

# Arya Akhavan

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## EDUCATION

### PhD Candidate, Theoretical Statistics,

- ENSAE IP, Paris, and Istituto Italiano di Tecnologia-Genova (IIT)

September 2019 – Present

Supervisors: Alexandre B. Tsybakov and Massimiliano Pontil

### Master M2 MASH Learning and Applications,

- Paris Dauphine University and École Normale Supérieure Paris-Saclay

2017 – December 2018

Mention: Très Bien

### First year of Master in Mathematics,

- Sharif University of Technology

2016 – 2017

Mention: Très Bien

### B.Sc. in Mathematics,

- Department of Mathematics, Statistics and Computer Sciences, University of Tehran

2011 – 2016

### High School Diploma in Mathematics and Physics Discipline,

- Rahyar High School, Tehran, Iran

2007 – 2011

## INTERESTS

**Optimization**

**Non-parametric Statistics**

**Stochastic Process**

**Gamification**

## WORK EXPERIENCE

### Research Fellow at Istituto Italiano di Tecnologia-Genova (IIT)

Spring 2019

- Supervisors: Massimiliano Pontil and Alexandre B. Tsybakov

### Internship at ENSAE, IP, Paris

Spring and Fall 2018

- Supervisor: Alexandre B. Tsybakov

## PUBLICATIONS AND PREPRINTS

A. Akhavan, M. Pontil, A. B. Tsybakov. **Distributed Zero-order Optimization under Adversarial Noise**, Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS). 2021

A. Akhavan, M. Pontil, A. B. Tsybakov. **Exploiting Higher Order Smoothness in Derivative-free Optimization and Continuous Bandits**, Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS). 2020

## HONORS AND AWARDS

**Granted by Fondation Sciences Mathématiques de Paris**

2017

**Ranked 13th**, in 21st National Scientific Olympiad in Mathematics, held by NOET (National Organization for Educational Testing). July 2016

**Silver Medal**, in 39th Iranian Mathematical Society Competition.

May 2015

**Ranked 1st**, University of Tehran IMC 2017 (International Society Competition for University Students) in Team Selection Contest. April 2015

**REALTED &  
GRADUATE  
COURSES**

|   |             |
|---|-------------|
| <b>Kernel Methods,</b><br>Instructors: Prof. Julien Mairal & Prof. Jean-Philippe Vert,<br>École Normale Supérieure of Paris                       | Spring 2018 |
| <b>Applied Bayesian Statistics,</b><br>Instructor: Prof. Robin Ryder,<br>Dauphine University  | Spring 2018 |
| <b>Bayesian Nonparametrics,</b><br>Instructor: Prof. Julyan Arbel,<br>Dauphine University   | Spring 2018 |
| <b>High-dimensional Statistics,</b><br>Instructors: Prof. Arnak Dalalyan,<br>École Normale Supérieure Paris-Saclay                                | Spring 2018 |
| <b>Introduction to Graphical Models,</b><br>Instructors: Prof. Francis Bach & Prof. Guillaume Obozinski,<br>École Normale Supérieure Paris-Saclay | Fall 2017   |
| <b>Applied Stochastic Processes,</b><br>Instructor: Dr. Mir Omid Haji Mirsadeghi,<br>Sharif University of Technology                              | Spring 2017 |
| <b>Convex Optimization,</b><br>Instructor: Prof. Alexander d'Aspremont,<br>École Normale Supérieure of Paris                                      | Fall 2017   |
| <b>Introduction to Statistical Learning,</b><br>Instructor: Prof. Nicolas Vayatis,<br>École Normale Supérieure Paris-Saclay                       | Fall 2017   |
| <b>Stochastic Analysis,</b><br>Instructor: Prof. Bijan Zohuri-Zangeneh,<br>Sharif University of Technology  | Spring 2017 |
| <b>Topics in Statistics,</b><br>Instructor: Dr. Kasra Alishahi,<br>Sharif University of Technology  | Spring 2017 |
| <b>Real Analysis,</b><br>Instructor: Dr. Sharifi Tabar,<br>Sharif University of Technology  | Fall 2016   |
| <b>Algebraic Geometry,</b><br>Instructor: Dr. Amir Jafari,<br>Sharif University of Technology   | Fall 2016   |

**TEACHING**

Teaching assistance of following courses in Department of Mathematics, Statistics, and Computer Science, University of Tehran:

- **Linear Algebra**, Instructor: Prof. Yassemi Fall 2017
- **Topology**, Instructor: Dr. Hadi Zare Spring 2016
- **Elementary Number Theory**, Instructor: Dr. Ghadermarzi Spring 2016

**ACADEMIC  
SERVICE**

- Instructor of Problem Solving Sessions for the team of University of Tehran to prepare for 40th Iranian Mathematical Society Competition, Department of Mathematics, Statistics, and Computer Science, University of Tehran. Spring 2016
- Co-Head of the team of University of Tehran in 40th Iranian Mathematical Society Competition, Iran University of Science and Technology, Tehran, Iran. Aug 2016

**COMPUTER  
SKILLS**

R, MATLAB, Python, C++

**LANGUAGES**

- Persian (native)
- Armenian (native)
- English (fluent)
- French (intermediate)

**INTERESTS**

Rock climbing, traveling, martial arts, reading Sci-fi and fiction novels.