

Ernest van Wijland

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Education

- **PhD Computer Science** IRIF, Université Paris-Cité
2024 – Present
 - PhD student under Claire Mathieu and Vincent Cohen-Addad's supervision.
- **MSc Computer Science, BSc Mathematics** École Normale Supérieure
2020 – 2024
 - Graduated both the MSc (MPRI) and the BSc (double major in Mathematics and Computer Science) with highest honors.
- **Preparatory Class** Lycée Louis-le-Grand
2018 – 2020
 - Paris, France

Publications

- **An Improved Greedy Approximation for (Metric) k -Means** FOCS
2025
 - Charikar, Cohen-Addad, Gao, Grandoni, Lee, Van Wijland
- **Faster Approximation Scheme for Euclidean k -TSP** SoCG
2024
 - Ernest van Wijland, Hang Zhou
- **Maximizing Nash Social Welfare in 2-Value Instances: Delineating Tractability** MOR
2023
 - Akrami et al.
- **Maximizing Nash Social Welfare in 2-Value Instances** AAAI
2022
 - Akrami et al.

Research experience

- **Approximation Algorithms for Clustering** IRIF (Université Paris-Cité)
2024 – Present
 - Paris, France

Currently working under Claire Mathieu and Vincent Cohen-Addad's supervision at IRIF on finding approximation algorithms for clustering problems.
- **Approximating TSP generalizations** IRIF (Université Paris-Cité)
2023 – 2024
 - Paris, France

Worked for a year under Claire Mathieu and Hang Zhou's supervision at IRIF on finding fast approximation schemes for generalizations of the TSP, in Euclidean spaces and general metric spaces.
- **Euclidean CVRP, k -TSP** LIX (Polytechnique)
2023
 - Palaiseau, France

Worked for a semester under Hang Zhou's supervision in Polytechnique on finding faster approximation schemes for the Euclidean CVRP and k -TSP.
- **Approximating 2-WECSS** THL (EPFL)
2022
 - Lausanne, Switzerland

Worked for a semester under Ola Svensson's supervision in the Combinatorial Optimization team at EPFL on finding a better than 2 approximation for 2-WECSS.
- **Fair Division for additive instances** AGT (Max Planck Institut)
2021
 - Sarrebruck, Germany

Worked for two months under Kurt Mehlhorn's supervision in the Algorithmic Game Theory team of the MPII on the Fair Division problem for additive instances.

Spectrum of heavy-tailed random matrices

DMA (École Normale Supérieure)

2021

- Paris, France

Worked under Laure Dumaz' supervision on a paper by Ben Arous and Guionnet.

Academic achievements

MasterDev Best French Developer Contest 5th place finisher

- Paris, France 2023

- French national contest in Computer Science, with thousands of participants from every major IT company

- awarded the 5000€ Genius prize as a high scoring student

International Olympiad in Informatics Bronze medalist

- Tsukuba, Japan 2018

Dutch National Olympiad in Informatics winner

- Utrecht, Netherlands 2018

Innopolis University Olympiad in Informatics finalist

- Innopolis, Russia 2018

International Olympiad in Informatics participant

- Tehran, Iran 2017

As part of the top 4 High-School students in the Dutch National Olympiad in Informatics.

Outreach

Member of the France-IOI association

- France 2018 – Present

I am involved in organizing the Castor and Algoréa contests, in which more than 600 000 students from elementary school to high-school participate every year. I am also involved in selecting and training the best students that participate in the Informatics Olympiad.

Member of the Netherlands-IO association

- Netherlands 2018 – Present

I am involved with the computer science outreach campaign towards Dutch high-school girls and preparing the Dutch girls team for the European Girls Olympiad in Informatics.

Lecturer at the Moroccan Olympiad in Informatics training camp

- Morocco 2019

Gave algorithms lectures to Moroccan middle-school and high-school students.

Other interests

- Active Judo black belt and Tennis player.
- Practicing piano for the past 15 years, part of the chamber music club in the ENS. Founder of the Early Music section.
- Graduated from the Juvisy Music Conservatory in Music Theory, Piano and Ensemble Playing (2018).
- Minoring in Musicology at ENS.