



# New Directions in Quantum Algorithms: Thermalization meets Convex Optimization

**Fernando G.S.L. Brandão,**  
Bren Professor of Theoretical Physics  
California Institute of Technology



I will discuss recent results on quantum algorithms for semidefinite programming, an important class of convex optimization problems with widespread applications (from resource allocation to approximating hard combinatorial problems). I will discuss a connection of the task of solving semidefinite programs (SDPs) to the task of quantum Gibbs sampling (which consists of computing properties of thermal states at finite temperature on a quantum computer). I will then discuss results on the time of thermalization of many-body quantum systems and show that they directly give quantum speed-ups for SDPs. I will also argue that the quantum algorithm for SDPs can be seen as a generalization of quantum annealing and is a good candidate for realisation on small quantum computers.

**DK-ALM Pre-Talk: 16:30 h**

**Lorenz Kranabetter**

**Photo fragmentation of charged cluster complexes**

Snacks will be provided in between the  
pre-talk and the colloquium.

**Colloquium: Tuesday, 05.06.2018**  
**17:15 h in lecture hall C**