

# Nil-Jana Akpinar

## Curriculum Vitae

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### Education

- since Aug 2018 **Ph.D. in Statistics and Data Science** (4.00/4.00)  
Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA
- Oct 2015 - Jul 2018 **M.S. in Mathematics** (1.3/6.0)\*  
University of Freiburg, Germany
- Oct 2013 - Sep 2017 **B.S. in Economics** (1.5/6.0)\*  
University of Freiburg, Germany
- Oct 2012 - Sep 2015 **B.S. in Mathematics** (1.5/6.0)\*  
University of Freiburg, Germany

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### Publications and Presentations

- Akpinar, N.-J.**, Kratzwald, B., Feuerriegel, S. (2019) Sample Complexity Bounds for Recurrent Neural Networks with Application to Combinatorial Graph Problems, *arXiv:1901.10289*
- Akpinar, N.-J.**, Feuerriegel, S. (2017) A Model-free Solver For Arbitrary Graph Problems: Predicting Solutions With Deep Learning, *INFORMS Annual Meeting, Houston, Texas. (Presented by S. Feuerriegel)*
- Akpinar, N.-J.**, Alfano, S., Kersten, G., Yu, B. (2017). The Role of Sentiment and Cultural Differences in the Commutation Process of e-Negotiations. In: *Schoop M., Kilgour D. (eds) Group Decision and Negotiation. A Socio-Technical Perspective. GDN 2017. Springer, p.132-144.*

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### Research Experience

- Since Jul 2018 **Carnegie Mellon University, A.Chouldechova**  
Social bias in predictive policing
- Since Dec 2018 **Carnegie Mellon University, A. Ramdas and U. Acar**  
Diderot: Learning from educational software data
- Apr 2017 - Apr 2018 **University of Freiburg, S. Feuerriegel and S. Bartels**  
Heuristic solvers for graph problems based on deep neural networks (MS thesis)
- Nov 2016 - Feb 2017 **University of Freiburg, D. Neumann and S. Alfano**  
Sentiment analysis and the role of culture in e-negotiations (BS thesis)

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\*German grading system: 1.0 (excellent) - 6.0 (clear fail), 4.0 is lowest passing grade

- Sep 2016 - Nov 2016 **Concordia University (Montreal, CA)**, *G. Kersten and B. Yu*  
Communication patterns in e-negotiations
- Sep 2014 - Jan 2015 **University of Freiburg**, *A. Huber-Klawitter*  
 $p$ -adic number theory (BS thesis)

## Teaching Experience

- Fall 2019 **Topics course: Text Analysis**, *CMU*, TA
- Spring 2019 **Advanced Data Analysis**, *CMU*, TA
- Fall 2018 **Probability Theory for Computer Scientists**, *CMU*, TA
- Spring 2018 **Intro. to Programming in C++**, *Univ. of Freiburg*, TA
- Fall 2016 **Management Informations Systems/Intro. to R**, *Univ. of Freiburg*, TA
- Fall 2015 **Mathematics for Chemists**, *Univ. of Freiburg*, TA
- Fall 2014 **Linear Algebra**, *Univ. of Freiburg*, TA
- Spring 2014 **Intro. to Programming in C**, *Univ. of Freiburg*, TA

## CMU Graduate Coursework

- Fall 2019 **Advanced Introduction to Machine Learning**, *N. Shah*, 10-715
- Fall 2019 **Advanced Statistical Theory II**, *A. Rinaldo*, 36-710
- Spring 2019 **Statistical Machine Learning**, *L. Wasserman*, 36-708
- Spring 2019 **Advanced Statistical Theory I**, *A. Rinaldo*, 36-709
- Spring 2019 **Advanced Data Analysis**, *V. Ventura*, 36-757
- Fall 2018 **Statistical Computing**, *C. Genovese and A. Reinhardt*, 36-750
- Fall 2018 **Intermediate Statistics**, *S. Balakrishnan*, 36-705
- Fall 2018 **Regression Analysis**, *V. Ventura*, 36-707

## Honors

- Sep 2016 - Nov 2016 Research Visit Grant of the German National Academic Foundation
- Mar 2013 - Aug 2018 Full Study Scholarship of the German National Academic Foundation
- Jul 2012 Abitur Award of the German Mathematical Society
- Jul 2012 Abitur Award for Economics of Südwestmetall

## Skills

- Languages German (native), English (fluent, 116/120 TOEFL), French, Turkish and Spanish (elementary)
- Computer Python, R, C,  $\text{\LaTeX}$

## University Service

- Oct 2015 - Aug 2018 **Elected Member of the Faculty Council**, *School of Mathematics and Physics*, *Univ. of Freiburg*

Oct 2014 - Oct 2015 **Elected Member of the Senate**, Univ. of Freiburg

Apr 2013 - Aug 2018 **Member of the Student Council**, *Dep. of Mathematics*, Univ. of Freiburg  
Student member of the examination board (4 years), student member of faculty  
appointment committee, introduction of first-year students, etc.

September 25, 2019