

NIKOLA HRISTOV KONSTANTINOV

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EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT

- 04.2022 – **ETH Zurich AI Center: Postdoctoral fellow**
- Mentors: Prof. Martin Vechev and Prof. Fanny Yang
- Research focus: *Trustworthy Machine Learning*
- 2017 – 03.2022 **IST Austria (ISTA): PhD Student; Member the ELLIS PhD Program**
- Supervisor: Prof. Christoph H. Lampert
- Thesis: *Robustness and Fairness in Machine Learning*
- 2013 – 2017 **University of Oxford: Master in Mathematics and Statistics; Grade: 1.1**
- Master Thesis: “*Kernel Dependence Measures for Unsupervised Learning*”, supervised by Prof. Dino Sejdinovic
- Focus on Probability Theory, Stochastic Analysis, Statistics
- 2005 – 2013 **Sofia High School of Mathematics**
- Bulgarian High School Diploma, grade 5.99 out of 6
- Extracurricular classes in Mathematics, Informatics and English

INTERNSHIPS AND ACADEMIC VISITS

- Spring of 2021 **University of Milan, Italy: ELLIS PhD Exchange Visit (3 months)**
- Host: Prof. Nicolò Cesa-Bianchi
- Studying models for online learning from multiple unreliable data sources
- Summer of 2019 **Amazon.com, Berlin, Germany: Applied Research Internship (3 months)**
- Group: Intelligent Cloud Control; Mentor: Paul Vazquez
- Evaluation and model comparison of predictive models for cloud computing
- Summer of 2016 **ATASS Sports, Exeter, UK: Research Internship (7 weeks)**
- Statistical modelling for sports prediction
- Experience in statistical programming with R and manipulating large datasets
- Summer of 2015 **IST Austria (ISTA): Research Internship (11 weeks)**
- Supervisor: Prof. Nick Barton
- Mathematical models of evolution: quantifying the effects of various genetic phenomena on spatially extended populations

PAPERS

Publications

- Florian E. Dorner, Momchil Peychev, **N.K.**, Naman Goel, Elliott Ash, Martin Vechev: Human-Guided Fair Classification for Natural Language Processing
To appear in: International Conference on Learning Representations (**ICLR**), **Spotlight**
Short version in: **TSRML@NeurIPS workshop**, 2022
- Dimitar I. Dimitrov, Mislav Balunović, **N.K.**, Martin Vechev: *Data Leakage in Federated Averaging*
In: Transactions of Machine Learning Research (**TMLR**), 2022
- Eugenia Iofinova[#], **N. K.**[#], Christoph H. Lampert: *FLEA: Provably Fair Multisource Learning from Unreliable Training Data*
In: Transactions of Machine Learning Research (**TMLR**), 2022; **# Equal contribution**
- N. K.**, Christoph H. Lampert: *Fairness-Aware PAC Learning from Corrupted Data*

In: Journal of Machine Learning Research (**JMLR**), 2022

5. **N. K.**, Christoph H. Lampert: *On the Impossibility of Fairness-Aware Learning from Corrupted Data*
In: **AFRC@NeurIPS workshop, Contributed talk**, 2021
6. **N. K.**, Elias Frantar, Dan Alistarh, Christoph H. Lampert: *On the Sample Complexity of Adversarial Multi-Source PAC Learning*
In: *International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML)*, 2020
7. **N. K.**, Christoph H. Lampert: *Robust Learning from Untrusted Sources*
In: *International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML)*, **Long Talk**, 2019
8. Dan Alistarh, Torsten Hoefer, Mikael Johansson, **N. K.***, Sarit Khirirat, Cedric Renggli: *The Convergence of Sparsified Gradient Methods*
In: *Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS)*, 2018; * **Alphabetic order**
9. Dan Alistarh, Chris De Sa, **N. K.***: *The Convergence of Stochastic Gradient Descent in Asynchronous Shared Memory*
In: *ACM Symposium of Principles of Distributed Computing (PODC)*, 2018; * **Alphabetic order**

Preprints

1. Florian E. Dorner, **N.K.**, Giorgi Pashaliev, Martin Vechev: Non-Cooperative Mean Estimation with Rational Agents in Federated Learning
In preparation, 2022; Draft available on request
2. Nikita Tsoy, **N.K.**: Collaboration between competitors: sharing data strategically in oligopolistic markets
In preparation, 2022; Draft available on request
3. **N. K.**, Christoph H. Lampert: Fairness Through Regularization for Learning to Rank
Arxiv: <https://arxiv.org/abs/2102.05996>

INVITED TALKS

1. October 2022: TrustML Young Scientists Seminars (online)
Title: *Statistical Aspects of Trustworthy Machine Learning*
2. October 2022: INSAIT Annual Conference, Tutorial Session; Sofia, Bulgaria
Title: *Statistical Machine Learning: Foundations and Present Challenges*
3. July 2022: MLO group seminar; EPFL, Lausanne, Switzerland
Title: *Statistical Aspects of Trustworthy Machine Learning*
4. February 2022: ETH AI Center Postdoctoral Symposium (online)
Title: *Statistical Aspects of Trustworthy Machine Learning*
5. December 2021: Guest lecture at the ETH course on Trustworthy ML (online)
Title: *Statistical Aspects of Group Fairness-Aware Learning*
6. May 2021: GILT seminar series, University of Milan
Title: *On the Sample Complexity of Adversarial Multi-Source PAC Learning*

AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

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| Academic | - ETH AI Center Postdoctoral Fellowship, 2022 |
| | - <i>PODC student travel award</i> , SIGOPS, 2018 |

- *Davies Prize for MMath Part C*, Jesus College, Oxford, 2017
- *Department of Statistics Prize for MMath Part A*, Oxford, 2015
- *Open Scholarship*, Jesus College, Oxford – 3 awards (2014-2016)
- *Bulgarian National Scholarship* for gifted students – 4 awards (2008 – 2011)

Olympiads

- 20th international “DUEL” competition 2012 (Czech Republic): *First place*
- Princeton University Mathematical Competition 2011, Power Round (Team Project): *Third Place*
- Junior Balkan Mathematical Olympiad 2008: Bronze medal

SKILLS

IT skills

Experienced with: Python, Tensorflow, NumPy, R, LaTeX, Ubuntu
Have worked with: JAX, C++, Matlab, HTML, Mathematica

Languages

Fluent: English, Bulgarian; **Conversational:** German, Russian

MISCELLANEOUS

Reviewing

- NeurIPS (2021-), ICML (2021-), AISTATS (2022-), JMLR, TMLR

Teaching

ETH Zurich: Teaching Assistant

- 09.2022 – 12.2022: Reliable and Trustworthy Artificial Intelligence (RTAI)

IST Austria (ISTA): Teaching Assistant

- 02.2020 – 04.2020: *Formal Methods for Learned Systems*
- 11.2018 – 01.2019: *Deep Learning with Tensorflow*
- 10.2018 – 11.2018: *Statistical Machine Learning*

Responsibilities

IST Austria (ISTA): ML meetup organizer

- 2020 – 2021: Organizing a reading group for the ML students at ISTA

IST Austria (ISTA): Student representative in Data Science

- 2018 – 2020: Representing Data Science students at ISTA; providing feedback about related postgraduate courses; welcoming first-year Data Science students

Oxford University Bulgarian Society

- 2015 – 2016: *President* – organising weekly talks, film nights, joint meetings with other university societies; maintaining the society's website
- 2014 – 2015: *Secretary* – communicating with members and applicants

Summer Schools

Machine Learning Summer School (MLSS), Madrid 2018

- Two weeks of talks about various areas of machine learning, taught by world-leading experts in the respective fields

Hobbies

Sports: running, bouldering, squash, (table) tennis; **Others:** reading fiction