

Ilias Zadik

Department of Mathematics, MIT
182 Memorial Dr, Cambridge, MA 02142, USA
izadik@mit.edu

Current Appointment

- **Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)** **Cambridge, MA, USA**
Postdoctoral Associate, Department of Mathematics 09/2021 – Present
Postdoctoral mentors: Elchanan Mossel and Nike Sun
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Past Academic Appointments

- **New York University (NYU)** **New York, NY, USA**
CDS Moore-Sloan Postdoctoral Fellow (Faculty Fellow), Center for Data Science (CDS) 09/2019 – 08/2021
Conducted independent research.
Co-instructed two graduate level classes in Mathematics of Data Science.
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Research Interests

- High dimensional statistics, mathematics of data science/machine learning, discrete probability, algorithms, differential privacy.
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Education

- **Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)** **Cambridge, MA, USA**
PhD, Operations Research. GPA: 5.0/5.0 09/2014 – 09/2019
PhD advisor: David Gamarnik.
Thesis: “Computational and Statistical Challenges in High Dimensional Statistical Models”
 - **Trinity College, Cambridge University** **Cambridge, UK**
M.A.St. in Mathematics, Part III, with Distinction (ranked 13th out of 247 students) 09/2013 – 07/2014
Part III Essay: “Noise Sensitivity with applications to Percolation and Social Choice Theory”
Part III Essay advisor: Béla Bollobás
 - **University of Athens** **Athens, Greece**
B.A. in Mathematics, Graduated with GPA 10/10 09/2009 – 02/2013
First known *perfect GPA* achieved in the recorded history of the department.
Undergraduate research advisor: Vassili Nestoridis. Research area: Complex Analysis.
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Industry Experience

- Microsoft Research New England Internship (Summer 2017)
Mentored by Jennifer Chayes and Christian Borgs.
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Brief Publication Summary

Published 8 papers in top tier Statistics/Mathematics/Operations Research journals, and 18 papers in top tier Computer Science and Machine Learning peer-reviewed conferences.
Citation: 401, h-index: 12, i10-index: 14.
The order of the authors is alphabetical, unless denoted by (*).

Preprints/In Submission Papers

- (P1) "Archimedes Meets Privacy: On Privately Estimating Quantiles in High Dimensions Under Minimal Assumptions";
Omri Ben-Eliezer, Dan Mikulincer, Ilias Zadik
Preprint available at <https://arxiv.org/abs/2208.07438>.
- (P2) "The Franz-Parisi Criterion and Computational Trade-offs in High Dimensional Statistics";
Afonso Bandeira, Ahmed El Alaoui, Sam Hopkins, Tselil Schramm, Alexander S Wein, Ilias Zadik
Preprint available at <https://arxiv.org/abs/2205.09727>.
- (P3) "Almost-Linear Planted Cliques Elude the Metropolis Process";
Zongchen Chen, Elchanan Mossel, Ilias Zadik
Preprint available at <https://arxiv.org/abs/2204.01911>.
- (P4) "Shapes and recession cones in mixed-integer convex representability"
Ilias Zadik, Miles Lubin, Juan Pablo Vielma (*)
Preprint available at <https://arxiv.org/abs/2103.03379>.
- (P5) "Stationary Points of Shallow Neural Networks with Quadratic Activation Function";
David Gamarnik, Eren Kizildag, Ilias Zadik
Preprint available at <https://arxiv.org/abs/1912.01599>.
- (P6) "The Landscape of the Planted Clique Problem: Dense Subgraphs and the Overlap Gap Property";
David Gamarnik, Ilias Zadik.
Preprint available at <https://arxiv.org/abs/1904.07174>.

Journal Papers (Accepted or In Press)

- (J1) "Free Energy Wells and the Overlap Gap Property in Sparse PCA" ;
Gérard Ben Arous, Alexander Wein, Ilias Zadik.
Communications on Pure and Applied Mathematics (accepted, 2022)
Preprint available at <https://arxiv.org/abs/2006.10689>.
Journal version of conference paper (C9).
- (J2) "Sparse High-Dimensional Regression. Algorithmic Barriers and a Local Search Algorithm";
David Gamarnik, Ilias Zadik.
Annals of Statistics, 2022, Vol. 50(2), pp 880-903
Journal version of conference paper (C17).
- (J3) "Mixed integer convex representability";
Miles Lubin, Juan Pablo Vielma and Ilias Zadik
Mathematics of Operations Research, 2021 Vol. 47(1), pp720-749.
Journal version of conference paper (C18).
- (J4) "The All-or-Nothing Phenomenon in Sparse Linear Regression";
Galen Reeves, Jiaming Xu, Ilias Zadik.
Mathematics of Statistics and Learning, 2021, Vol. 3, pp 259-313
Journal version of conference paper (C11).
- (J5) "Inference in High-Dimensional Linear Regression via Lattice Basis Reduction and Integer Relation Detection";
David Gamarnik, Eren C. Kizildag, Ilias Zadik
IEEE Transactions of Information Theory , 2019, Vol 67, pp 8109 - 8139.
Journal version of conference paper (C14).

- (J6) "Self-Regularity of Non-Negative Output Weights for Overparameterized Two-Layer Neural Networks"
David Gamarnik, Eren C. Kızıldağ, Ilias Zadik
IEEE Transactions on Signal Processing, 2022, Vol. 70, pp 1310–1319.
Journal version of conference paper (C6).
- (J7) "Universal Padé Approximants and their behaviour on the boundary"
Ilias Zadik
Monatshefte für Mathematik, 2017, Vol. 182, pp 173–193.
- (J8) "Padé approximants, density of rational functions in $A^\infty(V)$ and smoothness of the integration operator";
Vassili Nestoridis, Ilias Zadik
Journal of Mathematical Analysis and Applications, 2015, Vol. 423, pp 1514-1539.

Peer-reviewed Conference Papers

- (C1) "Lattice-based methods surpass sum-of-squares in clustering" ;
Ilias Zadik, Min Jae Song, Alexander S. Wein, Joan Bruna (*)
In Proceedings of the 35th *Conference in Learning Theory (COLT)*, 2022, pp1247-1248.
- (C2) "Statistical and Computational Phase Transitions in Group Testing";
Amin Coja-Oghlan, Oliver Gebhard, Maz Hahn-Klimroth, Alexander S Wein, Ilias Zadik
In Proceedings of the 35th *Conference in Learning Theory (COLT)*, 2022, pp 4764-4781.
- (C3) "On the cryptographic hardness of learning single periodic neurons";
Min Jae Song, Ilias Zadik, Joan Bruna (*)
In Advances of the 34th *Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS)*, 2020, pp 29602-29615
- (C4) "It was "all" for "nothing": sharp phase transition for noiseless discrete channels. ";
Jonathan Niles-Weed, Ilias Zadik.
In Proceedings of the 34th *Conference in Learning Theory (COLT)*, 2021, pp 3546-3547.
- (C5) "Group testing and local search: is there a computational-statistical gap?";
Fotis Iliopoulos, Ilias Zadik.
In Proceedings of the 34th *Conference in Learning Theory (COLT)*, 2021 pages 2499-2551.
- (C6) "Self-Regularity of Non-Negative Output Weights for Overparameterized Two-Layer Neural Networks";
David Gamarnik, Eren Kizildag, Ilias Zadik
In Proceedings of the IEEE *International Symposium of Information Theory (ISIT)*, 2021, pages 819-824.
- (C7) "The All-or-Nothing Phenomenon in Sparse Tensor PCA ";
Jonathan Niles-Weed, Ilias Zadik.
In Advances of the 34th *Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS)* 2020
- (C8) "Optimal Private Median Estimation under Minimal Distributional Assumptions ";
Christos Tzamos, Emmanouil Vlatakis, Ilias Zadik.
In Advances of the 34th *Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS)* 2020 (**Spotlight**)
- (C9) "Free Energy Wells and the Overlap Gap Property in Sparse PCA" ;
G rard Ben Arous, Alexander Wein, Ilias Zadik.
In Proceedings of the 33rd *Conference on Learning Theory (COLT)* 2020, pages 479-482.

- (C10) "All-or-Nothing Phenomena: From Single-Letter to High Dimensions";
Galen Reeves, Jiaming Xu, Ilias Zadik.
In Proceedings of the 8th IEEE *International Workshop on Computational Advances in Multi-Sensor Adaptive Processing*, (CAMSAP) 2019, pages 654-658.
- (C11) "The All-or-Nothing Phenomenon in Sparse Linear Regression";
Galen Reeves, Jiaming Xu, Ilias Zadik
In Proceedings of the 32nd *Conference on Learning Theory* (COLT) 2019, pages 2652-2663.
- (C12) "Improved bounds on Gaussian MAC and sparse regression via Gaussian inequalities";
Ilias Zadik, Christos Thrampoulidis, Yury Polyanskiy (*)
In Proceedings of the IEEE *International Symposium of Information Theory* (ISIT) 2019, pages 430-434.
- (C13) "A Simple Bound On The BER Of The MAP Decoder For Massive MIMO System";
Christos Thrampoulidis, Ilias Zadik, Yury Polyanskiy (*)
In Proceedings of the 44th *International Conference on Acoustics, Speech, and Signal Processing* (ICASSP) 2019, pages 4544-4548.
- (C14) " High-Dimensional Linear Regression using Lattice Basis Reduction"
David Gamarnik, Ilias Zadik
In Advances of the 32nd *Neural Information Processing Systems* (NeurIPS) 2018, pages 1842–1852.
- (C15) " Revealing Network Structure Confidentially: Improved Rates for Node-Private Graphon Estimation";
Christian Borgs, Jennifer Chayes, Adam Smith, Ilias Zadik.
In Proceedings of the 59th IEEE Annual Symposium on *Foundations of Computer Science* (FOCS) 2018, pages 533–543.
- (C16) "Orthogonal Machine Learning: Power and Limitations";
Lester Mackey, Vasilis Sygkanis, Ilias Zadik.
In Proceedings of the 35th *International Conference of Machine Learning* (ICML) 2018, pages 5723–5731.
- (C17) "High-dimensional Regression with Binary Coefficients. Estimating Squared error and the Phase Transition Property" ;
David Gamarnik, Ilias Zadik.
In Proceedings of the 30th *Conference on Learning Theory* (COLT) 2017, pages 948–953.
- (C18) "Mixed integer convex representability";
Miles Lubin, Ilias Zadik, Juan Pablo Vielma (*)
In Proceedings of the 19th *Integer Programming and Combinatorial Optimization* conference (IPCO) 2017, pages 392–404.

Invited Talks

- (T1) Cornell, Statistic Seminar, October 2022
- (T2) Simons workshop on “Graph Limits, Nonparametric Models, and Estimation”, September 2022
- (T3) MIT, IDSS Seminar, February 2022
- (T4) Simons workshop on “Cryptography and Learning”, November 2021
- (T5) Joint Simons/IFML workshop, October 2021
- (T6) INFORMS Annual Meeting, October 2021

- (T7) Simons workshop on "Rigorous Evidence for Computational-Statistical Trade-offs", September 2021
 - (T8) BIRS workshop on "Random Graphs and Statistical Inference", August 2021
 - (T9) New York Colloquium on Algorithms and Complexity (NYCAC), March 2021
 - (T11) 19th Northeast Probability Seminar, November 2020
 - (T12) INFORMS Annual Meeting, November 2020
 - (T13) Simons workshop on "Computational Phase Transitions", September 2020
 - (T14) Graphical Models, Statistical Inference and Applications (GRAMSIA), Harvard University, April 2020 (canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic)
 - (T15) IBM Thomas J Watson Research Center, February 2020
 - (T16) Google Research Algorithm's Seminar, February 2019
 - (T17) New York University, Mathematics, Information and Computation (MIC) Seminar, February 2019
 - (T18) Stanford, Theory of Computer Science Seminar, January 2019
 - (T19) Northeastern University, Theory of Computer Science Seminar, November 2018
 - (T20) Microsoft Research New England, Machine Learning (ML) Ideas Lunch, November 2018
 - (T21) Cornell University, workshop for young Operations Research researchers, October 2018
 - (T22) MIT LIDS and Statistics Tea talk, April 2018
 - (T23) Oberwolfach's workshop on Network Models: Structure and Functions, December 2017
 - (T24) INFORMS Annual Meeting, November 2017
 - (T25) INFORMS Applied Probability Society Conference, July 2017
 - (T26) Integer Programming and Combinatorial Optimization Conference, July 2017
 - (T27) MIT LIDS and Statistics Tea talk, March 2017
 - (T28) MIT LIDS student seminar, January 2017
 - (T29) University of Athens Probability and Statistics Seminar, January 2017
 - (T30) MIT Operations Research Center Student Seminar, November 2016
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Teaching Experience

- Fall 2020: DS-GA 1005 (NYU), "Inference and Representation."
Co-instructor with Joan Bruna. We partially co-designed the class this year.
Graduate-level advanced class on topics such as:
graphical models, variational inference, MCMC sampling and optimal transport.
- Fall 2019, DS-GA 1002 (NYU), "Probability and Statistics for Data Science."
Co-instructor with Carlos Fernandez-Granda.
Graduate-level introductory class on probability and statistics.

- Spring 2017, 15.070J/6.265J (MIT), "Modern Discrete Probability."
Teaching assistant.
Graduate-level class taught by Yury Polyanskiy and Guy Bresler.
- Fall 2016, 15.085J/6.436J (MIT), "Fundamentals of Probability."
Teaching assistant.
Graduate-level class taught by David Gamarnik.

Awards and Honors

- CDS Moore-Sloan Postdoctoral Fellowship at NYU, 2019-2021.
- Top 400 Reviewers Award, for reviewing for Neural Information Processing Systems, 2019.
- Honorable Mention for MIT Operations Research Center Best Student Paper Award, 2017
- Senior scholarship from Trinity College, Cambridge University, 2014.
Awarded for achieving "Distinction" in Part III examination.
- The Onassis Foundation Scholarship for Master studies, 2013-2014.
- The Cambridge Home and European Scholarship Scheme (CHESS) award, 2013-2014.
- IKY scholarship for top academic performance during undergraduate studies, 2009-2012.
- International Mathematics Competition for university students (IMC):
First Prize, 2011; Second Prize, 2010.
- South Eastern European Mathematical Olympiad for University students (SEEMOUS):
Gold Medal (scored 39.5/40 and ranked 1st), 2011 ; Silver Medal, 2010.
- International Mathematical Olympiad (IMO): Honorable Mention, 2009.

Service and Outreach

- Co-organized the (virtual) MaD+ seminar during Spring 2020 and Fall 2020.
- Served as a reviewer for Annals of Statistics, Operations Research, Probability Theory and Related Fields, Mathematical Programming, SIAM Journal of Discrete Mathematics, SIAM Journal of Optimization, Combinatorica, IEEE Journal on Selected Areas in Information Theory.
- Served as a reviewer/sub-reviewer for COLT, NeurIPS, FOCS, STOC, ITCS, ISIT, ICALP and SODA.
- Co-ordinated MIT Operations Research Seminar during Fall 2018
- Proctored 2017 Qualifying Exams in Probability Theory for MIT Operations Research Center