# Alexis TOUMI

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127 avenue Jean Jaurès, 75019 Paris, France

## WORK EXPERIENCE

- May 2023 Research & development scientist, PlantingSpace, Remote Applied category theory for artificial intelligence and natural language processing.
  - Jun 2019 Scientific advisor, Cambridge Quantum Computing, Oxford
  - Jun 2024 Natural language processing on noisy intermediate-scale quantum hardware. Applied category theory for quantum computing and artificial intelligence.
- Oct 2022 Post-doctoral researcher, Laboratoire d'Informatique & Systèmes, Marseille
- Mar 2023 Formal methods for quantum cellular automata and distributed quantum computing. Principal investigators: Prof. Giuseppe di Molfetta and Dr. Pierre Clairambault
- May-Jul 2022 General Manager, Le Lab Quantique, Paris Administration of a nonprofit organisation promoting the emergence of quantum technologies.
- 2017 2018 Data Scientist, IRHT (CNRS) & Teklia, Paris
- (6 months) Deep learning for the automated analysis of manuscripts from the Middle Ages.
- 2015 2016 Machine Learning Intern, *Tinyclues*, Paris
  - (7 months) Tensor factorisation on complex relational data: users, products, emails, clicks and sales.
- 2014 2015 Data Science Intern, Yonderlabs, Berlin
- (4 months) Probabilistic graphical models for natural language processing and sentiment analysis.

## EDUCATION

- 2018 2022 D.Phil. Computer Science, University of Oxford
  - "Category Theory for Quantum Natural Language Processing" [arXiv]

Supervisors: Prof. Bob Coecke and Dr. Dan Marsden

Viva: May 27th, 2022, Date of Award: September 14th, 2022

Examiners: Prof. Sam Staton (internal) and Prof. Dr. Michael Moortgat (Utrecht University)

2016 - 2018 M.Sc. Mathematics & Computer Science, distinction, University of Oxford

"Categorical Compositional Distributional Questions, Answers & Discourse Analysis" [pdf]

Supervisor: Prof. Bob Coecke

2012 - 2015 B.Sc. Computer Science, first-class honours, University of Oxford

"Equilibrium Checking in Reactive Modules Games" [pdf]

Supervisors: Prof. Michael Wooldridge and Dr. Julian Gutierrez

2012 Option Internationale du Baccalauréat, série scientifique, mention très bien, British section, Lycée International de Saint-Germain-en-Laye

## **SCHOLARSHIPS**

2018 Oxford - DeepMind Graduate Scholarship in Computer Science

2018 Wolfson Harrison UK Research Council Quantum Foundation Scholarship

2013 University of Oxford, New College Academic Scholarship

## SOFTWARE

**DisCoPy** The Python toolkit for computing with string diagrams (main developer)

lambeq A Python library for experimental quantum natural language processing (advisor)

## PUBLICATIONS

#### Journal articles

2023 Grammar-aware sentence classification on quantum computers [DOI]

with K. Meichanetzidis, G. de Felice and B. Coecke. Quantum Machine Intelligence, volume 5, issue 1, pages 1-16

2018 Generalized relations in linguistics & cognition [DOI]

with B. Coecke, F. Genovese, M. Lewis and D. Marsden. Theoretical Computer Science, volume 752, pages 104-115

## Book chapters

2021 How to make qubits speak [DOI]

with B. Coecke, G. Felice and K. Meichanetzidis. Quantum Computing in the Arts and Humanities, pages 277-297

## **Conference proceedings**

2021 Diagrammatic Differentiation for Quantum Machine Learning [DOI]

with R. Yeung and G. de Felice. 18th International Conference on Quantum Physics and Logic (QPL 2021)

2020 Quantum natural language processing on near-term quantum computers [DOI]

with K. Meichanetzidis, S. Gogioso, G. De Felice, N. Chiappori and B. Coecke. 17th International Conference on Quantum Physics and Logic (QPL 2020)

2020 DisCoPy: monoidal categories in Python [DOI]

with G. De Felice and B. Coecke.

3rd International Conference on Applied Category Theory (ACT 2020)

2020 Functorial language games for question answering [DOI]

with G. de Felice, E. Di Lavore and M. Román.

3rd International Conference on Applied Category Theory (ACT 2020)

2019 Functorial question answering [DOI]

with G. de Felice and K. Meichanetzidis. 2nd International Conference on Applied Category Theory (ACT 2019)

2019 Automatic page classification in a large collection of manuscripts based on the International Image Interoperability Framework [DOI]

with E. Boros, E. Rouchet, B. Abadie, D. Stutzmann and C. Kermorvant. International Conference on Document Analysis and Recognition (ICDAR 2019)

- 2018 Towards compositional distributional discourse analysis [DOI] with B. Coecke, G. de Felice and D. Marsden.
  Compositional Approaches for Physics, NLP, and Social Sciences (CAPNS 2018)
- 2016 Rational verification: From model checking to equilibrium checking [DOI] with M. Wooldridge, J. Gutierrez, P. Harrenstein, E. Marchioni and G. Perelli.

  Thirtieth AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence (AAAI 2016)
- 2015 A tool for the automated verification of Nash equilibria in concurrent games [DOI]

with J. Gutierrez and M. Wooldridge. 12th International Colloquium on Theoretical Aspects of Computing (ICTAC 2015)

## **Conference abstracts**

2022 **DisCoPy for the quantum computer scientist** [arXiv]

with G. de Felice and R. Yeung.

19th International Conference on Quantum Physics and Logic (QPL 2022)

2022 Quantum NLP with lambeq [pdf]

with D. Kartsaklis, I. Fan, R. Yeung, T. Hoffmann, V. Kocijan, C. London, A. Pearson, R. Lorenz, G. de Felice, K. Meichanetzidis, S. Clark and B. Coecke.
5th International Conference on Applied Category Theory (ACT2022)

- 2021 **QNLP: Compositional Models of Meaning on a Quantum Computer** [pdf] with K. Meichanetzidis, R. Lorenz, A. Pearson, G. de Felice, D. Kartsaklis and B. Coecke. 4th International Conference on Applied Category Theory (ACT 2021)
- 2021 Anaphora and Ellipsis in Lambek Calculus with a Relevant Modality: Syntax and Semantics [arXiv]

with L. McPheat, G. Wijnholds, M. Sadrzadeh and A. Correia. 4th International Conference on Applied Category Theory (ACT 2021)

2021 Functorial Language Models [arXiv]

with A. Koziell-Pipe.

4th International Conference on Applied Category Theory (ACT 2021)

2020 Quantum natural language processing [pdf]

with K. Meichanetzidis, S. Gogioso, G. De Felice, N. Chiappori and B. Coecke. 3rd International Conference on Applied Category Theory (ACT 2020)

2019 Incremental Monoidal Grammars [arXiv]

with D. Shiebler and M. Sadrzadeh.

Sixth Symposium on Compositional Structures (SYCO 6)

2019 Discourse complexity in categorical compositional relational semantics [pdf] Vector Semantics for Dialogue and Discourse (VSDD) workshop

13th International Conference on Computational Semantics (IWCS 2019)

#### Technical reports

- 2021 **lambeq: An Efficient High-Level Python Library for Quantum NLP** [arXiv] with D. Kartsaklis, I. Fan, R. Yeung, A. Pearson, R. Lorenz, G. de Felice, K. Meichanetzidis, S. Clark and B. Coecke.
- 2020 Foundations for near-term quantum natural language processing [arXiv] with B. Coecke, G. de Felice and K. Meichanetzidis.

# TALKS

Invited	lectures

- TallCat, 2021 Categories for Linguistics, with Giovanni de Felice [notes]
- TallCat, 2021 Categories for Quantum, with Giovanni de Felice [notes]

## Software demonstrations

- QNLP 2022 DisCoPy: Distributional Compositional Python [video]
- PyData 2020 Language Processing on Quantum Hardware [video]
- QNLP 2020 QNLP implementations, with Konstantinos Meichanetzidis [video]
- QNLP 2019 Towards NLP on Quantum Hardware [video]

## Conference presentations

- QPL 2021 Diagrammatic Differentiation for Quantum Machine Learning [video]
- ACT 2020 DisCoPy: monoidal categories in Python [video]
- IWCS 2019 Discourse complexity in categorical compositional relational semantics
- CAPNS 2018 Towards compositional distributional discourse analysis [video]
- ICTAC 2015 A tool for the automated verification of Nash equilibria in concurrent games

#### Seminars

- 2023 Learning functors for quantum structured prediction [slides] LORIA (Nancy)
- 2023 **The Frobenius anatomy of quantum protocols** [slides] LMF (Saclay)
- 2022 Category theory for quantum natural language processing [slides] [video] LIS (Marseille), JIQ (Paris), QuaCS (Gif-sur-Yvette), Quandela (Massy), Quantinuum (Cambridge), UCL (London)
- 2020 **Pebble games and linguistic anaphora** [slides] Samson Abramsky's Comonad Meetup (remote)
- 2019 **Sheaf-theoretic decision problems**, review of a preprint by D. Mazza [pdf] Samson Abramsky's Sheaf Lunch (Oxford)
- 2018 Functorial translation from natural language to database queries Samson Abramsky's Sheaf Lunch (Oxford)
- 2018 From Sentence to Discourse in DisCoCat
  Quantum Lunch (Oxford)

## Summer schools & workshops

- 2019 **Meeting the dialogue challenge**, *with Dan Shiebler* [post] The Adjoint School, Oxford (mentored by Mehrnoosh Sadrzadeh)
- 2017 **Quantum structures in human cognition and natural language** [abstract] L'agape workshop on the foundations of physics, Auvergne, France

# **TEACHING**

- 2019 **Quantum Computer Science**, *M.Sc.*, University of Oxford (class tutor)
- 2019 Logic & Proof, B.Sc., University of Oxford (class tutor)
- 2019 **Computational Complexity**, *B.Sc.*, St Anne's College (*private tutor*)
- 2018 **Computational Complexity**, *B.Sc.*, University of Oxford (class tutor)
- 2018 **Data Science with Python**, *Master 1*, ESILV Paris (chargé de TD)

## SCIENTIFIC DISSEMINATION

# **Blog posts**

- 2022 What are quantum computers good for? [post], published by Le Lab Quantique
- 2021 **Quantum Natural Language Processing II** [post], with Dimitri Kartsaklis, Ian Fan, Richie Yeung, Anna Pearson, Robin Lorenz, Giovanni de Felice, Konstantinos Meichanetzidis, Stephen Clark and Bob Coecke
- 2020 **Quantum Natural Language Processing** [post], with Bob Coecke, Giovanni de Felice and Konstantinos Meichanetzidis

#### Hackathons

I supervised teams of students working on the following projects.

- 2022 **QNLP for adverse event detection in the healthcare industry** [abstract], Technical University of Munich and IT Healthcare Innovation Incubator, Merck KGaA
- 2021 QNLP for sentiment analysis [GitHub], Qiskit Hackathon Europe
- 2021 Discovering QNLP through DisCoPy, BIG Quantum Hackathon by QuantX

#### Wikis

Wikipedia *Creator:* DisCoCat, QNLP, *Editor:* String diagram, Categorical quantum mechanics nLab *Creator:* pregroup grammar, dependency grammar, *Editor:* DisCoCat, linguistics

## LANGUAGES

Human Native French, fluent English, basic German and beginner Arabic

Machine Advanced: Python, LATEX, XML, Markdown, Basic: Javascript, Haskell, SQL, C

# **OTHER INTERESTS**

Philosophy Spinoza, Peirce, Bergson, Wittgenstein, Foucault, Deleuze

Cooking French, Moroccan, Italian, Spanish, Kréol Rényoné

Music 10 years of DJing, both digital and analog. Techno, Disco, Funk, Afrobeat, Maloya