Melody A.H. Molander

EDUCATION University of California, Santa Barbara

Ph.D. in Mathematics, Advisor: Stephen Bigelow

(expected)

University of Oklahoma

Fall 2014 - Spring 2017

Fall 2019 - Spring 2025

M.A. in Mathematics

University of California, Davis

Fall 2010 - Spring 2014

B.S. in Mathematics

PAPERS 3. Skein Theory of Affine ADE Subfactor Planar Algebras

Thesis, in preparation.

2. Skein Theory of Affine A Subfactor Planar Algebras

Preprint on arXiv. arxiv.org/abs/2410.05519

1. A Determinant Formula of the Jones Polynomial for a Family of Braids

with Derva Asaner, Sanjay Kumar, Andrew Pease, and Anup Poudel

Submitted. arxiv.org/abs/2408.13410

RESEARCH INTERESTS Quantum algebra, low-dimensional topology, operator algebras, tensor categories, diagrammatic algebras, subfactors, knot theory, quantum groups, C*-algebras, quantum topology, representation theory

CURRENT RESEARCH **PROJECTS**

• Nuclear Dimension of Crossed Products by Hilbert Bimodules over Commutative C*-algebras

with Marzieh Forough, Zahra Hasanpour-Yakhdani, Ja A Jeong, Preeti Luthra, and Karen Strung

• A Skein Theory for Nichols Hopf Algebras

with Alex Bisnath, and Quinn Kolt

AWARDS

National Science Foundation Travel Grant (\$2300)	2024
National Science Foundation Travel Grant (\$1000)	2024
GSA Conference Travel Grant, UC Santa Barbara (\$500)	2024
USTARS Distinguished Graduate Student Speaker in Topology (\$200)	2024
National Science Foundation Travel Grant (\$1350)	2023
Operator Algebra Mentor Network Grant (\$500)	2023
Decolvenaere Research Accelerator Award, UCSB Graduate Division (\$8000)	2023
Individualized Professional Skills (IPS) Grant, UC Santa Barbara (\$1000)	2023
Math Department Graduate Fellowship, University of Oklahoma (\$3000)	2015
Richard V. Andree Memorial Scholarship, University of Oklahoma (\$2000)	2015
Yueh-Jing Lin Fund, UC Davis (\$2500)	2013

MENTORSHIP

UCSB Directed Reading Program Mentor

REU Graduate Mentor, UCSB Women in STEM Mentor, UCSB December 2019 - June 2023 June 2022 - August 2022 September 2019 - June 2022

December 2020 - July 2023

July 2023 - January 2024

August 2022 - June 2023

May 2024 - present

June 2023 - present

SERVICE

USTARS 2025 Conference Organizer Shadow AWM Student Chapter at UCSB, Secretary Directed Reading Program at UCSB Co-Organizer

Graduate Quantum Algebra and Topology Seminar Co-Organizer, UCSB AWM Chapter at UCSB Founder and President

Quantum Algebra and Topology Seminar Co-Organizer, UCSB

September 2021 - June 2022 Math Teacher's Circle - Oklahoma City Founder and Instructional Leader April 2015 - June 2017

TALKS *=INVITED *23. Joint Mathematics Meetings; Knots, 3-manifolds, and Their Invariants Special January 2025

Session; Seattle Convention Center; Seattle, Washington

A determinant formula of the Jones Polynomial for a family of braids

22. Joint Mathematics Meetings ; Advances in Operator Algebras Special Session; Seattle Convention Center; Seattle, Washington <i>Using Diagrams to Describe Quantum Symmetries and Subfactors</i>	January 2025
*21. AMS Western Sectional Meeting ; Graphical Calculus in Representation Theory and Low-Dimensional Topology Special Session; University of California, Riverside; Riverside, California Index 4 Subfactor Planar Algebras and Their Corresponding Categories	October 2024
20. Quantum Groups and Representation Theory ; North Carolina State University, Raleigh, North Carolina Index 4 Subfactor Planar Algebras and their Corresponding Categories	October 2024
19. Young Mathematicians in C Algebras ; University of Glasgow; Glasgow, Scotland	August 2024
Using Diagrams to Describe Quantum Symmetries of Subfactors	
18. Oberwolfach Seminar ; Classification of C-Algebras and Dynamics Seminar; Oberwolfach Research Institute for Mathematics; Oberwolfach, Germany <i>Nuclear Dimension of Cuntz-Pimsner Algebras of C*-Correspondences</i>	May 2024
17. Banff International Research Station Workshop ; Skew Braces, Braids, and the Yang-Baxter Equation; Banff International Research Station; Banff, Canada <i>Skein Theory of Subfactor Planar Algebras</i>	May 2024
*16. USTARS Distinguished Graduate Student in Topology Speaker ; Underrepresented Students in Topology and Algebra Research Symposium; University of Iowa; Iowa City, Iowa <i>Using Diagrams to Describe Quantum Symmetries of Subfactors</i>	April 2024
15. Graduate Student Topology and Geometry Conference ; Michigan State University; East Lansing, Michigan Skein Theory for Index 4 Subfactor Planar Algebras	April 2024
14. Southeastern Lie Theory Workshop ; Quantum Structures in Lie Theory; University of Virginia; Charlottesville, Virginia <i>Skein Theory for Index 4 Subfactor Planar Algebras</i>	March 2024
13. Women in Mathematics in Southern California Symposium ; Pomona College; Claremont, California <i>Using Diagrams to Describe Quantum Symmetries of Subfactors</i>	February 2024
*12. Joint Mathematics Meetings ; Knots, Skein Modules, and Categorification Special Session; Moscone Center; San Francisco, California Skein Theory of Index 4 Subfactor Planar Algebras	January 2024
*11. Claremont Topology Seminar ; Pomona College; Claremont, California Skein Theory for Affine ADE Subfactor Planar Algebras	November 2023
10. Twinned Conference on C-Algebras and Tensor Categories ; Fields Institute; in person in Toronto, Canada; and International Centre for Mathematical Sciences; streamed live at Edinburgh, Scotland <i>Skein Theory for Affine ADE Subfactor Planar Algebras</i>	November 2023
9. Young Mathematicians in C*-Algebras ; KU Leuven; Leuven, Belgium <i>Skein Theory of Subfactor Planar Algebras</i>	August 2023
8. Great Plains Operator Theory Symposium ; The Ohio State University; Columbus, Ohio Skein Theory for Index 4 Subfactor Planar Algebras	May 2023
7. AMS Spring Western Sectional ; Algebraic Structures in Knot Theory Special Session; Fresno State University; Fresno, California Diagrammatic Presentations of Affine Type A Subfactor Planar Algebras	May 2023
6. Moab Topology Conference ; Utah State University, Moab; Moab, Utah Skein Theory for Affine ADE Subfactor Planar Algebras	May 2023

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	5. Redbud Topology Conference ; University of Oklahoma; Norman, Oklahoma <i>Skein Theory of Affine Type A Subfactor Planar Algebras</i>	March 2023
	4. Underrepresented Students in Topology and Algebra Symposium ; University of Washington, Seattle, Washington Diagrammatic Presentations of Index 4 Planar Algebras	March 2023
	*3. Quantum Groups Seminar ; On Zoom; Hosted by Université de Lille in Lille, France & University of Oslo in Oslo, Norway Skein Theory for Affine ADE Subfactor Planar Algebras	March 2023
	2. Tech Topology Conference ; Georgia Institute of Technology; Atlanta, Georgia <i>Diagrammatic Presentations of Index 4 Subfactor Planar Algebras</i>	December 2022
	1. Topology Students Workshop ; Georgia Institute of Technology; Atlanta, Georgia Diagrammatic Presentations of Affine Type A Subfactor Planar Algebras	July 2022
TEACHING *=ONLINE COURSE	Lead TA - UC Santa Barbara Provided professional development and training to new math department TAs	Fall 2022 - Spring 2023
	Teaching Assistant - UC Santa Barbara MATH 111A - Abstract Algebra MATH 108AB - Introduction to Linear Algebra MATH 8 - Transition to Higher Mathematics *MATH 8 - Transition to Higher Mathematics *MATH 6AB - Vector Calculus MATH 34B - Calculus for Social and Life Sciences	Fall 2019 - present
	Associate Instructor - UC Santa Barbara MATH 4A - Linear Algebra with Applications *MATH 6A - Vector Calculus I *MATH 4A - Linear Algebra with Applications	Summer 2020, 2021, 2024
	Adjunct Mathematics Professor - Cosumnes River College MATH 30 - Pre-Algebra STAT 300 - Introduction to Statistics and Probability MATH 20 - Arithmetic	Spring 2018 - Spring 2019
	Teaching Assistant - University of Oklahoma MATH 1743 - Business Calculus I MATH 1914 - Calculus 1 (Fast Track) MATH 2924 - Calculus 2 (Fast Track) MATH 1823 - Calculus 1	Fall 2015 - Spring 2017
	Instructor of Record - University of Oklahoma MATH 1823 - Calculus 1 MATH 1503 - College Algebra	Fall 2014 - Summer 2015 & 2016
WORKSHOPS	Oberwolfach Research Institute for Mathematics (MFO) Classification of C*-Algebras and Dynamics Seminar	May 2024
	Banff International Research Station (BIRS) Skew Braces, Braids, and the Yang-Baxter Equation Workshop Women in Operator Algebras 3	May 2024, June 2023
	American Institute of Mathematics (AIM) Quantum Invariants and Low-dimensional Topology	August 2023