

Research Skills & Interests

Theoretical physicist studying non-equilibrium phenomena in quantum many-body systems through the development and application of numerical methods for classical simulation.

Theoretical Interests: Quantum chaos and integrability, non-equilibrium dynamics, quantum information, Anderson and many-body localization, dissipative and driven systems

Numerical Methods: Tensor networks, Krylov subspace methods, Pauli string binary encoding, global optimization, sparse matrix methods, quantum trajectories

Education

New York University

New York, NY

Ph.D. Candidate in Physics, Center for Quantum Phenomena

August 2020 – July 2026 (expected)

Advisor: Prof. Dries Sels

University of Cincinnati

Cincinnati, OH

B.S. with honors in Physics, Mathematics, and Astrophysics (GPA 3.94/4.0)

May 2020

Advisor: Prof. Carlos J. Bolech

Research Experience

Graduate Researcher, Center for Quantum Phenomena

New York, NY

New York University, Department of Physics

August 2020 – Present

- Bounded stability of a many-body localizing system to rare thermal baths using tensor network time evolution
- Developed understanding of localization in Krylov space by explicit construction of integrals of motion
- Compared effectiveness of Pauli string binary encoding against tensor networks for quantum dynamics
- Combined quantum trajectories and tensor networks to study open system dynamics in a spin chain

Undergraduate Researcher

Cincinnati, OH

University of Cincinnati, Department of Physics

August 2018 – May 2020

- Implemented a novel continuous Matrix Product State ansatz for mixtures of bosons and fermions
- Explored ground state phase diagram of Bose-Fermi mixtures with attractive inter-species interaction

Publications

- *Anderson localization: A view from Krylov space*
J. Clayton Peacock, Vadim Oganessian, Dries Sels, Phys. Rev. B 113, 064204 (2026)
- *Quantum many-body simulations with PauliStrings.jl*
Nicolas Loizeau, **J. Clayton Peacock**, Dries Sels, SciPost Phys. Codebases 54 (2025)
- *Many-body delocalization from embedded thermal inclusion*
J. Clayton Peacock, Dries Sels, Phys. Rev. B 108, L020201 (2023)
- *Condensate States of Atomic Bose-Fermi Gas Mixtures*
C. J. Bolech, **J. Clayton Peacock**, Aleksandar Ljepoja, J. Phys.: Conf. Ser. 2494 012015 (2023)
- *Quantum coherent states of interacting Bose-Fermi mixtures in one dimension*
J. Clayton Peacock, Aleksandar Ljepoja, C. J. Bolech, Phys. Rev. Research 4, L022034 (2022)

Programming Experience

Julia (ITensors.jl, PauliStrings.jl, MPSKit.jl, KrylovKit.jl, NLOpt.jl, HDF5.jl,...)
Python: (Scipy, Numpy,...)
High-Performance Computing (SLURM, Linux)
Other: Git, LaTeX

Awards & Honors

Henry M. MacCracken Fellowship (2020)
Phi Beta Kappa Society Member (2020)
MUSE Fellowship (2019)
Sigma Pi Sigma Member (2019)
Junior Achievement Award in Physics (2019)
Dean's Honors (2017 –2020)
National Merit Scholarship Finalist (2016)

Presentations

New frontiers in out-of-equilibrium quantum many-body dynamics, Max Planck Institute (Poster, 2025)
Instituto Superior Técnico Physics Seminar (Invited Talk, 2025)
American Physical Society March Meeting (Contributed Talk, 2024)
Quantum Science GRS/GRC (Poster, 2024)
American Physical Society March Meeting (Contributed Talk, 2023)
Aspen Winter Conference: Disorder and Quantum Phases of Matter (Poster, 2023)
American Physical Society March Meeting (Contributed Talk, 2022)
American Physical Society March Meeting (Contributed Talk, 2021)
Ohio Supercomputing Center's Autumn Statewide Users Group Conference (Poster, 2019)

Outreach and Service

Organizing Committee Member, Conference for Undergraduate Women and Gender Minorities in Physics (APS), New York University, NY 2025
Center for Quantum Phenomena Representative, GPHORCE, New York University 2023–2024
President of Society of Physics Students, University of Cincinnati, OH 2019

Teaching Experience

Undergraduate Statistical Physics TA, New York University 2022
Undergraduate Statistical Physics TA, New York University 2021
Calculus supplemental review session leader, University of Cincinnati 2018–2020
Math and Science Support Center Tutor, University of Cincinnati 2017–2019
Electricity and Magnetism TA, University of Cincinnati 2017

Languages

English (native), Portuguese (intermediate), Spanish (basic)