# 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. <b>Joint Mathematics Meetings</b> ; Advances in Operator Algebras Special Session; Seattle Convention Center; Seattle, Washington <i>Using Diagrams to Describe Quantum Symmetries and Subfactors</i>	January 2025
*21. <b>AMS Western Sectional Meeting</b> ; 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. <b>Quantum Groups and Representation Theory</b> ; North Carolina State University, Raleigh, North Carolina Index 4 Subfactor Planar Algebras and their Corresponding Categories	October 2024
*19. <b>Young Mathematicians in C* Algebras</b> ; University of Glasgow; Glasgow, Scotland	August 2024
Using Diagrams to Describe Quantum Symmetries of Subfactors	
*18. <b>Oberwolfach Seminar</b> ; 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. <b>Banff International Research Station Workshop</b> ; 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. <b>USTARS Distinguished Graduate Student in Topology Speaker</b> ; 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. <b>Graduate Student Topology and Geometry Conference</b> ; Michigan State University; East Lansing, Michigan Skein Theory for Index 4 Subfactor Planar Algebras	April 2024
14. <b>Southeastern Lie Theory Workshop</b> ; Quantum Structures in Lie Theory; University of Virginia; Charlottesville, Virginia <i>Skein Theory for Index 4 Subfactor Planar Algebras</i>	March 2024
13. <b>Women in Mathematics in Southern California Symposium</b> ; Pomona College; Claremont, California <i>Using Diagrams to Describe Quantum Symmetries of Subfactors</i>	February 2024
*12. <b>Joint Mathematics Meetings</b> ; Knots, Skein Modules, and Categorification Special Session; Moscone Center; San Francisco, California Skein Theory of Index 4 Subfactor Planar Algebras	January 2024
*11. <b>Claremont Topology Seminar</b> ; Pomona College; Claremont, California Skein Theory for Affine ADE Subfactor Planar Algebras	November 2023
*10. <b>Twinned Conference on C*-Algebras and Tensor Categories</b> ; 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. <b>Young Mathematicians in C*-Algebras</b> ; KU Leuven; Leuven, Belgium <i>Skein Theory of Subfactor Planar Algebras</i>	August 2023
8. <b>Great Plains Operator Theory Symposium</b> ; The Ohio State University; Columbus, Ohio Skein Theory for Index 4 Subfactor Planar Algebras	May 2023
7. <b>AMS Spring Western Sectional</b> ; Algebraic Structures in Knot Theory Special Session; Fresno State University; Fresno, California  Diagrammatic Presentations of Affine Type A Subfactor Planar Algebras	May 2023
6. <b>Moab Topology Conference</b> ; 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 March 2023 Skein Theory of Affine Type A Subfactor Planar Algebras 4. Underrepresented Students in Topology and Algebra Symposium; March 2023 University of Washington, Seattle, Washington Diagrammatic Presentations of Index 4 Planar Algebras \*3. Quantum Groups Seminar; On Zoom; Hosted by Université de Lille in Lille, March 2023 France & University of Oslo in Oslo, Norway Skein Theory for Affine ADE Subfactor Planar Algebras 2. Tech Topology Conference; Georgia Institute of Technology; Atlanta, Georgia December 2022 Diagrammatic Presentations of Index 4 Subfactor Planar Algebras 1. **Topology Students Workshop**; Georgia Institute of Technology; Atlanta, July 2022 Georgia Diagrammatic Presentations of Affine Type A Subfactor Planar Algebras **TEACHING** Lead TA - UC Santa Barbara Fall 2022 - Spring 2023 \*=ONLINE Provided professional development and training to new math department TAs **COURSE** Teaching Assistant - UC Santa Barbara Fall 2019 - present MATH 111A - Abstract Algebra MATH 108AB - Introduction to Linear Algebra MATH 8 - Transition to Higher Mathematics \*MATH 8 - Transition to Higher Mathematics \*MATH 6A - Vector Calculus I \*MATH 6B - Vector Calculus II MATH 34B - Calculus for Social and Life Sciences Summer 2020, 2021, 2024 Associate Instructor - UC Santa Barbara MATH 4A - Linear Algebra with Applications \*MATH 6A - Vector Calculus I \*MATH 4A - Linear Algebra with Applications Spring 2018 - Spring 2019 Adjunct Mathematics Professor - Cosumnes River College MATH 30 - Pre-Algebra STAT 300 - Introduction to Statistics and Probability MATH 20 - Arithmetic Fall 2015 - Spring 2017 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 2014 - Summer 2015 & 2016 Instructor of Record - University of Oklahoma MATH 1823 - Calculus 1 MATH 1503 - College Algebra WORKSHOPS **Oberwolfach Research Institute for Mathematics (MFO)** May 2024 Classification of C\*-Algebras and Dynamics Seminar **Banff International Research Station (BIRS)** May 2024, June 2023 Skew Braces, Braids, and the Yang-Baxter Equation Workshop Women in Operator Algebras 3 American Institute of Mathematics (AIM) August 2023 Quantum Invariants and Low-dimensional Topology