Sara Sussman

Princeton, NJ 08544 | sarafs@princeton.edu

Education

Princeton University, Physics Ph.D. Candidate *9/2018-*

Boston University, Physics B.A. Summa Cum Laude *5/2018*

Publications

View all on arXiv

Research Experience

Graduate Researcher, Prof. Houck Group, Princeton University *2/2019-*

Experimental Project: Qubit Data Acquisition with FPGAs
Implementing on-chip computation and feedback into the lab's qubit measurement routines.

Undergraduate Researcher, Prof. Kearns Group, Boston University *9/2016 - 9/2018*
Super-Kamiokande (SK) and Hyper-Kamiokande (HK) Collaborations

Senior Research Project: Dinucleon and Nucleon Decay into Two-Body Final States with No Hadrons
Searched for 10 dinucleon and nucleon decay modes using the entire SK dataset.

SK Event Reconstruction Software Developer: APFIT
Located and solved a set of Cherenkov-ring-counting issues.

HK Front-end Electronics Developer: Prototype QTC-TDC Board
Wrote DAQ software, tested QTC/TDC performance, FPGA programming to improve performance.

SK Outer Detector High Voltage Expert
Developed remote control software for new HV crates, integrated and installed new crates in SK.

Undergraduate Researcher, Prof. Franklin Group, Harvard University *12/2015 - 9/2016*
ATLAS Collaboration

Website: Find Problematic Muon Spectrometer Detector Elements: http://cern.ch/muons/
Users upload eta-phi histograms and learn which elements overlay spatial coordinates in question.

DAQ Software for Prototype Micromegas Apparatus
Wrote and tested geometry and track reconstruction library for ATLAS muon upgrade prototype.

Awards

Van Zandt Williams, Sr., *41 Fellowship, Princeton University *2018-2019*
Joseph Henry Merit Prize, Princeton University *2018*
College Prize in Physics, Boston University *2018*
International Neutrino Summer School (INSS), Poster Competition, 3rd Prize *Fermilab, 8/2017*
INSS Group Tutorial, Oral Presentation Competition, 2nd Prize *Fermilab, 8/2017*
Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program Fellowship, Boston University *2017,2018*

Recent Presentations

Dinucleon and Nucleon Decay into Two-Body Final States with No Hadrons *APS April Meeting Columbus OH, 4/14/18*

Prototype Front-End Electronics for Hyper-Kamiokande QTC-TDC Board *BU Advanced Lab Seminar Boston MA, 10/15/2017*

Multi-GeV Multi-Ring Event Reconstruction in Super-Kamiokande (Poster) *INSS, Fermilab Batavia IL, 8/17/2017*

Side By Side By Side: ν Event Simulation in Super-K, NOvA and ArgoNeuT *INSS, Fermilab Batavia IL, 8/17/2017*

Graduate Courses Completed

Physics: Quantum Information; Advanced Particle Physics I; Introduction to Particle Physics; Cosmology

Engineering/Design: Electronics for Scientists; Advanced Laboratory

Math: Mathematical Physics

Teaching/Mentoring Experience

Lab Instructor, Foundations of Engineering (EGR 150) *Princeton Freshman Scholars Institute*
Developed accelerometer-based labs working under Prof. Claire Gmachl (link to gallery). *Princeton NJ, 2019*

Mentor, Undergraduate Women in Physics Mentorship Program *Princeton Physics Dept.*
Academic/research mentor to several female physics undergraduates. *Princeton NJ, 2018-*

Student-Teacher and Volunteer *Charlestown High School*
Taught high school juniors and seniors calculus and precalculus. *Boston MA, 2015*

Corps Member *City Year Boston*
Tutored and mentored K-8 students in math in a bilingual Dorchester school. *Boston MA, 2013-2014*

Leadership

Organizer, Princeton Women in Physics *Princeton NJ, 2018-*
Plan events that promote diversity and outreach, fundraised to include women from the Astrophysics and Plasma Physics departments. Maintain group website (link to site).

Director, Junction *MIT, Cambridge MA, 2015*
Redesigned program where high school students do research with 1:1 mentoring (link to journal).

Director, Spring High School Studies Program (HSSP) *MIT, Cambridge MA, 2015*
Led six week Saturday program where 500 high school students take courses taught by undergraduates.

Director, The Checkmate Club *Dorchester MA, 2013-2014*
Created a weekly math, logic and chess program for local teenagers.

Skills

Programming: C/C++, Python, FORTRAN, ROOT, Mathematica, MATLAB, Verilog, VHDL, JavaScript, HTML/CSS

Software: Intel Quartus Prime, Xilinx Vivado Design Suite, ExpressPCB

Hardware: Cherenkov detectors, high voltage systems, gaseous ionization detectors, data acquisition and timing systems, digital and analog circuits, lab equipment such as NIM modules, multichannel analyzers and oscilloscopes, basic machining with mills and laser cutters (plastic and steel)