

Thomas Mesnard

Graduated Student in Applied Mathematics and
Machine Learning from École Normale Supérieure

45 rue d'Ulm
75005, Paris, France
☎ +33 6 64 63 45 37
✉ thomas.mesnard@ens.fr
👤 [thomasmesnard](#)
🌐 [thomas-mesnard](#)
🏠 [Homepage](#)

Education

- 2015 – 2016 **École Normale Supérieure**, in partnership with *École Polytechnique*, Paris, France.
MSc in Applied Mathematics, Machine Learning, Computer Vision (a.k.a Master MVA).
Supervisor: Francis Bach. Completed summa cum laude.
- 2013 – 2016 **École Normale Supérieure**, Paris, France.
MSc in General Science, Majoring in Neuroinformatics (Cogmaster).
- 2011 – 2013 **Lycée René Cassin**, "Classes préparatoires PC*", Bayonne, France.
Two-year program in Mathematics and Physics for competitive entrance to top French engineering schools. Completed summa cum laude.

Work Experience

- 2016 **EPFL**, *Research Intern*, Switzerland. Supervisors: **Wulfram Gerstner**, **Johanni Brea**.
4 months
 - Exploring deep learning techniques with spiking neurons in energy based models
 - Investigating backpropagation with random feedback weights in deep neural networks
- 2016 Participating to a Kaggle Competition organized by Allen Institute AI
- 2015 **Montreal Institute of Learning Algorithms**, *Research Intern*, Montreal, Canada.
5 months Supervisor: **Yoshua Bengio**.
 - Focusing on new biologically plausible deep learning algorithms
 - Exploring new versions of RNNs/Clockwork RNNs using LSTM and GRU
 - Attended Deep Learning class by Aaron Courville
- 2014 **Institut Curie**, *Research Intern*, Paris, France. Supervisor: **Filippo Del Bene**.
2 months
 - ZebraFish visual system mapping using data-analysis and machine learning

Publications

- [1] Yoshua Bengio, **Thomas Mesnard**, Asja Fischer, Saizheng Zhang, and Yuhai Wu. "STDP as presynaptic activity times rate of change of postsynaptic activity approximates back-propagation". In: *Neural computation* 29.1 (2017).
- [2] **Thomas Mesnard**, Wulfram Gerstner, and Johanni Brea. "Towards deep learning with spiking neurons in energy based models with contrastive Hebbian plasticity". In: *Proceedings of the 29th Neural Information Processing Systems*. Computing with Spikes Workshop. 2016.
- [3] Yoshua Bengio, Asja Fischer, **Thomas Mesnard**, and Yuhai Wu. "From STDP towards Biologically Plausible Deep Learning". In: *Proceedings of the 32th international conference on Machine learning*. Deep Learning Workshop. 2015.
- [4] Yoshua Bengio, Dong-Hyun Lee, Jorg Bornschein, **Thomas Mesnard**, and Zhouhan Lin. "Towards biologically plausible deep learning". In: *arXiv preprint:1502.04156v3* (2015).

Computer Skills and Languages

IT Skills

General:	Python, Julia, Matlab, Octave, Git, Unix, L ^A T _E X
Deep Learning:	Theano, Torch, Tensorflow
Machine Learning:	Numpy, Scikit-learn

Languages

French	Native
English	Fluent
Spanish	Intermediate

Teaching and Academic Awards

- 2015 **École Normale Supérieure**, Paris, France.
Talk about Deep Learning
- 2014 **Louis Le Grand and Stanislas High Schools**, Paris, France.
Delivered lectures during the National Olympiad
- 2014 **Saint Louis High School**, Paris, France.
Examiner in "Classes Préparatoires" for nationwide competitive entrance to top French engineering schools
- 2013 – 2014 **École Normale Supérieure**, Paris, France.
Delivered lectures during the International Olympiad
- 2012 Selected for the French final of the International Olympiad, 3rd out of 310
- 2011 Selected for the final of the National Olympiad, 21st out of 2,000

Interests and Activities

- Music** ○ Cello, 12 years
- Arts** ○ Performed concerts alone or in an orchestra
- Photography, 8 years
- Sports** ○ Athletics
- Surf
- Trekking
- Travel** ○ Many road trips around Asia, America, Africa, Europe