# Matthew Thompson MPhys MInstP CV

49 Frankswood Avenue, Yiewsley, West Drayton, UB7 8QS

E-mail: matthew.thompson.24@ucl.ac.uk | Phone: +44 7712 223455 | LinkedIn

# Professional Summary

As a Mechanical Engineering PhD student specialising in molecular modelling, I have a strong foundation in modern condensed matter research, as well as an excellent knowledge of a variety of theoretical and computational physics topics. My work as an undergraduate was well respected, winning three awards for academic excellence. I have experience in degree-level teaching through my role as an Associate Demonstrator, alongside experience in physics outreach and engagement through my role as Social Secretary of the University of Lincoln Society of Physics and Maths.

# QUALIFICATIONS

2024 -   Phl	O Mechanical	Engineering,	University	College London	ı, UK.
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Graduation: September 2028.

2019 – 2023 MPhys Physics, University of Lincoln, UK.

Grade & graduation: Distinction, September 2023.

Average grade (across all years): 79%

2017 – 2019 A-Levels, Ortu Sixth Form Centre – Stanford and Corringham, Corringham, UK.

Physics – B, Mathematics – C and Music Technology – C.

2012 - 2017 | GCSEs, 12 (A\* - B) including Mathematics and English, Ortu Gable Hall School, Corringham, UK.

### EXPERIENCE

April 2024 – Sept 2024

# UNISON Administrator, University of Lincoln, UK.

In this role, I am responsible for performing administrative tasks for the University of Lincoln UNISON Branch, in order to support the small and dynamic committee doing casework. This varied role requires flexibility, allowing for support to be provided where it can best be used, as well as compassionate customer service skills.

July 2023 – Sept 2024

## Graduate Researcher, School of Mathematics & Physics, University of Lincoln, UK.

In this role, I was responsible for performing research for the 'ICS (Physics): Open Source Software Development' project, which required a comprehensive knowledge of computational methods used in quantum chemistry/solid-state physics, strong understanding of condensed matter theory and the ability to work well within a research group.

Nov 2022 – Sept 2024

#### Associate Demonstrator, School of Mathematics & Physics, University of Lincoln, UK.

In this role, I was responsible for assisting in the delivery of lectures, and where required, answer questions from the students. This role also required me to deliver lectures personally, most significantly in the 2nd Year Electrodynamics module. This required a broad range of subject-specific knowledge, technical skills, such as programming in a variety of programming languages, and higher education teaching skills.

Aug 2022 – July 2023

#### Social Secretary, Society of Physics & Maths, Lincoln Students' Union, UK.

In this role, I was responsible for organising and running all social and collaborative events for the University of Lincoln Society of Physics and Maths. This involved an extensive knowledge of University health and safety practises, excellent liaison skills with other committee members and academic staff, and general management skills.

# SKILLS

- Highly capable researcher in theoretical and computational physics.
- Proficient in programming in languages such as Python, C++, MATLAB and Bash.
- Experienced in higher education teaching, both in lecturing and assisting lecturers, in a variety of degree-level mathematics and physics topics.
- Strong presentation skills, shown through lecturing experience and various highly-marked dissertation and coursework presentations during MPhys degree.
- Experienced in physics outreach and engagement through Social Secretary role.

# PROJECTS

July 2023 – Present "ICS (Physics): Open-Source Software Development"

This project, which was awarded £7500 by the University of Lincoln, concerns continuing the development of the PyRTP program, developing Python-based teaching resources for DFT and RTTDDFT and producing a video tutorial/lecture series on using CP2K for DFT calculations to enable new and industrial users to confidently perform these calculations, alongside documenting the impact of research on CP2K.

Feb 2023 – June 2023 "Optimisation of Time-Dependent Density Functional Theory methods in CP2K"

Undertaken for completion of the MPhys Physics course at the University of Lincoln, this project assessed whether any improvements, either to computational efficiency or accuracy, could be made to the real-time TDDFT method implemented in CP2K, through the development of the PyRTP program.

Sept 2021 – June 2022 "What does it take for electromagnetic levitation to be possible?"

Undertaken as part of the third year Physics Project module at the University of Lincoln, this project sought to formulate the equations required to determine what forms of electromagnetic levitation are possible from Maxwell's equations, assess the validity of Earnshaw's theorem for a range of different electromagnetic systems and describe some practical and theoretical applications of possible electromagnetic levitation systems.

# AWARDS

2023 | Edward Delaval Award - 4<sup>th</sup> Year

Awarded by the University of Lincoln School of Mathematics and Physics to the best performing student of the year across all Physics programmes in the  $4^{th}$  year.

2022 Edward Delaval Award - 3<sup>rd</sup> Year

Awarded by the University of Lincoln School of Mathematics and Physics to the best performing student of the year across all Physics programmes in the  $3^{rd}$  year.

2021 | Edward Delaval Award - 2<sup>nd</sup> Year

Awarded by the University of Lincoln School of Mathematics and Physics to the best performing student of the year across all Physics programmes in the  $2^{nd}$  year.

# Referees

Dr Enrique Galindo-Nava, Associate Professor, Department of Mechanical Engineering, University College London, UK Email: e.galindo-nava@ucl.ac.uk

Professor Matt Watkins, Professor of Chemical Physics, School of Mathematics and Physics, University of Lincoln, UK E-mail: mwatkins@lincoln.ac.uk Telephone: +44 (0) 1522 83 5867 Dr Manuela Mura Senior Lecturer, School of Mathematics and Physics, University of Lincoln, UK E-mail: mmura@lincoln.ac.uk Telephone: +44 (0) 1522 83 5866