

# A K M Rokonuzzaman Sonet

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## 🎓 Education

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- 2022–Present**     **Ph.D. Candidate in Financial Mathematics**, Florida State University, USA  
Thesis: The Heavy-Tail Phenomenon in Stochastic Gradient Descent Methods  
Advisor: Dr. Lingjiong Zhu  
Expected Graduation: Spring 2026
- 2020–2022**     **Master of Science in Financial Mathematics**, Florida State University, USA
- 2015–2019**     **Bachelor of Science in Mathematics**, University of Dhaka, Bangladesh

## 📁 Experience

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- 2022–Present**     **Department of Mathematics, Florida State University**  
**Instructor of Record**
- Calculus and Analytic Geometry III — Fall 2025
  - Calculus and Analytic Geometry II — Spring 2025, Fall 2024
  - Calculus and Analytic Geometry I — Spring 2024
- Designed and taught Calculus I–III with full responsibility for syllabus, instruction, assessment, and grading for approximately 30 students each semester
- Recitation Instructor**
- Discrete Mathematics II — Fall 2023
  - Discrete Mathematics I — Spring 2023; Summer 2022
  - Calculus I — Fall 2022
- Facilitated problem sessions, ran quizzes, office hours, coordinated with course instructor.
- Assistant in Course Development**
- Calculus and Analytic Geometry I — Summer 2024
- Developed course content and assessments, aligned outcomes

### Summer

- 2023 & 2025**     **Graduate Research Assistant**, Florida State University  
Supervisor: Dr. Lingjiong Zhu  
Project: The Heavy-Tail Methods in Machine Learning
- Investigate the emergence of heavy-tails in SGD methods (DE-SGD, SGDm, ASG, SHB)
  - Study algorithmic stability under heavy-tailed noise
  - Characterize tail indices and analyze their implications on generalization

- Jan 2021–Dec 2021**     **Graduate Teaching Assistant**, Florida State University
- Taught Pre-Calculus Algebra to approximately 30 students
  - Assisted in teaching multiple undergraduate courses
  - Helped students grasp fundamental concepts and enhance their problem-solving skills
  - Led discussion sections, graded and held office hours
  - Assisted with exam proctoring and student support

## Research Work

**Research Interests:** Heavy-tailed Stochastic Optimization, SGD Dynamics and Generalization, Data Science, Deep Learning, Financial Engineering, Risk Management

## Manuscripts - Preprint

- Dang, Thanh, Melih Barsbey, **A K M Rokonuzzaman Sonet**, Mert Gurbuzbalaban, Umut Simsekli, and Lingjiong Zhu (2025). *Algorithmic Stability of Stochastic Gradient Descent with Momentum under Heavy-Tailed Noise*. arXiv: [2502.00885](https://arxiv.org/abs/2502.00885) [stat.ML].

## Manuscripts — In Preparation

- **A K M Rokonuzzaman Sonet**, Lingjiong Zhu, Emergence of Heavy-Tails in Homogenized Decentralized SGD
- **A K M Rokonuzzaman Sonet**, Lingjiong Zhu, The Heavy-Tail Phenomenon in Stochastic Gradient Descent with Momentum

## Presentations

- “Applied Quantitative Finance: A Project Portfolio”, Quant Finance Boot Camp, Erdős Institute, *June 2025*. Topics: Portfolio Optimization, Delta Hedging, Option Pricing
- “Stock Price Prediction using LSTM”, Data Science Boot Camp, Erdős Institute, *June, 2022*
- “Study of Some Basic Epidemiological Models”, Department of Mathematics, University of Dhaka (*December 2018*)

## Awards

- “Bettye Anne Busbee Case Graduate Fellowship”, recognition for outstanding scholarly work leading to doctoral candidacy, Department of Mathematics, Florida State University, *2024*
- “FSU Math Distinguished Teaching Assistant Award”, an award for outstanding TA performance, *2024*
- “University Scholarship” on undergraduate studies, University of Dhaka, *2019*
- “The Duke of Edinburgh’s Award: Bronze Level”, a global youth achievement award for individuals, *2018*
- “Champion, Intra-Department Mathematics Contest”, Department of Mathematics, University of Dhaka, *2015*

## Professional Memberships

- American Mathematical Society (AMS)
- Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics (SIAM)
- Bangladesh Mathematical Society (BMS)

## References

- **Lingjiong Zhu, Ph.D.** (Relationship: Ph.D. Dissertation Advisor)  
Professor, Department of Mathematics, Florida State University  
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- **Giray Okten, Ph.D.** (Relationship: Ph.D. Dissertation Committee Member)  
Professor and Associate Chair for Graduate Studies, Dept. of Mathematics, Florida State University  
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- **Penelope Kirby, Ph.D.** (Relationship: GTA Supervisor)  
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