

Quantum Formalism Submissions & Early Career Tips

Bambordé Baldé | Co-Founder at Zaiku Group | Twitter: [@zaikubalde](#) • [zaikugroup.com](#) • March 19, 2021

Submission Process

Submission Questionnaire

1. Project overview
2. Why did you pick it?
3. Foundation Module impact i.e. did any of the mathematics covered in the module help you?
4. Group or Individual Submission?
5. URL to access the submission.
6. Would you like to be considered for career referral?

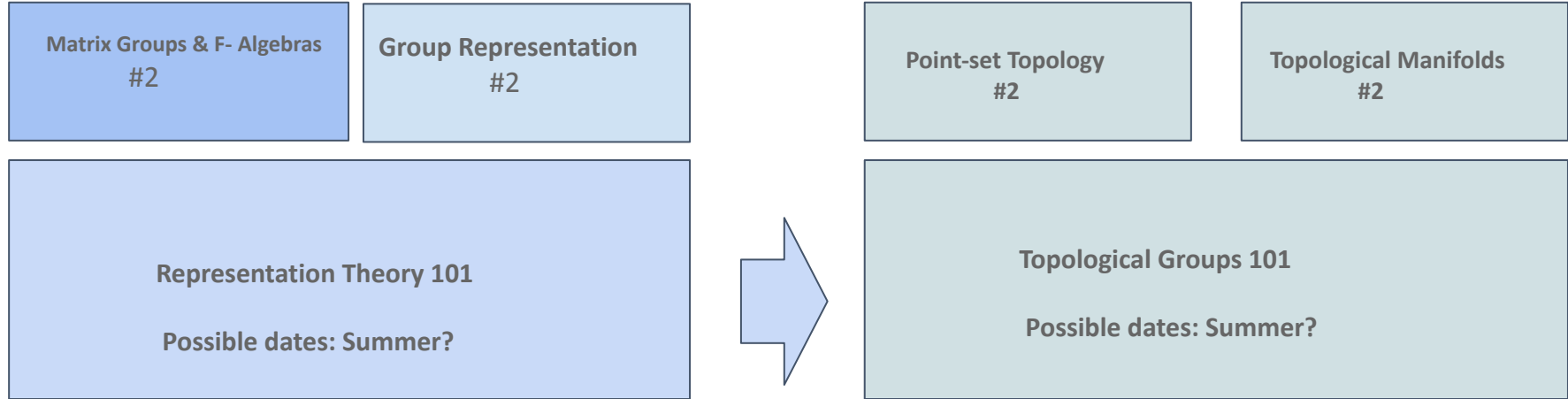
* Submission Call (Optional)

*20 - 45 minutes call to discuss the submission. It is a must for those who want a career referral from me.

Certificate Sent

Certificates will be emailed in pdf format to all those who completed the submission.

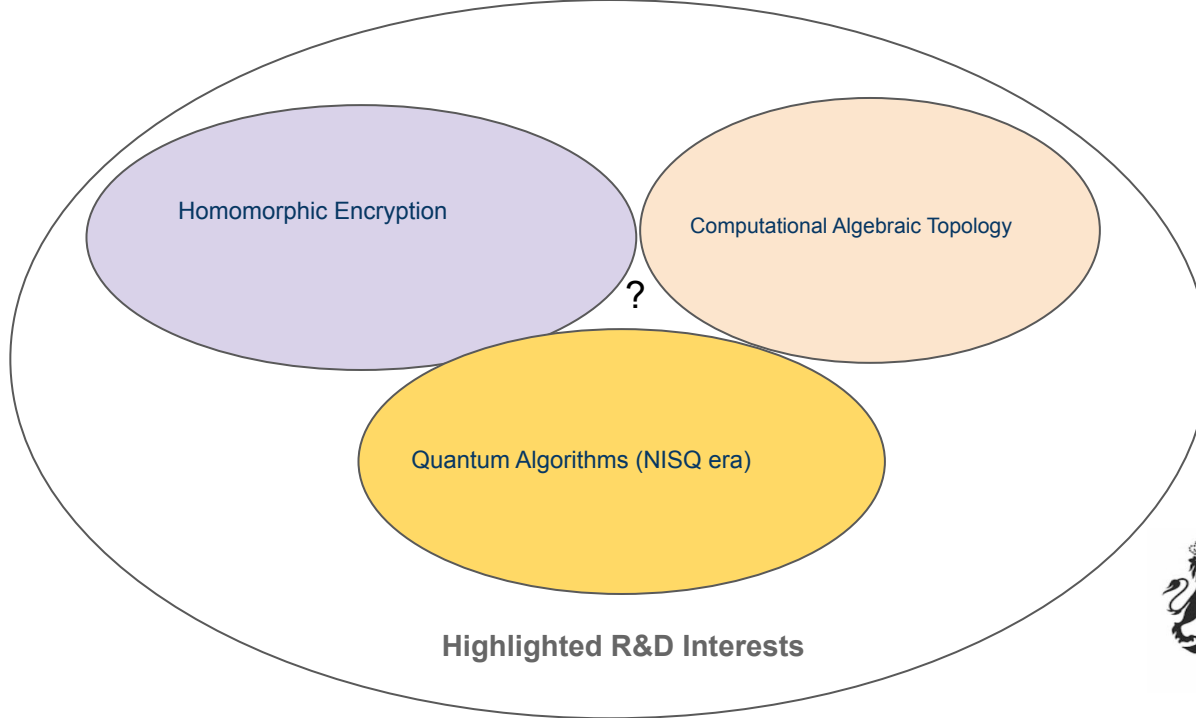
Lie Theory Prerequisite



Early Career Tips

Important Disclaimer

Be warned, my tips will be mostly based on my experience as one of the person's responsible for STEM talent acquisition in my company. But there will be some tips that I hope will apply to any private commercial deep-tech research-oriented company.



Zaiku Group (UK HQ)

What I Look For?

1. Talented (raw or polished) STEM Individuals
2. Independent Thinkers (ideally fuck the status quo/system mentality)
3. Mission Driven
4. Team Players
5. Immune to Hype
6. Humble

Zaiku Group TA Process



Tip #1

Don't: Just send your CV listing a bunch of software tools and courses completed etc.

Do: Also attach a cover letter telling your story and try make a relevant connection to the company e.g. connection to the company's mission.

Tip #2

Don't Highlight: “I have completed Company XYZ's challenge and scored blah blah blah”.

Do Highlight: Something technically relevant to the company you're applying to. Ideally something that you have taken the initiative to explore and complete without someone else telling you to do it i.e. highlight independent technical thinking and your own initiatives.

Tip #3

Don't: Just say you want join a company because you want to learn new things and improve yourself i.e. don't make the reason for joining a company to be just about improving yourself!

Do: Also mention how you can help improve a company if you're given the opportunity i.e. try make a concrete case to why a company should invest in you.

Tip #4

Don't:

1. (Unsolicited submissions) Keep spamming companies about your submissions e.g. email or LinkedIn messages asking if your CV was received and when you will hear back something.
2. Don't try play the FOMO game e.g. tell companies that if they don't decide quickly you'll consider other options including competitors.
3. Do not keep submitting your CV for different roles within the same company.

Do:

1. Move on and assume that companies have found more suitable or even better candidates than you (in their view).
2. Ask (politely) for feedback whenever possible.
3. Use that anger/disappointment constructively by vowing to yourself that you'll do everything to become successful without the companies that rejected you.

Tip #5

Don't: Take sole credit for technical work that you've done with others in order to impress.

Do: Make it very clear what your contributions were and give credit to others including to those who contributed more than you!

Tip #6

Don't: Prematurely bring salary & perks into the conversation before you're even invited for a technical interview!

Do: Wait until an offer is made and then enter into a discussion about the salary and perks related stuff.

Tip #7

Don't: Assume because you're very active on social media and have many followers including notable industry people, that you'll be adding extra value to a company in such a way that it's worth factoring into your job offer package.

Do: Assume that companies don't give a damn about your social media presence and who follows you. In fact, your social media presence can be a massive PR & Security liability!

Tip #8

Don't:

1. Pay attention to industry media hype driven by people with obvious conflict of interest e.g. an academic founder hyping a particular quantum tech in the media because his/her company is pursuing the same quantum tech.
2. Assume you'll be able to make non-trivial contribution to QC with only Python and without a good grasp of the underlying mathematics and fundamentals of QM!

Do: Be very skeptical of anything you hear including from people you consider industry 'leaders'!

Tip #9

Don't: Make any career decision based solely on what others including notable industry people tell you or think.

Do: Listen to people but ultimately you need to make your own career decision.

First QC Awareness (~ 2002)!

