TYRONE GHASWALA, Université du Québec à Montréal
Boundary Dehn twists are excellent

Suppose you have a compact orientable surface with one boundary component. It is known that the Dehn twist about a curve isotopic to the boundary component is not quite like all the other Dehn twists. For one thing, it is central in the mapping class group of the surface. I will prove that such Dehn twists are co-final in every left-ordering of the mapping class group, making them even cooler than originally thought! I will then discuss what this tells us about mapping class group actions on the real line and the fractional Dehn twist coefficient.

This is work in progress with Adam Clay.