

# Ruslan Shaydulin

E-mail: [rshaydu@g.clemson.edu](mailto:rshaydu@g.clemson.edu)

GitHub: <https://github.com/rsln-s>

Web: [shaydul.in](http://shaydul.in)

Google Scholar: <https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=PxOuGGcAAAAJ>

---

## Profile

An expert in quantum information science. My research focuses on applying quantum computers to problems in optimization and machine learning. I have extensive experience in all aspects of designing and implementing quantum and hybrid quantum-classical algorithms from theoretical analysis to error mitigation.

---

## Work Experience

**Maria Goeppert Mayer fellow – Argonne Scholar, Argonne National Laboratory** **Fall 2020 - Present**

- Working on quantum optimization and quantum machine learning with focus on DOE applications
- Recipient of prestigious and selective postdoctoral fellowship ([< 5 awarded annually](#))

**Research Intern, IBM Research – Quantum** **Summer 2020**

- Developed and implemented a novel approach for Clifford circuit optimization in collaboration with Sergey Bravyi, Dmitri Maslov and Shaohan Hu ([arXiv:2105.02291](https://arxiv.org/abs/2105.02291))
- Selected as one of four interns to be [highlighted in a promotional video](#) on the basis of performance

**Intern, Quantum Artificial Intelligence Lab (QuAIL)** **Spring 2020**

**NASA Ames Research Center (KBR)**

- Developed novel analysis connecting the symmetries in problem instance structure to the performance of Quantum Approximate Optimization Algorithm in collaboration with Stuart Hadfield and Tad Hogg ([arXiv:2012.04713](https://arxiv.org/abs/2012.04713))
- Performed extensive numerical simulations using HPC resources

**Research Aide, Argonne National Laboratory** **Summer 2018, 2019**

- Developed quantum-accelerated frameworks for network community detection and graph partitioning under the supervision of Yuri Alexeev
  - Co-authored 6 papers on quantum optimization and machine learning (5 first author)
  - Contributed to multiple proposals
- 

## Education

**Clemson University, SC** **Summer 2020**

PhD in Computer Science, advisor: Ilya Safro

**Master of Science in Computer Science en route to PhD** **Fall 2019**

Research in algorithms, high performance computing, big data analysis and quantum computing

Relevant coursework: Design & Analysis of Algorithms, Data Mining, Distributed & Cluster Computing, Parallel Architecture, Network Science

**Moscow Institute of Physics and Technology** **Summer 2016**

Department of Control and Applied Math,

**Bachelor of Science in Applied Mathematics and Physics**

Minor: Computer Science and Data Analysis

## Peer-reviewed Publications

Xiaoyuan Liu, Anthony Angone, **Ruslan Shaydulin**, Ilya Safro, Yuri Alexeev, Lukasz Cincio. Layer VQE: A Variational Approach for Combinatorial Optimization on Noisy Quantum Computers. *In IEEE Transactions on Quantum Engineering*. DOI: [10.1109/TQE.2021.3140190](https://doi.org/10.1109/TQE.2021.3140190)

Sergey Bravyi, **Ruslan Shaydulin**, Shaohan Hu, Dmitri Maslov. Clifford Circuit Optimization with Templates and Symbolic Pauli Gates. *Quantum* 5, 580, 2021. DOI: [10.22331/q-2021-11-16-580](https://doi.org/10.22331/q-2021-11-16-580)

**Ruslan Shaydulin**, Stuart Hadfield, Tad Hogg, Ilya Safro. Classical symmetries and the Quantum Approximate Optimization Algorithm. *Quantum Inf Process* 20, 359, 2021. DOI: [10.1007/s1128-021-03298-4](https://doi.org/10.1007/s1128-021-03298-4)

**Ruslan Shaydulin**, Kunal Marwaha, Jonathan Wurtz, Phillip C. Lotshaw. QAOAKit: A Toolkit for Reproducible Study, Application, and Verification of the QAOA. In *Proceedings of the 2nd International Workshop on Quantum Computing Software (in conjunction with Supercomputing '21)*, 2021. DOI: [10.1109/QCS54837.2021.00011](https://doi.org/10.1109/QCS54837.2021.00011)

**Ruslan Shaydulin**, Alexey Galda. Error Mitigation for Deep Quantum Optimization Circuits by Leveraging Problem Symmetries. 2021 *IEEE International Conference on Quantum Computing and Engineering (QCE)*, 2021. DOI: [10.1109/QCE52317.2021.00046](https://doi.org/10.1109/QCE52317.2021.00046)

**Ruslan Shaydulin**, Stefan M. Wild. Exploiting Symmetry Reduces the Cost of Training QAOA. *IEEE Transactions on Quantum Engineering*, 2021 DOI: [10.1109/TQE.2021.3066275](https://doi.org/10.1109/TQE.2021.3066275)

Zirou Qiu, **Ruslan Shaydulin**, Xiaoyuan Liu, Yuri Alexeev, Christopher S. Henry, Ilya Safro. ELRUNA: Elimination Rule-based Network Alignment. *ACM Journal of Experimental Algorithmics*, 2021. DOI: [10.1145/3450703](https://doi.org/10.1145/3450703)

Hayato Ushijima-Mwesigwa\*, **Ruslan Shaydulin**\*, Christian F. A. Negre, Susan Mniszewski, Yuri Alexeev, Ilya Safro. Multilevel Combinatorial Optimization Across Quantum Architectures. *ACM Transactions on Quantum Computing*, 2020. DOI: [10.1145/3425607](https://doi.org/10.1145/3425607)

Justin Sybrandt, **Ruslan Shaydulin**, Ilya Safro. Hypergraph Partitioning With Embeddings. *In IEEE Transactions on Knowledge and Data Engineering*, 2020. DOI: [10.1109/TKDE.2020.3017120](https://doi.org/10.1109/TKDE.2020.3017120)

**Ruslan Shaydulin**, Caleb Thomas, Paige Rodeghero. Making Quantum Computing Open: Lessons from Open-Source Projects. In *Proceedings of First International Workshop on Quantum Software Engineering (Q-SE 2020)* (co-located with ICSEW 2020). DOI: [10.1145/3387940.3391471](https://doi.org/10.1145/3387940.3391471)

Sami Khairy, **Ruslan Shaydulin**, Lukasz Cincio, Yuri Alexeev, Prasanna Balaprakash. Learning to Optimize Variational Quantum Circuits to Solve Combinatorial Problems. In *Proceedings of Thirty-Fourth AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence (AAAI-20)*, 2020. **Acceptance rate: 20.6%**  
DOI: [10.1609/aaai.v34i03.5616](https://doi.org/10.1609/aaai.v34i03.5616)

---

\* Co-first author

Sami Khairy, **Ruslan Shaydulin**, Lukasz Cincio, Yuri Alexeev, Prasanna Balaprakash. Reinforcement-Learning-Based Variational Quantum Circuits Optimization for Combinatorial Problems. In *Proceedings of the Machine Learning and the Physical Sciences workshop at Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS 2019)*, 2019. ([link](#)) Preprint: [arXiv:1911.04574](https://arxiv.org/abs/1911.04574)

**Ruslan Shaydulin**, Yuri Alexeev. Evaluating Quantum Approximate Optimization Algorithm: A Case Study. In *Proceedings of the 2nd International Workshop on Quantum Computing for Sustainable Computing (QCSC 2019) (in conjunction with 10th International Green and Sustainable Computing Conference (IGSC 2019))*, 2019 DOI: [10.1109/IGSC48788.2019.8957201](https://doi.org/10.1109/IGSC48788.2019.8957201)

Sami Khairy, **Ruslan Shaydulin**, Lukasz Cincio, Yuri Alexeev, Prasanna Balaprakash. Reinforcement Learning for Quantum Approximate Optimization. *Research Poster, Supercomputing '19*, 2019 ([available in Proceedings](#))

**Ruslan Shaydulin**, Ilya Safro, and Jeffrey Larson. Multistart Methods for Quantum Approximate Optimization. In *Proceedings of 2019 IEEE High Performance Extreme Computing Conference (HPEC)*, 2019 **Best Student Paper** (of ~50 student papers). DOI: [10.1109/HPEC.2019.8916288](https://doi.org/10.1109/HPEC.2019.8916288)

**Ruslan Shaydulin**, Hayato Ushijima-Mwesigwa, Christian F.A. Negre, Ilya Safro, Susan M Mniszewski, and Yuri Alexeev. A Hybrid Approach for Solving Optimization Problems on Small Quantum Computers. *Computer*, 52(6):18-26, 2019. **Cover Feature**. DOI: [10.1109/MC.2019.2908942](https://doi.org/10.1109/MC.2019.2908942)

**Ruslan Shaydulin**, Hayato Ushijima-Mwesigwa, Ilya Safro, Susan Mniszewski, and Yuri Alexeev. Network Community Detection on Small Quantum Computers. *Advanced Quantum Technologies*, 2(9):1900029, 2019. DOI: [10.1002/qute.201900029](https://doi.org/10.1002/qute.201900029)

**Ruslan Shaydulin**, Hayato Ushijima-Mwesigwa, Ilya Safro, Susan Mniszewski, and Yuri Alexeev. Community Detection Across Emerging Quantum Architectures. In *Proceedings of the 3rd International Workshop on Post Moore's Era Supercomputing (in conjunction with Supercomputing '18)*, 12-14, 2018. Preprint [arXiv:1810.07765](https://arxiv.org/abs/1810.07765)

**Ruslan Shaydulin** and Ilya Safro. Aggregative Coarsening for Multilevel Hypergraph Partitioning. In *Proceedings of 17th International Symposium on Experimental Algorithms (SEA 2018)*, 103:2:1-2:15, 2018. DOI: [10.4230/LIPIcs.SEA.2018.2](https://doi.org/10.4230/LIPIcs.SEA.2018.2)

**Ruslan Shaydulin**, Jie Chen, and Ilya Safro. Relaxation-Based Coarsening for Multilevel Hypergraph Partitioning. *Multiscale Modeling & Simulation*, 17(1):482-506, 2019. DOI: [10.1137/17M1152735](https://doi.org/10.1137/17M1152735)

---

## Invited Articles and White Papers

**Ruslan Shaydulin**, Martin Suchara and Jeffrey Larson. Standardized low-level noise characterization to differentiate DOE quantum testbeds. *Quantum Computing Testbeds Stakeholder Workshop White Paper*, 2021

Yuri Alexeev, Jeffrey Larson, Sven Leyffer, and **Ruslan Shaydulin**. Solving Combinatorial Optimization Problems on Quantum Computers. In *SIAM News Vol. 53 #6 July/August 2020*

---

## Online Preprints and In-Submission Works

Ruslan Shaydulin\*, Phillip C. Lotshaw\*, Jeffrey Larson, James Ostrowski, Travis S. Humble. Parameter Transfer for Quantum Approximate Optimization of Weighted MaxCut. *In submission*.

Preprint: [arXiv:2201.11785](https://arxiv.org/abs/2201.11785)

Ruslan Shaydulin, Stefan Wild. Importance of Kernel Bandwidth in Quantum Machine Learning. *In submission*.

Preprint: [arXiv:2111.05451](https://arxiv.org/abs/2111.05451)

Ruslan Shaydulin, Justin Sybrandt. To Agile, or not to Agile: A Comparison of Software Development Methodologies.

Preprint: [arXiv:1704.07469](https://arxiv.org/abs/1704.07469)

---

## Contributed Talks and Posters

**American Physical Society March Meeting '22** *Chicago, IL*

**Mar 17, 2022**

Gave talk "Importance of Kernel Bandwidth in Quantum Machine Learning."

**Quantum Information Processing '22** *Pasadena, CA*

**Mar 8, 2022**

Presented poster "Importance of Kernel Bandwidth in Quantum Machine Learning."

**DOE Quantum Computing Testbeds Stakeholder Workshop**

**Dec 2, 2021**

Gave talk "Standardized Low-Level Noise Characterization to Differentiate DOE Quantum Testbeds"

**Supercomputing '21 (International Workshop on Quantum Computing Software)**

**Nov 15, 2021**

Gave talk "QAOAKit: A Toolkit for Reproducible Study, Application, and Verification of the QAOA"

**IEEE Quantum Week 2021**

**Oct 17-22, 2021**

Gave talks "Classical Symmetries and QAOA" and "Error Mitigation for Deep Quantum Optimization Circuits by Leveraging Problem Symmetries"

**QIC seminar** *University of Delaware*

**Sep 29, 2021**

Gave talk "Towards Practical Advantage in Quantum Optimization"

**SIAM Conference on Optimization (OP21)**

**Jul 21, 2021**

Gave a talk "[Classical Symmetries and QAOA](#)"

**Quantum Computing Tutorial** *Argonne National Laboratory*

**Jun 16, 2021**

Led a tutorial on Quantum Approximate Optimization Algorithm.

**HPC-AI colloquium** *Intel*

**Jun 8, 2021**

Gave talk "Towards Practical Advantage in Quantum Optimization"

**CM/QIS seminar** *Virginia Tech*

**Apr 19, 2021**

Gave talk "Classical Symmetries and QAOA"

**Chicago Quantum Exchange Member and Partner Workshop**

**Apr 19, 2021**

Gave talk "Quantum Optimization: the Next Five Years"

<b>Sixth International Conference for Young Quantum Information Scientists (YQIS 2021)</b> Gave talk "Classical Symmetries and QAOA"	<b>Apr 12, 2021</b>
<b>LANS Seminar</b> <i>Argonne National Laboratory</i> Gave talk "Classical Symmetries and QAOA"	<b>Mar 24, 2021</b>
<b>APS March Meeting</b> Gave talk "Classical Symmetries and QAOA"	<b>Mar 17, 2021</b>
<b>INFORMS Annual Meeting</b> Gave talk "Classical Symmetries and the Quantum Approximate Optimization Algorithm"	<b>Nov 13, 2020</b>
<b>Quantum Computing Seminar</b> <i>IBM Research</i> Gave talk "Practical Optimization on Near-term Quantum Computers"	<b>Sep 24, 2020</b>
<b>Quantum Computing Tutorial</b> <i>Argonne National Laboratory</i> Led <a href="#">a tutorial on Quantum Approximate Optimization Algorithm</a> .	<b>Jun 15, 2020</b>
<b>SIAM Conference on Parallel Processing for Scientific Computing (PP20)</b> <i>Seattle, WA</i> Gave talk "Multilevel Hybrid Quantum-Classical Algorithms on Graphs"	<b>Feb 13, 2020</b>
<b>Information Science and Technology Institute Seminar</b> <i>Los Alamos National Laboratory</i> Gave talk "Practical Optimization on Near-term Quantum Computers"	<b>Nov 26, 2019</b>
<b>Supercomputing '19</b> <i>Denver, CO</i> Gave talk "Hybrid Quantum-Classical Algorithms for Graph Problems: Forging a Path to Near-Term Applications" at the <a href="#">Clemson booth</a> and at the <a href="#">SC Theater</a>	<b>Nov 17-22, 2019</b>
<b>Mathematics and Computer Science Seminar</b> <i>Argonne National Laboratory</i> Gave talk "Practical Optimization on Near-term Quantum Computers"	<b>Nov 15, 2019</b>
<b>Quantum Computing Seminar</b> <i>Oak Ridge National Laboratory</i> Gave talk "Practical Optimization on Near-term Quantum Computers"	<b>Nov 4, 2019</b>
<b>International Green and Sustainable Computing Conference (IGSC 2019)</b> <i>Alexandria, VA</i> Presented poster "Reinforcement Learning for Quantum Approximate Optimization"	<b>Oct 22, 2019</b>
<b>Chicago Quantum Exchange Meeting</b> <i>University of Chicago</i> Presented poster "Practical Quantum Approximate Optimization"	<b>June 12, 2019</b>
<b>SIAM Conference on Computational Science and Engineering (CSE19)</b> <i>Spokane, WA</i> Presented poster " <a href="#">Quantum Local Search for Graph Community Detection</a> "	<b>Feb 25-28, 2019</b>
<b>Quantum Computing Tutorial</b> <i>Argonne National Laboratory</i> Gave talk " <a href="#">QAOA Algorithm Introduction</a> "	<b>Dec 10-11, 2018</b>

**Supercomputing '18** *Dallas, TX***Nov 11-16, 2018**

Gave talk "Community Detection Across Emerging Quantum Architectures" at Clemson booth

**Quantum Computing Workshop** *Argonne National Laboratory***Jul 25-27, 2018**

Presented preliminary results on "[Machine Learning on Near-Term Quantum Computers](#)"

**32nd Clemson Mini-Conference on Discrete Mathematics and Algorithms** *Clemson University***Nov 4, 2017**

Presented poster "Relaxation-Based Coarsening for Multilevel Hypergraph Partitioning"

**58th Scientific Conference** *Moscow Institute of Physics and Technology***Nov 23-28, 2015**

Gave talk "IPC (Inter-Process Communication) in OS X"

---

## Leadership and Service

**Requested Reviewer (peer review)**

- Springer Quantum Information Processing (2022)
- [Quantum](#) journal (2020, 2021)
- npj Quantum Information (2020)
- IEEE Transactions on Computers (2020)
- IEEE Transactions on Quantum Engineering (2020, 2021, 2022)
- IOP New Journal of Physics (2021)
- ACM Journal of Experimental Algorithmics (2021)

**Program Committee Member**

- IEEE International Conference on Quantum Computing and Engineering ([QCE21](#), QCE22)
- The Third International Workshop on Quantum Resource Estimation ([QRE 2021](#))

**INFORMS Annual Meeting****Oct 25, 2021**

Led and co-organized a tutorial "Combinatorial Optimization on Quantum Computers" and a workshop "The Future of Quantum Optimization"

**IEEE Quantum Week 2021****Oct 19, 2021**

Session chair

**Afro-Academic, Cultural, Technological and Scientific Olympics (ACT-SO)****2021-22**

Mentored a high-school student

**SIAM Conference on Optimization (OP21)****Jul 20-23, 2021**

Co-organized a minisymposium "[Quantum Discrete Optimization](#)"

**Chicago Quantum Exchange****Apr 16, 2021**

Co-organized a workshop "[Quantum Feature Maps for the NISQ Era](#)"

**IEEE Quantum Week****Oct 15, 2020**

Led and co-organized a minitutorial "[Combinatorial Optimization on Quantum Computers](#)"

**SIAM Conference on Parallel Processing for Scientific Computing (PP20)** *Seattle, WA*

**Feb 12-15, 2020**

Led and co-organized a minitutorial "[Combinatorial Optimization on Quantum Computers](#)"

**SIAM Conference on Parallel Processing for Scientific Computing (PP20)** *Seattle, WA*

**Feb 12-15, 2020**

Co-organized a minisymposium "Recent Advances and Trends in Hybrid Quantum-Classical Algorithms"

**Supercomputing '19** *Denver, CO*

**Nov 17-22, 2019**

Student volunteer, run tutorials, technical program session and Birds-of-Feather

**Quantum Computing Tutorial** *Argonne National Laboratory*

**May 14, 2019**

Led and co-organized a [hands-on tutorial for Qiskit, a framework for quantum computing](#)

**Mathematics Teacher, Summer School** *Kostroma, Russia*

**Summer 2014**

School administrator, organized extracurricular activities.

---

## Teaching

**Network Science CPSC 8480** *Clemson University*

**Fall 2018, 2019**

Teaching Assistant responsible for grading and answering students' questions during office hours

**Design and Analysis of Algorithms CPSC 8400** *Clemson University*

**Spring 2019**

Teaching Assistant responsible for grading and answering students' questions during office hours

**Algorithms and Data Structures CPSC 2120** *Clemson University*

**Spring 2019**

Teaching Assistant responsible for running the lab section, grading and answering students' questions during office hours

**Mathematics Teacher, Summer School** *Kostroma, Russia*

**Summer 2014**

Created and taught a course on basics of graph theory, combinatorics and number theory to middle and high school students.

---

## Languages and Technologies

Python, C

Prior experience: C++, MATLAB, Objective-C, Swift, Bash, Qiskit

Limited prior experience: R, SQL, yacc, bison, AWS, Google Cloud Engine

Technologies and tools: UNIX/Linux, MPI, OpenMP

---

## Honors and Awards

- Outstanding Young Engineer Award for the year 2021, awarded by IEEE Chicago Section
- Best Student Paper at IEEE HPEC 2019 (of ~50 student papers), *recipient*
- IBM Teach-the-Qiskit-Teacher training program, *selected to represent Argonne National Laboratory*
- Moscow Institute of Physics and Technology Abramov scholarship - Top 300 students in the university, based on high academic achievement, *recipients*