Michael Zurel

Personal email: mzurel@protonmail.com
UBC email: mzurel@phas.ubc.ca
Website: mzurel.github.io

Education

- **PhD (in progress)** — University of British Columbia
  Physics (Quantum information and computation) — September, 2020 – Present
  - Supervisors: Dr. Robert Raussendorf and Dr. William G. Unruh
  - Affiliations: University of British Columbia (Physics) & Stewart Blusson Quantum Matter Institute
  - Expected completion: August, 2024
- **MSc** — University of British Columbia
  Physics (Quantum information and computation) — September, 2019 – November, 2020
  - Supervisor: Dr. Robert Raussendorf
  - Thesis: Hidden variable models and classical simulation algorithms for quantum computation with magic states on qubits
- **BSc** — University of British Columbia
  Combined honours in Physics and Mathematics — September, 2014 – May, 2019
  - Honours thesis: Contextuality and Simulating Quantum Computation with Magic States

Experience

- **Research assistant** — Vancouver, Canada
  Department of Physics & Astronomy, University of British Columbia — September, 2018 – Present
- **Teaching assistant** — Vancouver, Canada
  Department of Physics & Astronomy, University of British Columbia — September, 2019 – Present
- **Research assistant** — St. John's, Canada
  Department of Geography, Memorial University — May, 2017 – August, 2018

Publications & preprints

[1] **MZ**, Lawrence Z. Cohen, and Robert Raussendorf. "Simulation of quantum computation with magic states via Jordan-Wigner transformations". 2023. arXiv: 2307.16034.

[2] **MZ**, Cihan Okay, and Robert Raussendorf. "Simulating quantum computation with magic states: how many 'bits' for 'it'?" 2023. arXiv: 2305.17287.

[3] Robert Raussendorf, Cihan Okay, **MZ**, and Polina Feldmann. "The role of cohomology in quantum computation with magic states". In: *Quantum* 9 (2023), p. 979. DOI: 10.22331/q-2023-04-13-979. arXiv: 2110.11631.

[4] **MZ**, Cihan Okay, Robert Raussendorf, and Arne Heimendahl. "Hidden variable model for quantum computation with magic states on qudits of any dimension". 2021. arXiv: 2110.12318.

[5] Cihan Okay, **MZ**, and Robert Raussendorf. "On the extremal points of the Λ-polytopes and classical simulation of quantum computation with magic states". In: *Quantum Information & Computation* 21.13&14 (2021). DOI: 10.26421/QIC21.13-14-2. arXiv: 2104.05822.

[6] **MZ**. "Hidden variable models and classical simulation algorithms for quantum computation with magic states on qubits". MSc thesis. University of British Columbia, 2020. DOI: 10.14288/1.0394790.

[7] **MZ**, Cihan Okay, and Robert Raussendorf. "Hidden Variable Model for Universal Quantum Computation with Magic States on Qubits". In: *Physical Review Letters* 125.26 (2020), p. 260404. DOI: 10.1103/PhysRevLett.125.260404. arXiv: 2004.01992.

[8] Robert Raussendorf, Juani Bermejo-Vega, Emily Tyhurst, Cihan Okay, and **MZ**. "Phase-space-simulation method for quantum computation with magic states on qubits". In: *Physical Review A* 101.1 (2020), p. 012350. DOI: 10.1103/PhysRevA.101.012350. arXiv: 1905.05374.

For PDFs see mzurel.github.io; for citation data see Google Scholar.

Patents

Patent Application US20230206102A1; EP4128083A1; WO2021195783A1 Status: Pending

- *Method of simulating a quantum computation, system for simulating a quantum computation, method for issuing a computational key, system for issuing a computational key*

Software

- BinarySymplectic.jl — Tools for working with symplectic vector spaces and symplectic groups over $\mathbb{Z}_2$.
- RandomQM.jl — Julia functions for generating random quantum states and random quantum channels
- RandomStabilizers.jl — Julia code for generating random stabilizer states and random symplectic group elements based on the "SYMPLECTICImproved" algorithm of J. Math. Phys. **55** 122202 (2014).
- NetworkViz — Data visualization web app for input-output data, census data, and other socio-economic data in Newfoundland and Labrador. Written in R.

Code available on GitHub: github.com/mzurel

Conference talks and seminars

- Southwest Quantum Information and Technology (SQuInT) Workshop, October 2023 30 minute talk
  Simulating quantum computation: how many "bits" for "it"?
- QLOC Group Seminar @ Iberian Nanotechnology Laboratory, September 2023 60 minute talk
  A hierarchy of classical simulation algorithms for quantum computation
- Quantum Physics and Logic (QPL), July 2023 (presented by a co-author) 30 minute talk
  Simulation of quantum computation with magic states via Jordan-Wigner transformations
- Coogee 2023 Workshop, February 2023 60 minute talk
  No-go theorems for discrete Wigner functions and alternative quasiprobability representations for quantum computation with magic states
- Shealf talks (Samson Abramsky group seminar @ University of Oxford), December 2022 60 minute talk
  The role of cohomology in quantum computation with magic states
- "FoQaCiA" collaboration kick-off meeting, November 2022 60 minute talk
  Λ *polytopes and classical simulation of quantum computation with magic states*
- Theory of Quantum Computation, Communication, and Cryptography (TQC), July 2022 25 minute talk
  Hidden Variable Model for Quantum Computation with Magic States on Qudits of Any Dimension
- David Gross group seminar @ University of Cologne, July 2022 60 minute talk
  Quasiprobability representations for quantum computation with magic states
- Quantum Physics and Logic (QPL), June 2022 10 minute talk
  Hidden Variable Model for Quantum Computation with Magic States on Qudits of Any Dimension
- Bilkent University Math Grad Seminar, June 2022 60 minute talk
  Polytopes in quantum computation and quantum information
- Algebraic Structures in Quantum Computation V (ASQC5), June 2022 45 minute talk
  Hidden variable models for quantum computation with magic states
- UBC Institute of Applied Mathematics Grad Seminar, June 2022 60 minute talk
  Polytopes in quantum computation and quantum information
- Internal talk for QuEra Computing Inc. software/algorithms team, April 2022 45 minute talk
  Classical simulation of quantum computation with magic states
- Theory of Quantum Computation, Communication, and Cryptography (TQC), July 2021 30 minute talk
  Hidden variable model for universal quantum computation with magic states on qubits

- Quantum Physics and Logic (QPL), June, 2021 — 30 minute talk
  Hidden variable model for universal quantum computation with magic states on qubits
- Algebraic Structures in Quantum Computation IV (ASQC4), June, 2020 — 60 minute talk
  Hidden variable model for universal quantum computation with magic states on qubits
- Quantum Physics and Logic (QPL), June 2019 — 25 minute talk
  Phase-space-simulation method for quantum computation with magic states on qubits

For slides, videos, etc., see mzurel.github.io/talks

Poster presentations

- Quantum Information Processing (QIP), January 2024
  Simulation of quantum computation with magic states via Jordan-Wigner transformations
- Quantum Information Processing (QIP), January 2024
  Simulating quantum computation: how many "bits" for "it"?
- Southwest Quantum Information and Technology (SQuInT) Workshop, October 2023
  Simulation of quantum computation with magic states via Jordan-Wigner transformations
- Quantum Physics and Logic (QPL), July 2023
  Simulating quantum computation with magic states: how many "bits" for "it"?
- Max Planck - UBC - UTokyo Centre for Quantum Materials Annual Meeting, September 2022
  Hidden variable model for quantum computation with magic states on qudits of any dimension
- Max Planck - UBC - UTokyo Centre for Quantum Materials Annual Meeting, September 2022
  The role of cohomology in quantum computation with magic states
- Theory of Quantum Computation, Communication, and Cryptography (TQC), July 2022
  The role of cohomology in quantum computation with magic states
- Quantum Information Processing (QIP), March 2022
  Hidden Variable Model for Quantum Computation with Magic States on Any Number of Qudits of Any Dimension
- Quantum Information Processing (QIP), March, 2021
  Hidden variable model for universal quantum computation with magic states on qubits
- Southwest Quantum Information and Technology (SQuInT), February 2020
  Phase-space-simulation method for quantum computation with magic states on qubits

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Workshop & summer school organization

- Summer School on the Foundations of Quantum Computational Advantage July, 2023 (postponed to 2024)
  Bilkent University, Ankara, Turkey — Project mentor
- Algebraic Structures in Quantum Computation V (ASQC5) — June, 2022
  University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada — Co-organizer
- Cornerstone Models of Quantum Computing Summer School — August, 2021
  TRIUMF, Vancouver, Canada — Teaching assistant for MBQC section
- Cornerstone Models of Quantum Computing Summer School — August, 2020
  TRIUMF, Vancouver, Canada — Teaching assistant for MBQC section

Awards

- CGS - Michael Smith Foreign Study Supplement (NSERC CGS-MSFSS) 2023
- Alexander Graham Bell Canada Graduate Scholarship (NSERC CGS-D) 2021 – 2024
- UBC Four Year Doctoral Fellowship (4YF) 2021 – 2025
- President's Academic Excellence Initiative PhD Award 2020 – 2024
- UBC Faculty of Science PhD Tuition Award 2020 – 2024

Peer review

Referee for the following journals:

- Physical Review Letters
- PRX Quantum
- Physical Review A
- Quantum Journal
- Journal of Physics A: Mathematical and Theoretical

Referee for the following conferences:

- Quantum Information Processing (QIP)

Technical Skills

- Programming languages: Python, Julia, Matlab, R, SQL
- Technologies: Linux, Latex, Git, AWS, MariaDB

Teaching experience

- Teaching assistant: Computational Physics September, 2023 – December, 2023
- Teaching assistant: Frontiers in Physics September, 2023 – December, 2023
- Teaching assistant: Introduction to Quantum Mechanics January, 2022 – April, 2022
- Teaching assistant: Electricity and Magnetism September, 2021 – December, 2021
- Teaching assistant: Electricity and Magnetism September, 2020 – December, 2020
- Teaching assistant: Enriched Physics I September, 2020 – December, 2020
- Teaching assistant: Introductory Physics for Engineers II January, 2020 – April, 2020
- Teaching assistant: Introductory Physics September, 2019 – December, 2019

Last updated: December, 2023