

# Konstantin BURLACHENKO

## Ph.D. candidacy in Computer Science program, CEMSE division at KAUST

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Homepage : <https://burlachenkok.github.io>

I have created state-of-the-art systems for Machine Learning, Computer Graphics, Computer Vision, and Computational Physics, exploiting hardware via DSL and using contemporary areas of Applied Math and CS. My current focus is Federated Learning, the branch of ML co-invented by my advisor in 2016<sup>1</sup> which will be the next big step of Machine Learning. I defended the status of a Ph.D. candidacy on 24 October 2022. My dissertation title is "Optimization Methods and Software for Federated Learning".

## EDUCATION

2020-Now	KSA : Ph.D. program in <a href="#">CEMSE/CS Program at KAUST</a> . Member of Prof. <a href="#">Peter Richtárik</a> 's Optimization and Machine Learning Lab in <a href="#">KAUST AI initiative</a> led by <a href="#">Jürgen Schmidhuber</a> . <i>Transcript</i> : <a href="#">Link-1</a> . <i>GPA</i> : 3.81/4.0 <i>Awards</i> : (1) <a href="#">Dean's Award 2020, KAUST</a> ; (2) <a href="#">Grant from SDAIA 2022</a> ; (3) <a href="#">Dean's List Award 2023, KAUST</a> ; (4) <a href="#">AMD Radeon Instinct MI50 from AMD Inc.</a>
2015-2019	USA, Stanford : Graduate Non-Degree Program. <i>Transcript</i> : <a href="#">Link-2</a> . <i>GPA</i> : 3.96/4.3
2015-2018	USA, Stanford : Data, Models and Optimization Graduate Certificate <a href="#">Link-3 (Program)</a>
2016 - 2019	USA, Stanford : Artificial Intelligence Graduate Certificate <a href="#">Link-4 (Program)</a>
2003-2009	Russia, Bauman Moscow State Technical University : Master Degree ( <a href="#">Bologn process equivalent</a> ) in Computer Science and Control Systems. <i>GPA</i> : <i>Not Applicable</i> . ( <i>Original scans</i> )
Conferences	<a href="#">Rising Stars in AI Symposium 2023</a> , <a href="#">EMNLP-2022 ( Certificate )</a> ; <a href="#">ICML-2022 ( Certificate )</a> ; <a href="#">ICML-2021 ( Certificate )</a> ; <a href="#">NeurIPS-2021 ( Certificate )</a> ; <a href="#">ACM CoNEXT 2021(Certificate)</a> ; <a href="#">ACM SIGGRAPH 2012</a> .
Summer Schools	<a href="#">Regularization Methods for ML 2021 ( Certificate )</a> ; <a href="#">The PRAIRIE/MIAI AI summer school 2021 ( Certificate )</a> ; <a href="#">Oxford ML Summer School-2021( Certificate )</a> ; <a href="#">The HSE/MIPT/Sirius Optimization without Border</a> .

## SCIENTIFIC PAPERS

ERROR FEEDBACK SHINES WHEN FEATURES ARE RARE	2023
<a href="https://arxiv.org/abs/2305.15264">https://arxiv.org/abs/2305.15264</a>	
FEDERATED LEARNING WITH REGULARIZED CLIENT PARTICIPATION	2023
<a href="https://arxiv.org/abs/2302.03662">https://arxiv.org/abs/2302.03662</a> <i>Accepted to Federated Learning and Analytics in Practice. <a href="#">Workshop at ICML 2023</a>.</i>	
SHARPER RATES AND FLEXIBLE FRAMEWORK FOR NONCONVEX SGD WITH CLIENT AND DATA SAMPLING	2022
<a href="https://arxiv.org/abs/2206.02275">https://arxiv.org/abs/2206.02275</a>	
FEDERATED OPTIMIZATION ALGORITHMS WITH RANDOM RESHUFFLING AND GRADIENT COMPRESSION	2022
<a href="https://arxiv.org/abs/2206.07021">https://arxiv.org/abs/2206.07021</a> <i>Accepted to Federated Learning and Analytics in Practice. <a href="#">Workshop at ICML 2023</a>.</i>	
FASTER RATES FOR COMPRESSED FEDERATED LEARNING WITH CLIENT-VARIANCE REDUCTION	2021
<a href="https://arxiv.org/abs/2112.13097">https://arxiv.org/abs/2112.13097</a> <i>Accepted to <a href="#">SIAM Journal on Mathematics of Data Science (SIMODS)</a>.</i>	
FL_PYTORCH : OPTIMIZATION RESEARCH SIMULATOR FOR FEDERATED LEARNING	2021
<a href="https://arxiv.org/abs/2202.03099">https://arxiv.org/abs/2202.03099</a> <a href="https://dl.acm.org/doi/abs/10.1145/3488659.3493775/">https://dl.acm.org/doi/abs/10.1145/3488659.3493775/</a> <i>Accepted for presentation and proceedings to <a href="#">2nd ACM International Workshop on Distributed Machine Learning</a></i>	
MARINA : FASTER NON-CONVEX DISTRIBUTED LEARNING WITH COMPRESSION	2021
<a href="https://arxiv.org/abs/2102.07845">https://arxiv.org/abs/2102.07845</a> <a href="https://proceedings.mlr.press/v139/gorbunov21a.html">https://proceedings.mlr.press/v139/gorbunov21a.html</a> <i>Accepted for presentation and proceedings to <a href="#">Thirty-eighth International Conference on Machine Learning, ICML 2021</a></i>	
PERSONALIZED FEDERATED LEARNING WITH COMMUNICATION COMPRESSION	2021 – 2022
<a href="https://arxiv.org/abs/2209.05148">https://arxiv.org/abs/2209.05148</a>	

1. [Federated Learning : Strategies for Improving Communication Efficiency \[J.Konečný, H.B.McMahan, F.X.Yu, P.Richtarik, A.T.Suresh, D.Bacon, NIPS 2016\]](#)

## TECHNICAL NOTES

TECHNICAL NOTE. FROM C++1998 TO C++2020

2022

[github.com/burlachenkoc/CPP\\_from\\_1998\\_to\\_2020/blob/main/Cpp-Technical-Note.md](https://github.com/burlachenkoc/CPP_from_1998_to_2020/blob/main/Cpp-Technical-Note.md) [Short Information](#)

The technical note is dedicated for all primary C++ programming language standards : C++03/98/11/14/17/20. The technical note has been adopted to [AMD Inc.](#) internal education web portal.

TECHNICAL NOTE. EXPLORING PYTHON3 LANGUAGE FROM A COMPUTING PERSPECTIVE

2023

[github.com/burlachenkoc/exploring-python3/blob/main/python3-note.md](https://github.com/burlachenkoc/exploring-python3/blob/main/python3-note.md) [Short Information](#)

The note contains a language tutorial, a description of several libraries, and a description of several low-level profiling tools for Linux/Posix OS and Windows OS Family. It has been adopted to [Introduction to Data Science workshop series at KAUST](#).

## PRESENTATIONS

- JUNE-2023 [SIAM : Conference on Optimization \(OP23\), USA :](#)  
FL\_PyTorch : Optimization Research Simulator for Federated Learning ([link](#)).
- MARCH-2023 [VCC OPEN HOUSE 2023 event, KSA :](#) FedNL. Making Newton-Type Methods Applicable to FL. ([link](#)).
- DEC-2022 [EMNLP 2022, Abu Dhabi, UAE :](#) Presenter in KAUST AI Initiative booth.
- OCT-2022 [CS Ph.D. Proposal Defense, KSA :](#) Dissertation Title : *Optimization Methods and Software for Federated Learning*. Committee members : [Eric Feron](#), [Marco Canini](#), [Peter Richtarik](#).
- JULY-2022 [Workshop at ACM Symposium on Principles of Distributed Computing, Italy :](#)  
MARINA : Faster non-convex distributed learning with compression.
- MAR-2022 [Rising Stars in AI Symposium KAUST, KSA :](#)  
FL\_PyTorch : Optimization Research Simulator for Federated Learning
- DEC-2021 [ACM DistributedML2021, Rome :](#) FL\_PyTorch : Optimization Research Simulator for Federated Learning.
- JULY-2021 [Poster and spotlight for in ICML-2021, Virtual :](#)  
MARINA Faster Non-Convex Distributed Learning with Compression.
- APR-2021 [Poster at Communication Efficient Distributed Optimization at NSF-TRIPODS Workshop, Virtual :](#)  
MARINA : Faster Non-Convex Distributed Learning with Compression.
- FEB-2020 [OpenTalks.AI conference, Russia :](#) [Huawei technologies for AI developers](#).
- JULY-2019 [Educational center Sirius, Russia.](#) Deep Learning Course with [D.Kamzolov](#).
- DEC-2018 [Moscow Institute of Physics and Technologies](#), Russia. Guest lectures about subtle things around CART, Gradient Boosting and Random Forest : Slides : [Link](#). Presentations : [Session-#1](#), [Session-#2](#).
- APR-2016 [GTC 2016, USA :](#) Presenter in [Driveworks NVIDIA](#) booth.
- AUG-2012 [ACM SIGGRAPH 2012, USA :](#) Presenter in [CentiLeo](#) booth.

## EXPERIENCE

August 2021 **Research Scientist Intern (AI) offer, [FACEBOOK INC.](#), USA, Menlo Park**

After passing competitive interviews I have read several papers that [Dr. Hao-Jun Michael Shi](#) has recommended. We had several discussions and we've selected the research topic that is important to the company and at the same time for my Ph.D. The internship has not happened due to the absence of a J1 VISA.

[Distributed Math Optimization](#) [AI](#) [Federated Learning](#)

Now **CS Ph.D. candidacy and a member of prof. [Peter Richtarik's](#) Optimization and ML Lab, KAUST, KSA**

September 2020

- Narrow area of research : Federated Learning(FL), Stochastic Distributed Math Optimization for AI.
- During Sep, 2022 - Sep, 2023 I was a Member of Center of Excellence in Data Science and Artificial Intelligence [SDAIA-KAUST AI](#). Affiliations are offered to members of the KAUST who have an outstanding record of achievement in AI-related field. During my affiliation I have co-initiated a joint project.
- Areas of my interests : Math and Compute Optimization, Systems Programming, GPGPU, HPC, Cryptography and Privacy, Computer Vision, Computer Graphics, Control Applications for Physical systems.

[Distributed Math Optimization](#) [Federated Learning](#) [Applied Math](#) [Computer Vision](#) [Systems](#) [Cryptography](#) [C/C++](#)  
[CUDA](#) [SSE2](#) [Python](#) [CMake](#) [Qt/PyQt](#) [PyTorch](#) [TF](#) [Latex](#) [Git](#) [Google Tests](#) [Bash](#)

August 2020 **Principal Lead Engineer Level 18 | Foundation AI Lab, [HUAWEI](#), Moscow**

March 2019

- R&D in internal Machine Learning/Systems middleware for [HUAWEI HiSilicon](#).
- Present HiSilicon solutions for engineers, scientists working with ML/AI. [OpenTalks.AI](#), [HUAWEI News](#).
- R&D in internal projects in Machine Learning/Systems [HUAWEI Consumer Business Group](#).
- Obtained high grade in the last review, before going back to academia to gain a [Ph.D. degree at KAUST](#).

[Math Optimization](#) [AI](#) [Custom ISA](#) [C/C++](#) [Python](#) [TVM](#) [Java](#) [Google Protobuf](#) [CMake](#) [Qt](#) [TF](#) [SQL](#)

March 2019 July 2014	<p><b>Senior Developer Technology Engineer Level IC3, <a href="#">NVIDIA</a>, Moscow</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>► <a href="#">Driveworks SDK</a> - SDK for self-driving cars adopted by automotive partners. Computer vision, machine learning, calibration, egomotion. Implementation and presentation of the modules internally.</li> <li>► <a href="#">PhysX/Apex SDK</a> - An industry standard for game physics simulation, graphical special effects. Internal implementation and communication with extra customers (Blizzard).</li> <li>► <a href="#">cuDNN/cuBLAS</a> libraries - GPU computation libraries used by more than 1M customers in machine learning and HPC. Implementation, Documentation, and collaboration with Mathworks.</li> <li>► <a href="#">RAPIDS</a> - GPU based implementation of SkLearn, XgBoost, Pandas. I was responsible for SkLearn.</li> </ul> <div> <span>CUDA</span> <span>GLSL</span> <span>C++</span> <span>AARCH64</span> <span>SSE2/ARM NEON</span> <span>Linux</span> <span>Windows</span> <span>PS4</span> <span>XBox</span> <span>OpenGL</span> <span>Google Tests</span> <span>GitLab</span> <span>Perl</span> <span>Python</span> <span>CMake</span> <span>Make</span> <span>Qt</span> <span>Git</span> <span>TensorFlow</span> <span>Computer Vision</span> <span>Graphics</span> <span>Deep Learning</span> <span>CppCheck</span> </div>
July 2014 May 2013	<p><b>Senior Developer Engineer   Yandex Video Team, <a href="#">YANDEX</a>, Moscow</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>► Text and statistical machine learning features for <a href="#">Yandex Video Search</a>.</li> <li>► Infrastructure for storage and analysis of all web documents with embedded video on the WWW</li> <li>► Infrastructure to show plots for internal team's processes</li> </ul> <div> <span>C++</span> <span>Google Protobuf</span> <span>JavaScript</span> <span>Bash</span> <span>Python</span> <span>Computer Science</span> <span>HTML/JS/CSS</span> <span>SVN</span> <span>MapReduce</span> <span>ML</span> </div>
April 2013 March 2012	<p><b>Lead Physics Engine Developer, FITTING REALITY, Moscow</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>► Develop library for clothing simulation in <a href="#">CUDA</a> and in <a href="#">OpenCL</a> with facade interface to C++/C#.</li> <li>► Custom render engine for clothing visualization compatible with OpenGL 1.2. <a href="#">Demo</a>.</li> <li>► Prepare elements of the demo to investors. Carry internal MATH/CS/PHYS trainings.</li> </ul> <div> <span>C++</span> <span>C</span> <span>OpenGL</span> <span>GLSL</span> <span>Qt</span> <span>Posix</span> <span>WinAPI</span> <span>QMake</span> <span>CUDA</span> <span>OpenCL</span> <span>Physics</span> <span>Graphics</span> <span>gDebugger</span> <span>C#</span> </div>
March 2012 September 2010	<p><b>Software Developer Engineer, <a href="#">ACRONIS</a>, Moscow</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>► Key member of GUI team for <a href="#">Acronis Backup and Recovery 2011 Enterprise</a></li> <li>► Profiling and optimization of the codebase working in user/kernel space for Windows OS.</li> </ul> <div> <span>C++</span> <span>C</span> <span>WinAPI</span> <span>WinDbg</span> <span>VmWare</span> <span>Specialized GUI library</span> <span>SVN</span> <span>SysInternals</span> <span>CppCheck</span> <span>ASM x86</span> <span>AqTime</span> </div>
September 2010 March 2009	<p><b>Senior Software Developer Engineer, CAPITAL RESEARCH, Moscow</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>► Developed Firefox plugin to create the three-dimensional HTML view for basics HTML elements.</li> <li>► The startup terminated. CEO <a href="#">Kirill Garanzha</a> can provide information about my work.</li> </ul> <div> <span>Firefox</span> <span>C++</span> <span>WinAPI</span> <span>HTML/JS/CSS</span> <span>Windows</span> <span>OpenGL</span> <span>GLSL</span> <span>SVN</span> </div>
June 2009 December 2006	<p><b>C++ Programming Engineer, FLINT AND CO, Moscow</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>► Created several computer games with computer vision and graphics part, hardware drivers.</li> <li>► Spent time on factory floors to test and analyze the quality of my solutions. Carry trips to customers.</li> </ul> <div> <span>C++</span> <span>SDL</span> <span>Posix</span> <span>WinApi</span> <span>Development Image Library</span> <span>Low level programming</span> <span>Computer Vision</span> <span>OpenGL</span> <span>SVN</span> </div>
November 2006 March 2006	<p><b>C++ Programming Engineer (Part time work), ASTRASOFT TECHNOLOGY, Moscow</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>► Developed visual elements of management system based on Qt and OpenGL.</li> </ul> <div> <span>C++</span> <span>Qt</span> <span>Windows</span> <span>OpenGL</span> <span>SVN</span> </div>

## COMPETENCES

Programming Languages that I have used	C89/C99, C++20/11/03, C#, Cython, Java ,x86/AArch64, NDA ASM
Scripting Languages that I have used	Python, Bash, Perl Cython (between scripting and compiled language)
DSL Languages that I have used	GL SL, TVM, Google Protobuf, CUDA, OpenCL, Matlab, R, SQL
Frameworks	Qt, CUDA, WinApi, Posix, OpenGL, OpenCL, PyTorch, TensorFlow, CvxPy
Operating Systems	Windows, Linux based, Orbis, Xbox, Android, NDA OS-es
Development Environments	QtCreator, Visual Studio, Eclipse, WinDbg, Android Studio, TexStudio, Nsight
General purpose development tools	SysInternals, AqTime, Cmake, GNU Toolchain, CppCheck, Valgrind, Git, QMake
Typing DSL Languages	Latex, HTML, XML, Markdown
Areas of interest	Federated Learning, Stochastic Distributed Math Optimization, AI, Computer Vision, Statistical/Machine Learning, System Programming, GPU Programming, Convex/Non Convex Math Optimization, Differential Privacy, Computer Graphics, Computational Physics, Datamining, Distributed Systems.
Sport achievements	The Candidate Master in chess by FIDE. (My <a href="#">FIDE profile</a> ). <a href="#">Second Place in KAUST Chess Tournament</a> .

## SELECTED PERSONAL AND ACADEMIC PROJECTS

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### MATH OPTIMIZATION RESEARCH STUDIO

2020

[Project report - Math Optimizaiton Research Studio](#) [Description](#) [Bitbucket repo](#)

CS380 : Math Optimization Research Studio. Self-developed command line interpreter with custom script language with self-developed backend computation in C++/CUDA.

C++ Linux Windows CUDA CMake Dot Google Test Python Bash

### EXPERIMENTAL NEURAL NET FRAMEWORK

2019

[Report.CS230 - 2019](#) [Poster CS230 - 2019](#) [bitbucket repo](#) [Presentation](#)

CS230 : Experimental Neural Net Framework. Mentor : Steven Z. Chen(stevenzc@stanford.edu)

C++ Linux Windows CUDA Python CMake

### CONVEX OPTIMIZATION SOLVERS WITH LEVERAGING INTO GPU/CPU POWER FOR AI/ML

2018

[Poster CS221 - 2018](#) [Bitbucket repo](#)

CS221 : Convex optimization solvers with leveraging into GPU/CPU power for AI/ML. Mentor : [Steven Diamond](#)

C++ Linux Windows CUDA Python CMake Convex Optimization

### CONVEX OPTIMIZATION FOR MACHINE LEARNING

2017

[Poster CS229 - 2017.](#) [Presentation](#)

Stanford, CS229 : Convex Optimization for Machine Learning

C++ Visual Studio Numerical Linear Algebra Convex Optimization Python CMake

### PLOTTER++. STANDALONE TOOL FOR PLOT IMAGES, GRAPHS, POINT CLOUDS, TEXT LOGS VIA OBTAINING DATA FROM TCP/IP

2017

[github.com/burlachenko/plotter\\_plusplus](https://github.com/burlachenko/plotter_plusplus) [Presentation](#)

An advanced scientific plotter tool suitable to use in connection with embedded systems.

C++ Linux Windows Embedded Systems Qt Python

### LANE DETECTION USING FOURIER BASED LINE DETECTOR

2016

[Report](#) [Presentation](#)

Lane detection using Fourier based line detector

Matlab

### HTML REPORT GENERATOR FOR GOOGLE TESTS

2016

[GitHub](#)

Project goal is to generate and compare different [Google Test](#) reports from several launches. Project is used by [Hyundai AutoEver](#), and [Hapsoft Consulting](#).

Python HTML XML

## “ REFERENCES

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#### Andrew Ng

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#### Timour Paltashev

AMD and Core faculty, NORTHWESTERN POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY, [LETTER](#)

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