

# Conor Sheehan

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## EDUCATION

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### Yale University

New Haven, CT

*PhD Statistics and Data Science, advised by Professor Ilias Zadik*

2022 – Present

- Research focusing on the tradeoffs between statistical optimality and computational efficiency in high-dimensional problems.
- Other interests include high-dimensional probability, sampling problems and diffusion models.
- Courses include Advanced Probability, Statistical Inference, Information Theory, Stochastic Processes, and Advanced Optimization Techniques.
- Teaching Assignments: Optimization and Computation, Stochastic Processes, Probability Theory, Advanced Optimization Techniques

### University of St Andrews

St Andrews, UK

*MSc Statistics (Distinction)*

2020 – 2021

- Named on Dean's List for academic excellence.
- Courses included Measure and Probability Theory, Functional Analysis, and Bayesian Inference.
- Thesis on statistical and neural machine translation.

### University of Oxford

Oxford, UK

*BA Philosophy, Politics and Economics (First Class)*

2017 – 2020

- Major subject: Economics, minor subject: Philosophy.
- Awarded Exhibitioner Scholarship by Merton College in 2018 (renewed 2019).

## PUBLICATIONS AND PREPRINTS

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- On the Low-Temperature MCMC threshold: the cases of Sparse Tensor PCA, Sparse Regression, and a Geometric Rule. Zongchen Chen, Conor Sheehan, and Ilias Zadik, 2024. <https://arxiv.org/abs/2408.00746>
- Almost-Optimal Local-Search Methods for Sparse Tensor PCA. Max Lovig, Conor Sheehan, Kostas Tsirkas, Ilias Zadik, 2025. <https://arxiv.org/abs/2506.09959>

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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### Data Scientist

London, UK

*Hypus Ltd*

September 2021 – June 2022

- Digital marketing agency based in London.
- My work involved manipulating data and building statistical models to optimise bids in auctions for online advertisements.

## ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS

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### Dean's List

St Andrews, UK

*For excellent academic performance on my master's programme.*

2021

### Exhibitioner Scholarship

Oxford, UK

*Awarded by Merton College for excellent academic performance.*

2018, renewed 2019

### Fowler Prize

Oxford, UK

*Awarded by Merton College for excellent exam results on four occasions.*

2018 – 2020

## SKILLS AND INTERESTS

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**Technical skills:** Python, R, machine learning, Git, Linux.

**Languages:** English – Native, Irish – Advanced.

**Interests:** Economics, metaphysics and logic, quizzes (represented Merton College, Oxford on the BBC television show University Challenge in 2020).