

Nikos Zarifis

nikoszarifis.github.io

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EDUCATION

University of Wisconsin-Madison

Aug 2019 - now

Ph.D. in Computer Sciences

Advisor: [Ilias Diakonikolas](#)

National Technical University of Athens

Sep 2012 - Nov 2018

Diploma in Electrical and Computer Engineering

Major: Computer Science Minor: Mathematics

Advisor: [Dimitris Fotakis](#)

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Theoretical Computer Science, Machine Learning Theory, Statistics

PUBLICATIONS

Learning a Single Neuron with Adversarial Label Noise via Gradient Descent with I. Diakonikolas, V. Kontonis, C. Tzamos (**COLT 2022**)

Learning General Halfspaces with Adversarial Label Noise via Online Gradient Descent with I. Diakonikolas, V. Kontonis, C. Tzamos (**ICML 2022**)

Learning General Halfspaces with General Massart Noise under the Gaussian Distribution with I. Diakonikolas, D. M. Kane, V. Kontonis, C. Tzamos (**STOC 2022**)

Agnostic Proper Learning of Halfspaces under Gaussian Marginals with I. Diakonikolas, D. M. Kane, V. Kontonis, C. Tzamos (**COLT 2021**)

The Optimality of Polynomial Regression for Agnostic Learning under Gaussian Marginals with I. Diakonikolas, D. M. Kane, T. Pittas (**COLT 2021**)

Learning Online Algorithms with Distributional Advice with I. Diakonikolas, V. Kontonis, C. Tzamos, A. Vakilian (**ICML 2021**)

A Polynomial Time Algorithm for Learning Halfspaces with Tsybakov Noise with I. Diakonikolas, D. M. Kane, V. Kontonis, C. Tzamos (**STOC 2021**)

Learning Halfspaces with Tsybakov Noise with I. Diakonikolas, V. Kontonis, C. Tzamos (**STOC 2021**, to be merged with above)

Near-Optimal SQ Lower Bounds for Agnostically Learning Halfspaces and ReLUs under Gaussian Marginals with I. Diakonikolas, D. M. Kane (**NeurIPS 2020**)

Non-Convex SGD Learns Halfspaces with Adversarial Label Noise with I. Diakonikolas, V. Kontonis, C. Tzamos (**NeurIPS 2020**)

Algorithms and SQ Lower Bounds for PAC Learning One-Hidden-Layer ReLU Networks with I. Diakonikolas, D. M. Kane, V. Kontonis (**COLT 2020**)

Learning Halfspaces with Massart Noise under Structured Distributions with I. Diakonikolas, V. Kontonis, C. Tzamos (**COLT 2020**)

Reallocating Multiple Facilities on the Line with D. Fotakis, L. Kavouras, P. Koutsopanagiotis, P. Lazos, S. Skoulakis (**TCS 2021**)

AWARDS

Bodosaki Fellowship 2022, Gerondellis Fellowship 2020, SEEMOUS 2014: Gold Medal (Greek national team), SEEMOUS 2013: Silver Medal, Papakyriakopoulou Fellowship 2012-2013 (For excellence in mathematics)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teaching Assistant, UW-Madison	
CS540: “ <i>Introduction to Artificial Intelligence</i> ”	Spring 2022
CS639: “ <i>Intro to Computational Learning Theory</i> ”	Fall-Spring 2020
CS300: “ <i>Introduction to Programming II</i> ”	Fall 2019
Teaching Assistant, NTUA	
“Introduction to Computer Programming”	Fall 2013-2019
“Discrete Mathematics”	Spring 2018
“Algorithms and Complexity”	Fall 2017-2019

SERVICE

Conference Reviewer	
Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS): 2022, 2021 (Outstanding Reviewer Award: Top 8%)	
Conference on Learning Theory (COLT): 2022	
Journal Reviewer	
Theoretical Computer Science (TCS): 2022	
Transactions on Machine Learning Research (TMLR): 2022	

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Python, Java, Mathematica, L^AT_EX, Linux

LANGUAGES

English (fluent), **Greek** (native)