# Benjamin Safvati

#### EDUCATION

Ph.D in Physics - Stanford University

2019 - 2024

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PHONE:

EMAIL:

 $\diamond \ \text{Doctoral Thesis:} \ \textit{Atomic-Scale Manipulation and Modeling of 2D Quantum Systems}.$ 

Advisors: Hari Manoharan and Trithep Devakul.

Bachelors in Physics with Mathematics Minor - UC Berkeley

2015-2019

♦ Senior Thesis: Topological Phases and the Negative Sign Problem in Neural-Network Quantum State Simulation. Advisor: Joel Moore.

## Professional Experience

## Doctoral Student Researcher - Multi-scale Simulations of 2D Materials

2023-2024

Devakul Group, Stanford University

- ♦ Designed numerical and analytical models of multilayer materials to identify novel quantum phases.
- ♦ Performed parallelized simulations on computing clusters to efficiently survey material parameter space.
- ♦ Evaluated

# Doctoral Student Researcher - Atomic-scale Electronic Imaging

2019-2023

Manoharan Lab, Stanford University

- ♦ Operated and maintained a custom-built scanning tunneling microscope (STM) with low-noise electronics and vibration isolation to image and manipulate surfaces of exotic materials.
- ♦ Statistically analyzed STM data and developed theories to explain experimental observations.
- ♦ Prepared quantum-mechanical simulations to motivate experimental design of atomic nanostructures.
- ♦ Maintained a facility for reliquefying gaseous helium from cryostats with recycling rates of up to 90%.
- Coordinated with synthesis and fabrication partners to prepare novel 2D material samples for STM.

# Undergraduate Student Researcher - Diamond Spintronics

2017-2019

Pines Lab, UC Berkeley

- ♦ Part of a team that built a NMR system with integrated laser and RF excitation to investigate polarization transfer and spin relaxation mechanisms of defects in diamond.
- ♦ Designed algorithms to efficiently process experimental data and optimize sample growth parameters.
- Programmed control software with microsecond device synchronization to minimize signal loss.
- ♦ Engineered portable devices for NMR signal enhancement and field tested them on external devices.
- ♦ Mentored 10+ student researchers from diverse STEM backgrounds, and conducted hiring interviews.

#### TECHNICAL SKILLS

Experimental Methods: Laboratory electronics (lock-in amplifiers, spectrum analyzers, feedback controllers, waveform generators), cryogenics (liquid nitrogen and helium), ultra-high vacuum equipment, clean-room preparation of vacuum-safe materials, optics design, laser alignment, soldering, spot welding.

Programming Languages: Python, MATLAB, Julia, C, Labview, SQL (MySQL).

Operating Systems: Windows, Windows subsystem for Linux (MPI compatible).

Visual Design: Adobe Illustrator, AutoCAD, LaTeX, HTML, Houdini.

Other Software Skills: Density functional theory simulation of materials (VASP, pymatgen, Quantum Espresso), machine learning (Pandas for data processing, Scikit-learn and Pytorch for statistical modeling), Slurm, Git.

#### AWARDS

#### ♦ Paul Kirkpatrick Teaching Award, Winter 2023.

Awarded to those who have demonstrated a commitment to the teaching of physics to undergraduates.

#### Scientific Talks

♦ Macroscopic Quantum Tunneling Devices for Nanoscale Attonewton Force Sensing APS March Meeting 2020, Denver, CO

## **PUBLICATIONS**

- 1. C. Z. Zerger *et al.* "Nanoscale Electronic Transparency of Wafer-Scale Hexagonal Boron Nitride." Nano Lett. 2022, 22, 11, 4608–4615. [arXiv:2109.01522]
- 2. A. Ajoy, **B. Safvati**, et al. "Hyperpolarized Relaxometry Based Nuclear T1 Noise Spectroscopy in Diamond." Nature Communications, vol. 10, no. 1, 2019. [arXiv:1902.06204]
- 3. A. Ajoy *et al.* Orientation Independent Room-temperature Optical <sup>13</sup>C Hyperpolarization in Powdered Diamond, Science Advances, 4, eaar5492, 2018. [arXiv:1806.09812]
- 4. A. Ajoy *et al.* "Enhanced Dynamic Nuclear Polarization via Swept Microwave Frequency Combs," Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, 1807125115 (2018). [arXiv:1807.07664]
- 5. A. Ajoy, et al. "Wide dynamic range magnetic field cycler: Harnessing quantum control at low and high fields," Review of Scientific Instruments 90, 013112 (2019). [arXiv:1808.10579]
- 6. A. Ajoy *et al.* "Room temperature Optical Nanodiamond Hyperpolarizer: physics, design and operation," Review of Scientific Instruments 91, 023106 (2020); [arXiv:1811.10218]