THOMAS BOURKE

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Single-photon avalanche diodes, quantum communications and computing, semiconductors devices, optoelectronics

EDUCATION

University of Cambridge

2025 - present

PhD Candidate in Physics (industry co-supervised project with Toshiba)

Supervisors: Louise Hirst, Mark Stevenson

Member of Darwin College

Member of EPSRC CDT in Nanoscience and Nanotechnology (NanoDTC)

University of Bath

Master of Physics, First-class honours

Final year project: Novel 2D magnetic materials for emerging IT technologies. See summary here.

Supervisors: Adelina Ilie, Kei Takashina

Select modules: Quantum mechanics, nanoscience, photonics, mathematical physics, condensed matter physics

Member of PhySoc

EXPERIENCE

Toshiba Research Europe

Oct. 2025 - Present

Doctoral Student

Cambridge, UK

· Carried out research in Toshiba's Cambridge Research Laboratory on single-photon avalanche diodes.

Leonardo Summer 2024

Systems Engineering summer intern

Edinburgh, UK

- · Developed a data extraction tool for radar systems using Python, which extracted key information from a variety of data sources (images, log files, un-interpreted binary).
- · Created a SQL database to streamline storage and retrieval of key events in radar surveillance data (switching scanning modes, POIs identified) along with accompanying metadata.
- · Prepared and delivered poster presentations to diverse audiences from within the company.

EVENTS AND CONFERENCES

UK Quantum Hackathon | *University of Edinburgh*

July 2025

Carried out molecular chemistry simulation problem using VQE and SQD quantum/classical hybrid algorithms. See summary here.

UK Quantum Hackathon | *University of Warwick*

July 2024

Tackled Grover's algorithm search problem at 3-day hackathon, which concluded in a presentation delivering our findings to the rest of the cohort. See summary here.

PhySoc Hackathon | *University of Bath*

March 2024

Awarded 2nd place in astrophysics themed hackathon in which I created a black hole 3D model using Blender.

Careers in Quantum | University of Bristol

March 2024

Networked with academics and industry professionals at University of Bristol Quantum Engineering CDT.

Oxford Physics Summit | *University of Oxford*

Feb. 2024

Attended workshops on quantum computing and neuromorphic computing, networked with young career researchers from across the UK.

VOLUNTEERING

Student-Staff Liaison Committee | University of Bath

2024-2025

Represented student interests in academic matters such as curriculum development, assessment policies and academic regulations.

Physics Society Welfare and Inclusivity Officer | University of Bath

2023-2024

Coordinated PhySoc Movember fundraising campaign, contributing to £30,000 raised university-wide. Organised PhySoc x Optica astrophysics-themed hackathon, liased with Optica student chapter to arrange funding and event space access.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Computer Languages Python, C++, MATLAB

Libraries pandas, NumPy, SciPy, Matplotlib

Databases SQL

Tools Git, VS Code, L⁴TEX, COMSOL