Melody A.H. Molander

EDUCATION University of California, Santa Barbara Fall 2019 - Spring 2025

Ph.D. in Mathematics, Advisor: Stephen Bigelow

(expected)

University of Oklahoma Fall 2014 - Spring 2017

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 AMS Sectional Travel Grant (\$250)

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

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

SERVICE

Topology Seminar Co-Organizer

USTARS 2025 Conference Organizer Shadow May 2024 - present AWM Student Chapter at UCSB, Secretary June 2023 - present June 2024

AWM EvenQuads 3 Data Collector

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

AWM Essay Contest Judge

Math Teacher's Circle - Oklahoma City Founder and Instructional Leader

May 2025

April 2015 - June 2017

October 2024 - present

December 2020 - July 2023

September 2021 - June 2022

January 2020 - March 2020

July 2023 - January 2024

August 2022 - June 2023

2024

TALKS *=INVITED *24. AMS Spring Western Sectional Meeting; Knot Theory and Quantum Topology Special Session; California Polytechnic State University; San Luis Obispo, California

TBD

*23. Joint Mathematics Meetings ; Knots, 3-manifolds, and Their Invariants Special Session; Seattle Convention Center; Seattle, Washington <i>A determinant formula of the Jones Polynomial for a family of braids</i>	January 2025
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 <i>Index 4 Subfactor Planar Algebras and their Corresponding Categories</i>	October 2024
19. Young Mathematicians in C Algebras ; University of Glasgow; Glasgow, Scotland <i>Using Diagrams to Describe Quantum Symmetries of Subfactors</i>	August 2024
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 <i>Skein Theory for Affine ADE Subfactor Planar Algebras</i>	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

TEACHING

*=ONLINE COURSE

WORKSHOPS

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 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 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 Teaching Assistant - University of Oklahoma Fall 2015 - Spring 2017 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 **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)