

Thomas Propson

tpropson@uchicago.edu | thomaspropson.com

EDUCATION

The University of Chicago

2017–2021

B.A. Physics, Minor Computer Science

GPA: 3.89 / 4.0

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Experimental Control of Superconducting Qubits

2019–Present

University of Chicago Department of Physics, Advisor: David I. Schuster

- Perform calibration, control, and readout on superconducting qubits
- Develop numerical techniques using control theory and trajectory optimization to engineer high fidelity quantum gates in the presence of decoherence and systematic errors

Quantum Hardware and Algorithm Optimization

2018–2019

University of Chicago Department of Computer Science, Advisor: Frederic T. Chong

- Developed a method for compiling variational quantum algorithms that achieves a 30x latency reduction
- Developed an operation scheduling algorithm for frequency-tunable qubits that mitigates cross-talk by an order of magnitude
- Investigated properties of near-term quantum hardware and algorithms to optimize quantum architectures for fidelity and latency

Hyperparameter Optimization

2018

Argonne National Laboratory Division of Math and Computer Science

Advisors: Stefan Wild, Prasanna Balaprakash

- Developed a software package to evaluate hyperparameter optimization algorithms that exposes a novel search space definition system
- Deployed neural network experiments on high-performance computing infrastructure

PUBLICATIONS

1. **T. Propson**, B. Jackson, Z. Manchester, D. I. Schuster, "Robust Control of a Fluxonium Qubit." In preparation (2020).
2. Y. Ding, P. Gokhale, S. F. Lin, R. Rines, **T. Propson**, F. T. Chong, "Systematic Crosstalk Mitigation for Superconducting Qubits via Frequency-Aware Compilation." [Proceedings of the 53rd Annual IEEE/ACM International Symposium on Microarchitecture](#), 201-214 (2020). [[arxiv:2008.09503](https://arxiv.org/abs/2008.09503)]
3. P. Gokhale, Y. Ding, **T. Propson**, C. Winkler, N. Leung, Y. Shi, D. I. Schuster, H. Hoffmann, F. T. Chong, "Partial Compilation of Variational Algorithms for Noisy Intermediate-Scale Quantum Machines." [Proceedings of the 52nd Annual IEEE/ACM International Symposium on Microarchitecture](#), 266-278 (2019). [[arxiv:1909.07522](https://arxiv.org/abs/1909.07522)]

PATENTS

1. P. Gokhale, Y. Ding, **T. Propson**, F. T. Chong, "System and Method for Partial Compilation of Variational Algorithms in Quantum Computers." Pending.

HONORS AND AWARDS

Grainger Scholarship, Full-Tuition Senior Year, UChicago Physics	2020
Barry Goldwater Scholarship	2020
Enrico Fermi Scholar, Major GPA in top 5% from past 5 years, UChicago PSD	2020
Liew Family College Research Fellowship, UChicago	2018
Jeff Metcalf Research Fellowship, UChicago	2018
University Scholarship, UChicago	2017–2021

TALKS

Commercial Outlook for Quantum Computing
University of Chicago, Booth School of Business, 2019
Benchmarking Hyperparameter Optimization Algorithms on Deep Neural Networks
University of Chicago, Undergraduate Research Symposium, 2018
Argonne National Laboratory, Summer Student Symposium, 2018

SERVICE

Uncommon Hacks	2018–Present
Technology Team Lead	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Organize an annual MLH endorsed hackathon to provide a platform for 300+ students to develop technical skills, collaborate with peers to create innovative projects, and network with employers• Lead a 10-person team of designers and software developers to build websites that reach 1000+ users	

WORK EXPERIENCE

PanorArt Inc.	2018
Full-Stack Web Developer	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Built front-end web components using Angular.js to provide users with a platform to buy and sell art that achieves greater price transparency than competing platforms• Improved online presence by implementing search engine optimization techniques• Implemented Node.js to handle server-client communication via HTTP as well as to manage relational and non-relational databases in order to ensure user data security and support mission-critical operations	