## Melody A.H. Molander

**POSITIONS Ross Visiting Assistant Professor** Fall 2025 - present The Ohio State University **EDUCATION** University of California, Santa Barbara Fall 2019 - Spring 2025 Ph.D. in Mathematics, Advisor: Stephen Bigelow (expected) Thesis: Skein Theory of Affine ADE Subfactor Planar Algebras Certificate in College and University Teaching University of Oklahoma Fall 2014 - Spring 2017 M.A. in Mathematics University of California, Davis Fall 2010 - Spring 2014 **B.S.** in Mathematics **PAPERS** 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 Derya Asaner, Sanjay Kumar, Andrew Pease, and Anup Poudel Submitted. arxiv.org/abs/2408.13410 RESEARCH Quantum algebra, low-dimensional topology, operator algebras, tensor categories, diagrammatic algebras, subfactors, knot theory, quantum groups, C\*-algebras, quantum topology, representation theory **INTERESTS AWARDS USTARS Distinguished Graduate Student Speaker in Topology** 2024 Decolvenaere Research Accelerator Award, UCSB Graduate Division 2023 Individualized Professional Skills (IPS) Grant, UC Santa Barbara 2023 Math Department Graduate Fellowship, University of Oklahoma 2015 Richard V. Andree Memorial Scholarship, University of Oklahoma 2015 Yueh-Jing Lin Fund, UC Davis 2013 **AWM Symposium Travel Grant** 2025 TRAVEL **GRANTS** GSA Conference Travel Grant, UC Santa Barbara 2025 **UCSB Doctoral Student Travel Grant** 2024 **AMS Sectional Travel Grant** 2024 **National Science Foundation Travel Grant** 2024 National Science Foundation Travel Grant 2024 **GSA Conference Travel Grant, UC Santa Barbara** 2024 **National Science Foundation Travel Grant** 2023 **Operator Algebra Mentor Network Grant** 2023 **MENTORSHIP UCSB Directed Reading Program Mentor** December 2019 - June 2023 **REU Graduate Mentor, UCSB** June 2022 - August 2022 Women in STEM Mentor, UCSB September 2019 - June 2022 **SERVICE Topology Seminar Co-Organizer** October 2024 - present AWM Student Chapter at UCSB, Secretary June 2023 - present AWM EvenQuads 3 Data Collector June 2024 Directed Reading Program at UCSB Co-Organizer December 2020 - July 2023 Graduate Quantum Algebra and Topology Seminar Co-Organizer, UCSB July 2023 - January 2024 AWM Chapter at UCSB Founder and President August 2022 - June 2023 Quantum Algebra and Topology Seminar Co-Organizer, UCSB September 2021 - June 2022 **AWM Essay Contest Judge** January 2020 - March 2020 Math Teacher's Circle - Oklahoma City Founder and Instructional Leader April 2015 - June 2017 \*27. AWM Research Symposium; Non-commutative algebras, tensor categories, and May 2025 **TALKS** \*=INVITED diagrams Special Session; University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, Wisconsin

Diagrammatics of Index 4 Subfactor Planar Algebras

| *26. <b>AMS Spring Western Sectional Meeting</b> ; Knot Theory and Quantum Topology Special Session; California Polytechnic State University; San Luis Obispo, California <i>Diagrammatics of Index 4 Subfactor Planar Algebras</i>  | May 2025      |
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| 25. <b>Women in Noncommutative Algebra and Representation Theory 4</b> ; Banff International Research Station, Banff, Canada <i>Planar Algebras and their Corresponding Categories</i>   | March 2025    |
| 24. <b>Quantum Groups, Tensor Categories and Quantum Field Theory Workshop</b> ; University of Oslo, Oslo, Norway <i>Index 4 Subfactor Planar Algebras and Their Corresponding Categories</i>  | January 2025  |
| *23. <b>Joint Mathematics Meetings</b> ; Knots, 3-manifolds, and Their Invariants Special Session; Seattle Convention Center; Seattle, Washington A determinant formula of the Jones Polynomial for a family of braids   | January 2025  |
| 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<br>Theory and Low-Dimensional Topology Special Session; University of California,<br>Riverside; Riverside, California<br>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 <i>Using Diagrams to Describe Quantum Symmetries of Subfactors</i>  | August 2024   |
| *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> ;<br>Underrepresented Students in Topology and Algebra Research Symposium; University of Iowa; Iowa City, Iowa<br><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<br>Special Session; Moscone Center; San Francisco, California<br>Skein Theory of Index 4 Subfactor Planar Algebras   | January 2024  |
| *11. <b>Claremont Topology Seminar</b> ; Pomona College; Claremont, California <i>Skein Theory for Affine ADE Subfactor Planar Algebras</i>  | November 2023 |

**TEACHING** 

\*=ONLINE

**COURSE** 

\*10. Twinned Conference on C\*-Algebras and Tensor Categories; Fields Institute; November 2023 in person in Toronto, Canada; and International Centre for Mathematical Sciences; streamed live at Edinburgh, Scotland Skein Theory for Affine ADE Subfactor Planar Algebras 9. Young Mathematicians in C\*-Algebras; KU Leuven; Leuven, Belgium August 2023 Skein Theory of Subfactor Planar Algebras 8. **Great Plains Operator Theory Symposium**; The Ohio State University; May 2023 Columbus, Ohio Skein Theory for Index 4 Subfactor Planar Algebras 7. AMS Spring Western Sectional; Algebraic Structures in Knot Theory Special Ses-May 2023 sion; Fresno State University; Fresno, California Diagrammatic Presentations of Affine Type A Subfactor Planar Algebras 6. Moab Topology Conference; Utah State University, Moab; Moab, Utah May 2023 Skein Theory for Affine ADE Subfactor Planar Algebras 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 Lead TA - UC Santa Barbara Fall 2022 - Spring 2023 Provided professional development and training to new math department TAs Teaching Assistant - UC Santa Barbara Fall 2019 - present MATH 111ABC - 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 Associate Instructor - UC Santa Barbara Summer 2020, 2021, 2024 MATH 4A - Linear Algebra with Applications \*MATH 6A - Vector Calculus I \*MATH 4A - Linear Algebra with Applications Adjunct Mathematics Professor - Cosumnes River College Spring 2018 - Spring 2019 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

Instructor of Record - University of Oklahoma Fall 2014 - Summer 2015 & 2016

MATH 1823 - Calculus 1 MATH 1503 - College Algebra

**WORKSHOPS** Oberwolfach Research Institute for Mathematics (MFO)

Classification of C\*-Algebras and Dynamics Seminar May 2024

**Banff International Research Station (BIRS)** 

Women in Noncommutative Algebra and Representation Theory 4 March 2025 Skew Braces, Braids, and the Yang-Baxter Equation Workshop May 2024 Women in Operator Algebras 3 June 2023

American Institute of Mathematics (AIM)

Quantum Invariants and Low-dimensional Topology August 2023

REFERENCES

- 6. Stephen Bigelow, University of California, Santa Barbara, bigelow@math.ucsb.edu
- 5. David Penneys, The Ohio State University, penneys.2@osu.edu
- 4. Zhenghan Wang, University of California, Santa Barbara, zhenghwa@math.ucsb.edu
- 3. Noah Snyder, Indiana University Bloomington, nsnyder@gmail.com
- 2. Darren Long, University of California, Santa Barbara, long@math.ucsb.edu
- 1. Christopher Ograin, University of California, Santa Barbara, ograin@math.ucsb.edu (concerns teaching)