

# Ruslan Shaydulin

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

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## 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.

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## Work Experience

### **Vice President, Applied Research Lead, JPMorgan Chase & Co.**

**Spring 2022 - Present**

- Quantum algorithms researcher at the Global Technology Applied Research center

### **Maria Goeppert Mayer fellow – Argonne Scholar, Argonne National Laboratory**

**Fall 2020 - Spring 2022**

- 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), patent application [US20220129411A1](https://patents.google.com/patent/US20220129411A1))
- 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
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## 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

Kaiyan Shi, Rebekah Herrman, **Ruslan Shaydulin**, Shouvanik Chakrabarti, Marco Pistoia, Jeffrey Larson. Multi-Angle QAOA Does Not Always Need All Its Angles. *ACM/IEEE Workshop on Quantum Computing (in conjunction with The Seventh ACM/IEEE Symposium on Edge Computing) (to appear)*. Preprint: [arXiv:2209.11839](https://arxiv.org/abs/2209.11839)

Pradeep Niroula\*, **Ruslan Shaydulin\***, Romina Yalovetzky\*, Pierre Minssen, Dylan Herman, Shaohan Hu, Marco Pistoia. Constrained Quantum Optimization for Extractive Summarization on a Trapped-ion Quantum Computer. *Scientific Reports* 12, 17171 (2022). DOI: [10.1038/s41598-022-20853-w](https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-022-20853-w)

**Ruslan Shaydulin**, Stefan Wild. Importance of Kernel Bandwidth in Quantum Machine Learning. *Phys. Rev. A* 106, 042407 (2022). DOI: [10.1103/PhysRevA.106.042407](https://doi.org/10.1103/PhysRevA.106.042407)

Xiaoyuan Liu, **Ruslan Shaydulin**, Ilya Safro. Quantum Approximate Optimization Algorithm with Sparsified Phase Operator. 2022 *IEEE International Conference on Quantum Computing and Engineering (QCE)*, 2022  
Preprint: [arXiv:2205.00118](https://arxiv.org/abs/2205.00118)

Ashish Kakkar, Jeffrey Larson, Alexey Galda, **Ruslan Shaydulin**. Characterizing Error Mitigation by Symmetry Verification in QAOA. 2022 *IEEE International Conference on Quantum Computing and Engineering (QCE)*, 2022  
Preprint: [arXiv:2204.05852](https://arxiv.org/abs/2204.05852)

Xiaoyuan Liu, Anthony Angone, **Ruslan Shaydulin**, Ilya Safro, Yuri Alexeev, Lukasz Cincio. Layer VQE: A Variational Approach for Combinatorial Optimization on Noisy Quantum Computers. *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/s11128-021-03298-4](https://doi.org/10.1007/s11128-021-03298-4)

**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)

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)

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## 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*

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## Online Preprints and In-Submission Works

Dylan Herman\*, Ruslan Shaydulin\*, Yue Sun\*, Shouvanik Chakrabarti, Shaohan Hu, Pierre Minssen, Arthur Rattew, Romina Yalovetzky, Marco Pistoia. Portfolio Optimization via Quantum Zeno Dynamics on a Quantum Processor. *In submission*. Preprint: [arXiv:2209.15024](https://arxiv.org/abs/2209.15024)

Abdulkadir Canatar, Evan Peters, Cengiz Pehlevan, Stefan M. Wild, Ruslan Shaydulin. Bandwidth Enables Generalization in Quantum Kernel Models. *In submission*. Preprint: [arXiv:2206.06686](https://arxiv.org/abs/2206.06686)

Alvin Gonzales, Ruslan Shaydulin, Zain Saleem, Martin Suchara. Quantum Error Mitigation by Pauli Check Sandwiching. *In submission*. Preprint: [2206.00215](https://arxiv.org/abs/2206.00215)

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, Justin Sybrandt. To Agile, or not to Agile: A Comparison of Software Development Methodologies. Preprint: [arXiv:1704.07469](https://arxiv.org/abs/1704.07469)

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## Patents

Sergey Bravyi, Shaohan Hu, Dmitri Maslov, Ruslan Shaydulin. Partitioned template matching and symbolic peephole optimization. *Pending*. Patent application [US20220129411A1](https://patents.google.com/patent/US20220129411A1)

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## Contributed Talks and Posters

**INFORMS Annual Meeting '22 Indianapolis, IN**

**Oct 17, 2022**

Gave an invited talk "Portfolio Optimization via Quantum Zeno Dynamics on a Quantum Processor".

**Workshop on Quantum Computing and Operations Research Fields Institute**

**Oct 14, 2022**

Gave an invited talk "[Quantum optimization of financial problems](#)".

<b>Chicago Quantum Exchange Seminar</b> <i>University of Chicago</i> Gave an invited talk "Solving Constrained Optimization Problems on Quantum Computers".	<b>Sep 29, 2022</b>
<b>Quantum Computing Tutorial</b> <i>Argonne National Laboratory</i> Led a tutorial on Quantum Approximate Optimization Algorithm.	<b>Jun 15, 2022</b>
<b>Southeast Quantum Computing Workshop</b> <i>University of Georgia</i> Gave an invited talk "Importance of Kernel Bandwidth in Quantum Machine Learning."	<b>May 20, 2022</b>
<b>American Physical Society March Meeting '22</b> <i>Chicago, IL</i> Gave talk "Importance of Kernel Bandwidth in Quantum Machine Learning."	<b>Mar 17, 2022</b>
<b>Quantum Information Processing '22</b> <i>Pasadena, CA</i> Presented poster "Importance of Kernel Bandwidth in Quantum Machine Learning."	<b>Mar 8, 2022</b>
<b>DOE Quantum Computing Testbeds Stakeholder Workshop</b> Gave talk "Standardized Low-Level Noise Characterization to Differentiate DOE Quantum Testbeds"	<b>Dec 2, 2021</b>
<b>Supercomputing '21 (International Workshop on Quantum Computing Software)</b> Gave talk "QAOAKit: A Toolkit for Reproducible Study, Application, and Verification of the QAOA"	<b>Nov 15, 2021</b>
<b>IEEE Quantum Week 2021</b> Gave talks "Classical Symmetries and QAOA" and "Error Mitigation for Deep Quantum Optimization Circuits by Leveraging Problem Symmetries"	<b>Oct 17-22, 2021</b>
<b>QIC seminar</b> <i>University of Delaware</i> Gave talk "Towards Practical Advantage in Quantum Optimization"	<b>Sep 29, 2021</b>
<b>SIAM Conference on Optimization (OP21)</b> Gave a talk " <a href="#">Classical Symmetries and QAOA</a> "	<b>Jul 21, 2021</b>
<b>Quantum Computing Tutorial</b> <i>Argonne National Laboratory</i> Led a tutorial on Quantum Approximate Optimization Algorithm.	<b>Jun 16, 2021</b>
<b>HPC-AI colloquium</b> <i>Intel</i> Gave talk "Towards Practical Advantage in Quantum Optimization"	<b>Jun 8, 2021</b>
<b>CM/QIS seminar</b> <i>Virginia Tech</i> Gave talk "Classical Symmetries and QAOA"	<b>Apr 19, 2021</b>
<b>Chicago Quantum Exchange Member and Partner Workshop</b> Gave talk "Quantum Optimization: the Next Five Years"	<b>Apr 19, 2021</b>
<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 '20</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>
<b>Supercomputing '18</b> <i>Dallas, TX</i> Gave talk "Community Detection Across Emerging Quantum Architectures" at Clemson booth	<b>Nov 11-16, 2018</b>

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# Ruslan Shaydulín

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

~~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"

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## Leadership and Service

### Requested Reviewer (peer review)

- IOP Quantum Science and Technology (2022)
- Springer Quantum Information Processing (2022)
- [Quantum](#) journal (2020, 2021, 2022)
- 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](#))

### IEEE Quantum Week 2022

Sep 23, 2022

Co-organized a workshop on [Quantum Algorithms for Financial Applications](#)

### 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](#)"

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## Ruslan Shaydulín

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

~~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.

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## 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.

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## 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

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## 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*