

# Nicholas Sale

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Swansea University, Wales. SA1 8EN

**Research interests** Topological Data Analysis, Data Science, Phase Transitions, Statistical Physics, Lattice Field Theory, Complex Systems, Machine Learning

**Education**

<b>Swansea University</b>	Swansea, UK
PhD in Mathematics	Oct 2019 – Present
Supervisors: Prof. Jeff Giansiracusa, Prof. Biagio Lucini	
Current Title: Applications of Topological Data Analysis to Statistical Physics	
Expected Completion: Autumn 2022	

<b>University of Oxford</b>	New College, Oxford, UK
MMathCompsci Mathematics & Computer Science	Oct 2015 – Jul 2019
Parts A & B: First Class; Part C: First Class	

<b>Scholarships</b>	Swansea University Research Excellence Scholarship	2019-2022
	Undergraduate Scholarship (New College, Oxford)	2016-2019
	CyberFirst Bursary (UK Civil Service)	2015-2019
	Arkwright Engineering Scholarship (Arkwright Foundation)	2013-2015

<b>Prizes and awards</b>	Swansea University Rowland Wilson Prize for best PhD paper	Jul 2022
	SIAM Student Travel Award (to attend SIAM AG21)	Aug 2021
	Winner of TopFlavours Gongshow	Jun 2021
	2 <sup>nd</sup> place in Welsh Mathematics 3-Minute Thesis Competition	Mar 2021

**Publications**

**Quantitative analysis of phase transitions in two-dimensional  $XY$  models using persistent homology**  
Nicholas Sale, Jeffrey Giansiracusa, Biagio Lucini.  
*Phys. Rev. E* 105, 024121 – Published 14 February 2022

**Preprints**

**Probing center vortices and deconfinement in  $SU(2)$  lattice gauge theory with persistent homology**  
Nicholas Sale, Biagio Lucini, Jeffrey Giansiracusa.  
*arXiv:2207.13392* – Submitted 27 July 2022

**Invited Talks**

**Applications of topological data analysis to condensed matter and high energy physics**  
May 2022  
aQa Seminar, Leiden University

	<b>Detecting vortices with persistent homology</b>	Feb 2022
	UK Centre for TDA, University of Oxford (hybrid)	
	<b>Quantitative analysis of phase transitions in two-dimensional XY models using persistent homology</b>	Sep 2021
	Machine Learning for High Energy Physics, On and Off the Lattice	
	ECT* Trento (hybrid)	
	<b>Persistent homology for phase transitions</b>	Nov 2020
	UK Centre for TDA, University of Oxford (online)	
Contributed Talks	<b>Detecting vortices with persistent homology</b>	Jul 2022
	Young Topologists Meeting 2022, Copenhagen University	
	<b>Quantitative analysis of phase transitions in two-dimensional XY models using persistent homology</b>	Aug 2021
	SIAM Conference on Applied Algebraic Geometry 2021 (online)	
	<b>Persistent homology and phase transitions</b>	Jun 2021
	TopFlavours 2021, University of Warwick (online)	
Teaching experience	<b>Teaching assistant, Department of Mathematics (Swansea University)</b>	
	MA-282: Game Theory and Optimization	Lent Term 2022
	MA-006: Fundamental Mathematics	Michaelmas Term 2021
	MA-308: Machine Learning	Lent Term 2021
	MA-131: Geometry, Logic, and Communication	Michaelmas Term 2020
	MA-262: Numerical Methods	Lent Term 2020
	MA-121 Methods of Algebra and Calculus	Michaelmas Term 2019
Other Service	<b>Organiser of Swansea Maths PhD Seminar</b>	Jun 2021 - Jun 2022
	<b>Co-organised minisymposium for SIAM AG21</b>	Aug 2021
	Invited speakers for and hosted a 7-speaker minisymposium on Persistent Homology for Phase Transitions, co-organised with Quoc Hoan Tran.	
	<b>Assisted with the LMS Undergraduate Summer School</b>	Jul 2021
Research experience	<b>Applied Research Summer Placement</b>	
	UK Civil Service	Jul 2018 – Sep 2018
	An 11-week placement researching how machine learning and other data science techniques could be applied to aid my team with data annotation.	
	<b>Applied Research Summer Placement</b>	
	UK Civil Service	Jul 2017 – Sep 2017
	An 11-week placement researching the feasibility of using data science techniques to identify certain types of network devices based on limited information about their traffic.	
Technical skills	<b>Programming</b>	
	Python (numpy, scipy, sci-kit learn, pandas), Java, C <sup>#</sup> , C(++), Javascript	
	<b>Cluster Computing</b>	

Non-academic  
positions

**New College Boat Club Committee**

President

Secretary

Lower Boats Captain

Women's 3<sup>rd</sup> Boat Coach

New College, Oxford

2018-2019

2017-2018

2016-2017

2018-2019