

Michelle Ding

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Education

2025– Present	The University of Texas at Austin PhD in Quantum Computing Advised by Scott Aaronson
2021– May 2025	The University of Texas at Austin BS in Computer Science and BS in Mathematics and Business Minor CS Turing Scholars Honors Program

Publications

Jul 15, 2024 George Tsoukalas, Jasper Lee, John Jennings, Jimmy Xin, MD, Michael Jennings, Amitayush Thakur, Swarat Chaudhuri. **PutnamBench: Evaluating Neural Theorem-Provers on the Putnam Mathematical Competition** <https://arxiv.org/pdf/2407.11214>.

Research

May 2024 - Oct 2024	Research Assistant for the Trishul Lab at UT Austin. Developed benchmarks for testing Neural Theorem-Provers on the Putnam Mathematical Competition. Won Best Paper at the ICML 2024 AI for Math Workshop. NeurIPS 2024.
Jun 2024 - Aug 2024	Research and Development Intern for Trend Micro at Austin, TX. Created structured output logging for internal weekly test automation framework. Relevant tools: Python, MySQL, Docker, Jira, Azure Data Studio.
Nov 2023 - Feb 2024	Research Assistant for the IFML Lab at UT Austin. Experimented with LLMs, vector databases, and chatbot RAG algorithms to enhance the accuracy and reliability of generative AI models for identifying NeurIPS papers. Manuscript.
May 2023- Aug 2023	Research Assistant for the Spectral guarantees for adversarial streaming PCA . Eric Price. Spent a summer researching a manuscript for k -spectral guarantees, with the goal to extend the current paper's argument beyond the top k eigenvalues.
Jun 2022 Dec 2022	Research Assistant for the UToPiA Lab at UT Austin. Isil Dillig. Created a GUI for batch image processing using program synthesis. Relevant tools: Flask, Python, openCV, Amazon Rekognition Software.
Jun 2022 Jul 2022	Research Assistant at the J.J. Pickle Quantum Optics Laboratory at Austin, TX. Noah Davis. Used class 3B Laser systems to replicate state tomography and Bell's Inequality experiments. Poster.

Teaching

<i>Fall 2025</i>	Teaching Assistant for Introduction to Quantum Information Science: Honors at UT Austin. Scott Aaronson. Undergraduate course.
<i>2023</i>	Teaching Assistant for Quantum Computing Freshman Research Initiative at UT Austin. Noah Davis. Two-semester course. Led daily in-class activities for a third of the students in the class, hosted office hours, and graded exams, homework, and daily exercises.
<i>Fall 2022</i>	Teaching Assistant for Discrete Mathematics: Honors at UT Austin. Isil Dillig. Led discussion sessions, hosted office hours, and graded exams and homework.

Scholarships, Grants & Fellowships

<i>Aug 2025</i>	McKinley Strahan Graduate Fellowship in Computer Science
<i>Apr 2025</i>	Undergraduate Research Forum Best Poster Award - \$500
<i>Aug 2024</i>	Leonard E. Huber Endowed Scholarship - \$3,000
<i>Apr 2022</i>	Freshman Research Initiative Summer Fellowship - \$2,000
<i>Aug 2021</i>	Ada Mae Janick Marshall Endowed Presidential Scholarship - \$3,500
<i>2020</i>	National Office of Mu Alpha Theta Summer Grant - \$2,000

Awards & Honors

<i>Mar 2023 - Present</i>	Officer / Core Problem Writer for UT Programming Contest (UTPC) at UT Austin. Initiate and implemented written problem editorials which are now publicly available after every contest on Codeforces and Discord. Additionally: write problems for biweekly contests and annual UT Open contest held on the Codeforces platform.
<i>Mar 2023 - Aug 2024</i>	Vice President for the Mathematics Club at UT Austin. Obtained for all students access to free MAA weekly journals sponsored by the Math Department, revived the discontinued tradition of hosting Putnam practice sessions on campus, and created and maintained the club's official website. Additionally: recruit speakers and organize events.
<i>2020, 2021</i>	Two-time AIME Qualifier at John Foster Dulles High School.
<i>Mar 2020</i>	1 st Place Winner of the American Protégé International Music Talent Competition.

Skills and Certifications

<i>2024</i>	Editor for the upcoming book <i>Integrals and Sums Fiesta II</i> .
<i>2023</i>	CPR/AED certified, expires Jun 2025.
<i>2020</i>	US Figure Skating, Silver Level.

2018-2020 Assistant Coach for **Skate Therapy**, Sugar Land, TX.
Last update: October 2025