

# Grigory Yaroslavtsev, <http://grigory.us>

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RESEARCH Approximation and sublinear time algorithms for big data: sparsification, summarization,  
INTERESTS private data release, property testing.

2013-2014 **Brown University** [ICERM](#), Providence, RI.

Postdoctoral Fellow in Mathematics and Computer Science.

2010-2013 **Pennsylvania State University**, State College, PA (Joined by invitation, didn't apply to any other Ph.D. programs)

Ph.D., Thesis: "Efficient Combinatorial Techniques in Sparsification, Summarization and Testing of Large Datasets."

2008-2010 **Academic University of the Russian Academy of Sciences**, St. Petersburg, Russia

M.S. in Applied Mathematics and Physics (1<sup>st</sup> student in the pilot class, joint with Steklov Institute), GPA: 4.9/5.0.

2004-2008 **St. Petersburg State Polytechnic University**, St. Petersburg, Russia

B.S. in Physics and Technology. (1<sup>st</sup> result in the admission test for the department).

RESEARCH **Microsoft Research, Redmond**, May 2013 – August 2013.

INTERNSHIPS **Theory group**, mentored by [Konstantin Makarychev](#).

- Research in approximation and online algorithms for scheduling (with N. Devanur, K. Makarychev and D. Panigrahi, in submission to ICALP'14).
- Research in approximation algorithms for correlation clustering (with K. Makarychev, T. Schramm).

**Microsoft Research, SVC**, August 2012 – October 2012.

**Theory group**, mentored by [Alexandr Andoni](#).

- Parallel algorithms for large-scale geometric problems (with A. Andoni, A. Nikolov and K. Onak, STOC'14).

**IBM Research, Almaden**, May 2012 – July 2012.

**Theory group**, mentored by [David P. Woodruff](#).

- Optimal direct-sum theorem for one-way communication complexity, showing that parallel repetition is optimal for solving multiple instances of problems, such as augmented indexing (with M. Molinaro and D. Woodruff, SODA'13).
- Almost optimal round vs. communication protocol for computing the intersection of distributed databases (with D. Woodruff, in submission to PODC'14, U.S. patent pending).

**AT&T Labs — Research**, May 2011 — August 2011.

**Database theory group**, mentored by [Graham Cormode](#), [Cecilia M. Procopiuc](#), [Divesh Srivastava](#) and [Howard Karloff](#).

- Design and implementation of efficient differentially private mechanisms for linear queries (with G. Cormode, M. Procopiuc and D. Srivastava, ICDE'13)
- Approximation algorithms for finding overlapping clusters using qualitative information (with H. Karloff and A. Wirth, in submission to KDD'14).

## SOFTWARE

### ENGINEERING

- **FBReader**, Java developer, October 2007 — April 2008.
  - Worked on FBReaderJ — the first version of FBReader for Java and Android. New page: [www.fbreader.org/fbreaderj](http://www.fbreader.org/fbreaderj). Old page: <http://old.fbreader.org/FBReaderJ/>.
- **Code samples on GitHub**
  - Knots, Java, 2007 (Demonstrates object-oriented programming skills and familiarity with patterns of OOP, unit testing with JUnit, etc. Done as a practice project at the Academy of Modern Software Engineering): <https://github.com/grigory/knots>
  - Shortest Paths Algorithms on Maps, C++, 2010 (Demonstrates algorithmic programming skills. Done as a project for the Microsoft Research Summer School on Algorithms and Data Structures): <https://github.com/grigory/midas-landmarks>

## ACHIEVEMENTS

### AND AWARDS

- **Best Graduate Research Assistant at Computer Science and Engineering Department**, 2012.
- **TopCoder Open Algorithm Competition onsite finalist (Top 24 worldwide, handle “griffon”)**, 2010.
- **College of Engineering Fellowship**, 2010 — 2013.
- **University Graduate Fellowship**, 2010 — 2011.
- **Yandex personal research grant**, 2009 — 2010.
- Travel awards: ICDE’13, SODA’13, FOCS’12, STOC’12, STOC’11, ICALP’11, SAT’09.
- Diploma for coaching the best team in St. Petersburg Olympiad in Informatics and Programming for high-school students, 2008.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place in St. Petersburg State Polytechnic University Olympiad in Mathematics, 2005.
- Best result in the admissions test for the Department of Physics and Technology in St. Petersburg State Polytechnic University, 2004.

## JOURNAL

### PAPERS

- **Private Analysis of Graph Structure**, with Vishesh Karwa, Sofya Raskhodnikova and Adam Smith.  
ACM Transactions on Database Systems, to appear.
- **Steiner Transitive-Closure Spanners of Low-Dimensional Posets**, with Piotr Berman, Arnab Bhattacharyya, Elena Grigorescu, Sofya Raskhodnikova and David Woodruff.  
Combinatorica, to appear.
- **Approximation Algorithms for Spanner Problems and Directed Steiner Forest**, with Piotr Berman, Arnab Bhattacharyya, Konstantin Makarychev and Sofya Raskhodnikova.  
Information and Computation, special issue for ICALP’11. Volume 222, 2013, pp. 93-107.
- **New upper bounds on the Boolean Circuit Complexity of Symmetric Functions**, with Eugeny Demenkov, Arist Kojevnikov and Alexander Kulikov.  
Information Processing Letters, 110, pp. 264-267, Elsevier, 2010.

## SUBMITTED

- **Online Machine Minimization and Related Problems**, with Nikhil Devanur, Konstantin Makarychev and Debmalya Panigrahi.  
In submission to ICALP 2014 (41st International Colloquium on Automata, Languages, and Programming), Track A.
- **Beyond Set Disjointness: The Communication Complexity of Finding the Intersection**, with Joshua Brody, Amit Chakrabarti, Ranganath Kondapally and David Woodruff.  
In submission to PODC 2014 (33rd Annual ACM SIGACT-SIGOPS Symposium on Principles of Distributed Computing).

- **The Information Complexity of Certifying Equality and Finding the Intersection**, with Joshua Brody, Amit Chakrabarti, Ranganath Kondapally and David Woodruff.  
In submission. Draft: [PDF](#).
  - **Correlation Clustering with Overlaps**, with Howard Karloff, Jessica McClintock, Charalampos Tsourakakis and Anthony Wirth.  
In submission to KDD 2014 (20th ACM SIGKDD Conference on Knowledge Discovery and Data Mining). Draft: [PDF](#).
  - **Parallel Algorithms for Geometric Graph Problems**, with Alexandr Andoni, Krzysztof Onak and Aleksandar Nikolov.  
STOC 2014 (46th ACM Symposium on the Theory of Computing). Draft: [PDF](#). Tech report: [ArXiv:1401.0042](#).
  - **$L_p$ -testing**, with Piotr Berman and Sofya Raskhodnikova.  
STOC 2014 (46th ACM Symposium on the Theory of Computing). Draft: [PDF](#).
  - **Lower Bounds for Testing Properties of Functions over Hypergrid Domains**, with Eric Blais and Sofya Raskhodnikova.  
CCC 2014 (29th IEEE Conference on Computational Complexity). Draft: [PDF](#). Tech report: [ECCC TR13-036](#).
  - **<sup>1</sup>Accurate and Efficient Private Release of Datacubes and Contingency Tables**. Grigory Yaroslavtsev, Graham Cormode, Cecilia M. Procopiuc and Divesh Srivastava.  
ICDE 2013 (29th IEEE International Conference on Data Engineering). Available as [ArXiv:1207.6096](#).
  - **Beating the Direct Sum Theorem in Communication Complexity with Implications for Sketching**, with Marco Molinaro and David Woodruff.  
SODA 2013 (24th Annual ACM-SIAM Symposium on Discrete Algorithms).
  - **Learning Pseudo-Boolean k-DNF and Submodular Functions**, with Sofya Raskhodnikova.  
SODA 2013 (24th Annual ACM-SIAM Symposium on Discrete Algorithms).
  - **Primal-dual algorithms for Node-Weighted Network Design in Planar Graphs**, with Piotr Berman.  
APPROX 2012 (15th International Workshop on Approximation Algorithms for Combinatorial Optimization Problems).
  - **Private Analysis of Graph Structure**, with Vishesh Karwa, Sofya Raskhodnikova and Adam Smith.  
VLDB 2011 (37th International Conference on Very Large Data Bases), Research track.
  - **Improved Approximation for the Directed Spanner Problem**, with Piotr Berman, Arnab Bhattacharyya, Konstantin Makarychev and Sofya Raskhodnikova.  
ICALP 2011 (38th International Colloquium on Automata, Languages and Programming), Track A.
- Runner-up for the Best Paper Award, invited to a special issue of a journal "Information and Computation".**

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<sup>1</sup>This is the only paper with non-alphabetical ordering of authors

- **Steiner Transitive-Closure Spanners of Low-Dimensional Posets**, with Piotr Berman, Arnab Bhattacharaya, Elena Grigorescu, Sofya Raskhodnikova and David Woodruff.  
ICALP 2011 (38th International Colloquium on Automata, Languages and Programming), Track A.
- **Finding Efficient Circuits using SAT-solvers**, with Arist Kojevnikov and Alexander Kulikov.  
SAT 2009 (12th International Conference on Theory and Applications of Satisfiability Testing).

#### RESEARCH VISITS

- Microsoft Research, Redmond. 01/08/14–01/12/14. (Host: Konstantin Makarychev)
- IBM T.J. Watson Research Center, Yorktown Heights, NY. 04/19/11–04/21/11, 11/13/12–11/15/12. (Hosts: Konstantin Makarychev, Vishwanath Nagarajan)
- AT&T Labs – Research, Florham Park, NJ. 11/18/11–11/25/11. (Host: Howard Karloff)
- Weizmann Institute of Science, Rehovot, Israel. 12/27/12–01/04/13. (Host: Robert Krauthgamer)
- University of Melbourne, Australia. 04/12/13–04/20/13. (Host: Anthony Wirth)
- Aarhus University, Denmark. 05/17/13–05/25/13. (Host: Joshua Brody)

#### LONG TALKS + POSTERS

- Approximating Graph Problems: The Old and The New
  - MIT, Boston, MA. Algorithms and Complexity Seminar. February 2014.
  - Toyota Technological Institute, Chicago IL. February 2014.
- Testing Properties Under  $L_p$  Distances
  - Microsoft Research, Redmond. Theory Lunch. January 2014.
  - Harvard University, Boston MA. Theory Seminar. November 2013.
  - Brown University, Providence RI. Theory Seminar. November 2013.
  - IBM Almaden Research Center, San Jose, CA. October 2013.
- Property Testing and Communication Complexity
  - MIT, Boston, MA. Algorithms and Complexity seminar. September 2013.
- Accurate and Efficient Private Release of Data Cubes and Contingency Tables
  - Cornell University, CDI project meeting. May 2013.
- Beating the Direct Sum in Communication Complexity with Implications for Sketching.
  - Aarhus University, Denmark. Theory seminar. May 2013.
  - MIT, Boston, MA. Algorithms and Complexity seminar. December 2012.
  - Princeton University, Princeton, NJ. Theory lunch. November 2012.
  - FOCS 2012, Rutgers University, NJ. Poster session. October 2012.
- Overlapping Clustering with Qualitative Information
  - FOCS 2012, Rutgers University, NJ. Poster session. October 2012.
- Parallel Algorithms for Geometric Problems
  - Microsoft Research SVC, Mountain View, CA. Group meeting. October 2012.
  - FOCS 2012, Rutgers University, NJ. Poster session. October 2012.
- Learning and Testing Submodular Functions.
  - Microsoft Research, Redmond. Theory seminar. June 2013.
  - University Of Melbourne, Theory seminar, April 2013.
  - UCLA, Los Angeles, LA. Theory seminar. February 2013.
  - Weizmann Institute of Science, Rehovot, Israel. Theory seminar. December 2012.
  - New York Computer Science and Economics Day (NYCE), New York, NY. Poster session. December 2012.
  - Harvard University, Boston, MA. Theory seminar. December 2012.
  - Carnegie-Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA. Theory lunch, December 2012.
  - Carnegie-Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA. OR seminar. December 2012.
  - IBM T.J. Watson Research Center, Yorktown Heights, NY. IP for lunch. November 2012.

- Columbia University, New York, NY. October 2012.
- FOCS 2012, Rutgers University, NJ. Poster session. October 2012.
- Microsoft Research SVC, Mountain View, CA. Theory seminar. October 2012.
- EPFL, Lausanne, Switzerland. Algorithmic Frontiers Workshop, poster session. June 2012.
- STOC 2012, New York, NY. Poster session. May 2012.
- IBM Almaden Research Center, San Jose, CA. Theory seminar. May 2012.
- [Advances in Directed Spanners](#).
  - University of Sydney, Theory seminar, April 2013.
  - Carnegie-Mellon University, Theory Lunch, November 2011.
  - University of Maryland, Capital Area Theory Seminar, November 2011.
- [Private Analysis of Graph Structure](#)
  - EPFL, Lausanne, Switzerland. Algorithmic Frontiers Workshop, poster session. June 2012.
  - AT&T Labs — Research, Florham Park, NJ. August 2011.
- Introduction to Property Testing
  - St. Petersburg Department of V.A. Steklov Institute of Mathematics of the Russian Academy of Sciences. December 2012.
  - St. Petersburg Institute of Fine Mechanics and Optics. Theory seminar. December 2012.
- [Introduction to Differential Privacy](#) (based on slides by Adam D. Smith).
  - St. Petersburg Department of Steklov Institute of Mathematics, Computer Science club, May 2011.
- Property Testing and Communication Complexity
  - Moscow State University. Kolmogorov seminar. May 2011.
- [Improved Approximation for the Directed Spanner Problem](#)
  - AT&T Labs — Research, Florham Park, NJ. Mathematics Research Colloquium and Informal Seminar. June 2011.
  - Princeton, NJ, June 2011. Workshop on Approximation Algorithms, Open Problem Session: [\[Slides\]](#), [\[Notes by Rajesh Chitnis\]](#).
  - STOC 2011, San Jose, CA. Poster session. June 2011.
  - Moscow State University. Combinatorial optimization seminar. May 2011.
  - IBM T.J. Watson Research Center, Yorktown Heights, NY. IP for lunch. April 2011.
  - St. Petersburg Institute of Fine Mechanics and Optics. Theory seminar. December 2010.
- [Linear bounds on circuit complexity and feebly one-way permutations](#)
  - Pennsylvania State University, State College, PA. Theory seminar. April 2010.

## PATENTS

- “A Communication and Message-Efficient Protocol for Computing the Intersection Between Different Sets of Data”, with David P. Woodruff. U.S. patent pending. IBM Almaden Research Center, San Jose, CA.

## SERVICE

Organized [Theory Seminar](#) at Brown CS Department (2013 – 2014).

PC member for “Graph Theory and Applications” CSEDays 2012, Ekaterinburg, Russia.

Reviewer for:

- Journals: SIAM Journal on Computing (SICOMP), SIAM Journal on Discrete Mathematics (SIDMA), Information and Computation (I&C), IEEE Transactions on Knowledge and Data Engineering (TKDE), Theory of Computing (ToC).
- Conferences: FOCS’13, MFCS’13, ICALP’13, SODA’13, APPROX’12, FOCS’12, COCOA’12, SWAT’12, SODA’12, VLDB’12, WADS’11, MFCS’10, SAT’10.

TEACHING 15-hour crash course “[Sublinear Algorithms for Big Data](#)”:

- Brown University, ICERM. Spring 2014.
- University of Buenos Aires, Argentina. July – August 2014.

Organized a theory reading group at Penn State (running meetings / selection of material):

- Spring 2013: “Computer Science for the Information Age”, based on an eponymous book by John Hopcroft and Ravi Kannan.
- Fall 2011: Selected lectures from classes [Analysis of Boolean Functions](#) by Ryan O’Donnell and [The PCP Theorem and Hardness of Approximation](#) by Venkatesan Guruswami and Ryan O’Donnell at CMU.
- Spring 2011: “[A Theorist’s Toolkit](#)”, based on notes for a class taught by Sanjeev Arora at Princeton.

Extracurricular education for high-school students:

- Prepared training contests for the United States team in International Olympiad in Informatics 2011.
- Co-founder and coordinator of St. Petersburg network of extracurricular education in informatics for high-school students (<http://spbtc.ru>) (2009-2010).
- Judge for Baltic Science and Engineering Contest (Intel ISEF semifinals), 2010.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP ACM SIGACT, IEEE

MEMBERSHIP

TECHNICAL SKILLS C/C++, STL, Java, Windows/Linux,  $\text{\LaTeX}$ , CPLEX/Gurobi/AMPL.

SKILLS