* Authors listed alphabetically

# TALKS

- A Foundationally Verified Intermediate Verification Language. Portland State University Programming Languages and Verification Seminar. November 2024.
- Towards a Verified Intermediate Verification Language. IFIP Working Group 2.3 Programming Methodology. May 2024.
- A Formalization of Why3 in Coq. New Jersey Programming Languages and Systems Seminar (NJPLS). May 2023.
- Verified Erasure Correction in Coq with MathComp and VST. New Jersey Programming Languages and Systems Seminar (NJPLS). May 2022.

#### TEACHING

# Teaching Assistant - Princeton University

• Programming Languages (COS 510)

Spring 2023

Fall 2022

• Theory of Algorithms (COS 423)

# Teaching Assistant - University of Pennsylvania

• Introduction to Algorithms (CIS 320)

Fall 2019, Spring 2020

• Programming Languages and Techniques I (CIS 120)

Spring 2018, Fall 2018, Spring 2019

## SERVICE

Artifact Evaluation Committee: ICFP 2024, POPL 2025

#### Honors and Awards

Gordon Wu Fellowship in Engineering - Princeton University Benjamin Franklin Scholar - University of Pennsylvania IEEE Eta Kappa Nu Honor Society Member - University of Pennsylvania

# SKILLS

Verification - Coq, VST, Dafny, Why3, VeriFast, Liquid Haskell

Programming - OCaml, C, Java, Python, Haskell