Curriculum Vitae

Contact Information

Name | Ma

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Current Position

I am currently a Research Associate with the Cambridge Logical Structures Hub, in the Department of Computer Science and Technology at the University of Cambridge. I will be here until January 2023, working with Jamie Vicary and his group. I am interested in Topology in general, particularly Topological Quantum Field Theory and related higher algebraic and categorical structures.

Previous Positions

Period

September 2019 – June 2022

Postdoctoral Researcher in the "Higher Structures and Applications" research project at the Department of Mathematics of Instituto Superior Técnico.

Period

September 2018 - August 2019

Postdoc with the "Mathematics Inspired by String Theory and Quantum Field Theory" group, at the University of Hamburg.

Period

September 2017 - August 2018

Guest at the Max Planck Institute for Mathematics, in Bonn.

Education

Period

September 2013 - August 2017

Degree Obtained

Doctor of Philosophy (D.Phil) in Mathematics (University of Oxford)

Thesis Topic

Coherence for 3-dualizable objects. (supervised by Christopher Douglas)

https://deposit.ora.ox.ac.uk/theses/uuid:a4b8f8de-a8e3-48c3-a742-82316a7bd8eb/file/content01

Period

July 2011 - June 2013

Degree obtained

Master's Degree (MSc) in Mathematics and Applications (IST, Lisbon)

Thesis Topic

Symplectic Embeddings. (supervised by Gustavo Granja)

Period

October 2009 - July 2011

Degree obtained

Degree (BSc) in Applied Mathematics and Computation (IST, Lisbon)

Period

September 2007 - July 2009

Degree obtained

Did not finish.

Program

Integrated Master's Degree (MSc) in Electrical and Computer Engineering (IST, Lisbon)

Publications

2022

Simple string diagrams and n-sesquicategories. Theory and Applications of Categories. http://www.tac.mta.ca/tac/volumes/38/34/38-34abs.html

2021

Coherence for adjunctions in a 3-category via string diagrams. Compositionality. https://compositionality-journal.org/papers/compositionality-journal.org/papers/compositionality-4-2/

2017

Symplectic embeddings in infinite codimension. Joint with Gustavo Granja. Journal of Homotopy and Related Structures. https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s40062-017-0189-8

Preprints	
2022	Computads and string diagrams for n-sesquicategories. https://arxiv.org/abs/2210.07704
2022	Coherence for adjunctions in a 4-category. https://arxiv.org/abs/2207.02935
2020	String diagrams for 4-categories and fibrations of mapping 4-groupoids. https://arxiv.org/abs/2012.03797
Awards and Scholarships	
2017/2018	Max Planck Institute for Mathematics postdoctoral grant.
2013/2014 - 2015/2016	EPSRC Research Studentship.
2013/2014 - 2015/2016	Christ Church Mathematics Scholarship
2011/2012	FCT Scientific Initiation Grant
2010/2011	IST Merit Scholarship
2010/2011	Gulbenkian Novos Talentos em Matemática Scholarship.
2009/2010	Gulbenkian Novos Talentos em Matemática Scholarship.
2008/2009	FCT Integration Into Research Grant.
2008/2009	IST Merit Diploma.
2007/2008	IST Merit Diploma.
Talks	
December 11, 2022	String diagrams for n-sesquicategories. Meeting of the "Higher categories, polygraphs and homotopy" working group. IRIF, Paris.
March 16, 2022	String diagrams for higher categories. Algebra Seminar, University of Aberdeen.
March 9, 2022	String diagrams for higher categories. TQFT Seminar, Instituto Superior Técnico.
November 2021 – February 2022	Simple string diagrams and n-sesquicategories. Series of 3 talks at Instituto Superior Técnico.
December 17, 2020	Coherence for adjunctions in a 3-category via string diagrams. Informal seminar of the "Higher Structures and Aplications" research group, Instituto Superior Técnico.
September – December 2020	String diagrams for 4-categories and fibrations of mapping 4-groupoids. Series of 4 talks at Instituto Superior Técnico.
November 6, 2019	Coherence for 3-dualizable objects, Mini-meeting on Higher Structures and Applications, Instituto Superior Técnico.
October 23, 2019	Topological Field Theory in dimension 3, TQFT Seminar, Instituto Superior Técnico.
October 23, 2018	Using the cobordism hypothesis to find presentations of bordism categories, Algebra and Mathematical Physics Research Seminar, University of Hamburg
July 10, 2015	Fusion categories and 3-dimensional topological field theories, Young Topologists' Meeting, EPFL
June 20, 2013	Symplectic embeddings into CP∞, Seminário Geometria em Lisboa (IST Geometry Seminar).

Research Visits	
April 2016	I spent a month at Stanford University, visiting Christopher Douglas.
May 2015	One month stay at the Trimester program on "Homotopy theory, manifolds, and field theories", Hausdorff Institute for Mathematics, Bonn.
April 2014	One month stay at the MSRI scientific program on Algebraic Topology, Berkeley, California.
Conferences and Summer Schools	
September 2022	"Physics from the Point of View of Geometry" workshop, University of Oxford.
September 2022	2022 Clay Research Conference, University of Oxford.
September 2022	Yorkshire and Midlands Category Theory Seminar, University of Cambridge.
June 2022	Barcelona Conference on Higher Structures, University of Barcelona.
November 2019	Mini-meeting on Higher Structures and Applications, Instituto Superior Técnico, Lisbon.
August 2018	Higher algebra and mathematical physics, Max Planck Institute for Mathematics, Bonn
July 2018	Higher structures in homotopy theory. Isaac Newton Institute, Cambridge.
February 2018	Workshop on Factorisation Algebras and Homology and the Cobordism Hypothesis, Saint-Etienne de Tinée.
July 2016	Young Topologists' Meeting, Copenhagen
June 2016	Topology of manifolds conference, Lisbon
June 2016	European Talbot Workshop on Topological aspects of quantum field theories, Winterberg
July 2015	Young Topologists' Meeting, EPFL
June 2015	Early Career Stage Topologists at Imperial College, Imperial College London
January 2015	"Symmetry and Topology in Quantum Matter" workshop, Institute for Pure and Applied Mathematics, UCLA.
October 2014	Masterclass on Topological quantum field theories, quantum groups and 3-manifold invariants (University of Copenhagen).
June 2014	Young Topology Meeting UK, Imperial College London
April 2014	"Reimagining the Foundations of Algebraic Topology" conference, at MSRI.
Teaching Experience	
Trinity 2016 (Apr - Jun)	Tutor for the Part A course "Topology and groups". Exeter College, University of Oxford.
Trinity 2016 (Apr - Jun)	Tutor for the Part A course "Topology". Exeter College, University of Oxford.
Michaelmas 2015 (Oct - Dec)	Tutor for the Part A course "Topology". Exeter College, University of Oxford.
Hilary 2015 (Jan - March)	Tutor for the Part A course "Topology and groups". Exeter College, University of Oxford.
Michaelmas 2014 (Oct - Dec)	Tutor for the Part A course "Topology". Exeter College, University of Oxford.
Hilary 2014 (Jan - March)	Teaching Assistant for the Part C course "Homological Algebra". Mathematical Institute, University of Oxford.
Michaelmas 2013 (Oct - Dec)	Teaching Assistant for the Part C course "Lie Algebras". Mathematical Institute, University of Oxford.