

# Sam Fine

+1 (650) 474-9534 | [fine1@uchicago.edu](mailto:fine1@uchicago.edu) | [Website](#) | [LinkedIn](#) | Chicago, IL

## EDUCATION

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**The University of Chicago**

*M.S., Computer Science*

**December 2025**

*Chicago, IL*

**The University of Chicago**

*B.S., Mathematics, minor in Physics*

**June 2025**

*Chicago, IL*

Relevant Coursework:

Graduate: Quantum Measurements and Metrology, The Physics of Computation, Adv Classical Mechanics, Quantum Computer Systems, Distributed Systems, Introduction to Machine Learning (@ [TTC](#))

Undergraduate: Hon. Algebra I-III, Analysis in Rn I-III (accelerated), Hon. Discrete Math, Hon. Theory of Algorithms, Quantum Mechanics I & II, Mathematical Foundations of Machine Learning, Computational Physics

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

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Theory, design and control of physical systems that can represent and manipulate quantum information. I am particularly drawn toward two intersections of quantum computing theory and application:

- *Overcoming Noise:* Methods to more efficiently encode and process quantum information that minimize control complexity and error susceptibility in resource-limited, near-term devices.
- *Characterization:* Developing the theory and computational tools to calibrate and control quantum systems.

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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**Quantum Error Correction for Correlated Noise**

**June 2025-Present**

Advised by [Liang Jiang](#)

*Chicago, IL*

- Designing and verifying teleportation-based fault-tolerant protocols for correlated noise.
- Explored the sample complexity of machine-learning based surface code decoders for higher-order errors.

**Robust Quantum Optimal Control**

**May 2025-Present**

Advised by [Fred Chong](#)

*Chicago, IL*

- Identified a critical discretization correction for a widely-used robustness estimator.
- Running experiments on quantum hardware to show measurable improvement using the corrected metric.
- Exploring the theoretical and practical trade-offs between control complexity and error susceptibility.

**Fermilab Mu2e Internship**

**June – Aug 2024**

Advised by [Andrei Gaponenko](#)

*Batavia, IL*

- Designed realistic models of the Mu2e Extinction Monitor detector using Geant4.
- Wrote production-scale code for monte-carlo simulations to assess the detector's radiation shielding.

## Higgs Boson Self-Coupling Classification

Jan 2023 – Jan 2024

Advised by [Philipp Windischhofer](#)

Chicago, IL

- Investigated how modern machine learning methods can help to extract the maximum amount of information about the self-interactions of the Higgs boson from the data sets recorded at the LHC.
- Applied neural networks to define highly-compressed, information-preserving statistics of the original data.

## SLAC Technology Innovation Directorate Intern

2020 – 2021

Advised by [Emilio Nanni](#)

Stanford, CA

- Studied the physics of the [Cool Copper Collider](#): an advanced  $e^+e^-$  linear collider concept in the TeV class.
- Explored efficient normal-conducting particle accelerator design and built the website.

## [Designed & Built a 300 KeV Cyclotron](#)

2016 – 2021

Advised by [Martin Breidenbach](#)

Stanford, CA

- Co-led project to build a 300 KeV cyclotron.
- Designed, constructed and tested vacuum, radiofrequency, ion source and detector systems.

## PUBLICATIONS & PREPRINTS

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A. Kamen, **S. Fine**, B. Bhattacharyya, F. Chong, A. Goldschmidt. Accurate metrics for robustness in quantum optimal control. (in preparation)

## AWARDS & RECOGNITION

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Metcalf Research Grant (\$4,500) 2024

[UC Berkeley Regents' & Chancellor's Scholarship](#) (~0.2% of all applicants selected, declined) 2020

## VOLUNTEERING & SERVICE

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[South Side Science Fair](#) Volunteer 2025

Phoenix Outdoor Program Ranger 2021-2024

MakerFair Volunteer 2016-2020

## CERTIFICATIONS, SKILLS & INTERESTS

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**Languages:** Julia, Python, C++, Spanish (B2) and French (B1)

**Libraries:** [Piccolo.jl](#), NumPy, pandas, PyTorch, Matplotlib, QuTiP, SciPy

**Interests:** Backpacking; Biking; Climbing; Reading