

# Matthew Wittmann

Ph.D. Candidate in Physics

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#### Education

since 2009 PhD in Physics (expected 9/2015). *University of California, Santa Cruz.* 

Supervised by Dr. A. Peter Young (see Research Experience).

2009–2011 MS in Physics. University of California, Santa Cruz.

"Spin glasses in the nonextensive regime", supervised by Dr. A. Peter Young.

2005–2009 BA in Physics and Mathematics. *University of Colorado, Boulder*.

Summa Cum Laude with minor in Computer Science, 3.8 GPA.

Research in acoustic vector network analysis supervised by Dr. John Price.

#### Workshops & Short Courses

6/2013 Beg Rohu School of Statistical Physics and Condensed Matter. Quiberon, France.

Two-week course with special focus on disordered systems.

9/2012 Efficient Algorithms in Computational Physics. Bad Honnef, Germany.

Two-week course focusing on Monte Carlo techniques. I assisted students with homework problems during the data analysis portion of the course, taught by my PhD advisor.

### Research Experience

since 2010 Graduate Student Researcher. University of California, Santa Cruz.

With supervisor Dr. A. Peter Young, I have studied topics in statistical and computational physics including spin glasses [1–3], finite-size scaling in high-dimensional systems [4], quantum algorithms [5, 6], and optimization problems [6].

2014 Guest Researcher. Max Planck Institute for the Physics of Complex Systems, Dresden, Germany.

I studied finite-size scaling in high-dimensional systems and the dynamics of disordered systems using large-scale computer simulations.

2008–2009 Undergraduate Researcher. University of Colorado, Boulder.

Supervised by Dr. John Price, I characterized acoustic resonators and worked on extending the capabilities of an existing acoustic reflectometry system to allow complete scattering matrix measurements.

## Teaching & Outreach

2014 Juror at USA Young Physicists Tournament. San Jose, CA.

Judge at Pacific Collegiate School Science Fair. Santa Cruz, CA.

2009–2011 TA in Physics and Mathematics. *University of California, Santa Cruz*.

Taught lower- and upper-division physics lab courses and led discussion sections in lower-division math and

upper-division physics lecture courses.

quantum mechanics, quantum algorithms,

graph theory, satisfiability

2008–2009 Instructor Assistant in Mathematics. University of Colorado, Boulder.

Led tutorials in supplemental math courses at the precalculus level.

## Skills & Expertise

**Physics** 

Modeling/ Monte Carlo simulation, statistics, Optimization Stochastic optimization, nonlinear fitting, numerical linear algebra, error analysis Math/ disordered systems, statistical physics, Math/ Modeling/ Monte Carlo simulation, statistics, Proficient Python/NumPy, pandas, C/C++, MATLAB, Mathematica, Git, Bash, LATEX, HTML/CSS scikit-learn, R, SQL, JavaScript, Java cycling, hiking, backpacking, music

#### Publications & Conference Presentations

- [1] Matthew Wittmann and A. P. Young. "Spin glasses in the nonextensive regime". In: *Phys. Rev. E* 85 (4 Apr. 2012), p. 041104.
- [2] Matthew Wittmann et al. "Low-temperature behavior of the spin overlap distribution in one-dimensional long-range diluted spin glasses". Talk given at APS March Meeting. 2013.
- [3] Matthew Wittmann et al. "Low-temperature behavior of the statistics of the overlap distribution in Ising spin-glass models". In: *Phys. Rev. B* 90 (13 Oct. 2014), p. 134419.
- [4] Matthew Wittmann and A. P. Young. "Finite-size scaling above the upper critical dimension". In: *Phys. Rev. E* 90 (6 Dec. 2014), p. 062137.
- [5] Matthew Wittmann, Itay Hen, and A. P. Young. "Distinguishing graphs with a quantum annealer using susceptibility measurements". Talk given at APS March Meeting. 2014.
- [6] Matthew Wittmann, Itay Hen, and A. P. Young. "Scheduling: a good candidate for quantum annealing?" Poster presented at Berkeley Mini Statistical Mechanics Meeting. 2014.