

# Ruben Ohana

Last year PhD candidate in Machine Learning at École Normale Supérieure & LightOn

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## Education

### PhD internship at the [Criteo AI Lab](#)

Paris, France

SUPERVISORS: [LIVA RALAIVOLA](#), [ALAIN RAKOTOMAMONJY](#)

Nov. 2021 - March 2022

Study of differentially private coresets.

### PhD candidate in Machine Learning - École Normale Supérieure & [LightOn](#)

Paris, France

SUPERVISORS: [FLORENT KRZAKALA](#), [ALESSANDRO RUDI](#), [LAURENT DAUDET](#)

Oct. 2019 - Sept. 2022

#### Axis of Research:

- (Optical) Random features and kernel methods
- Machine learning for chaotic time-series
- Improving Adversarial Robustness of Neural Networks
- Differential Privacy
- High-dimensional machine learning and their statistical analysis
- Alternative methods to backpropagation (mainly Direct Feedback Alignment)
- Quantum Information and Quantum Machine learning

### MSc (Master 2) in Mathematics (Statistics & Machine Learning)

Paris, France

SORBONNE UNIVERSITÉ

2018 - 2019

### MSc (Master 2) in Physics (Condensed Matter & Quantum Physics)

Paris, France

ÉCOLE NORMALE SUPÉRIEURE & SORBONNE UNIVERSITÉ

2017 - 2018

### Diplôme d'ingénieur (major: Physics, minors: Biology & Chemistry)

Paris, France

ÉCOLE SUPÉRIEURE DE PHYSIQUE ET DE CHIMIE INDUSTRIELLES (ESPCI PARISTECH)

2014 - 2018

## Internships

### LPENS, Ecole Normale Supérieure

Paris, France

APPROXIMATIONS OF KERNELS AT THE SPEED OF LIGHT USING THE OPU OF LIGHTON (PI: FLORENT KRZAKALA)

May 2019 - Nov. 2019

- [Corresponding Publication: \[6\]](#)

### LIP6, Sorbonne Université

Paris, France

CONTEXTUALITY FOR QUANTUM INFORMATION NETWORKS (PI: DAMIAN MARKHAM)

April 2018 - June 2018

- [Corresponding Publication: \[7\]](#)

### MIT LIGO laboratory, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)

Cambridge, USA

NOISE CHARACTERIZATION OF THE YTTERBIUM-DOPED FIBER LASER FOR LIGO (PI: PETER FRITSCHEL)

May 2017 - July 2017

- Implementation of the whole optical set-up for noise characterization of the laser.
- Characterization of the frequency noise, relative intensity noise, polarization noise of the laser - data analysis.

### Quantum Solid State Physics Group, NTT Basic Research Laboratories

Atsugi, Japan

QUANTUM SPIN HALL EFFECT IN INAs/(In)GaSB DOUBLE QUANTUM WELLS (PI: HIROSHI IRIE)

July 2016 - December 2016

- [Corresponding Publication: \[8\]](#)

## Publications

[1] Photonic Differential Privacy with Direct Feedback Alignment. **R. Ohana\***, H. Ruiz\*, J. Launay\*, A. Cappelli, I. Poli, L. Ralaivola, A. Rakotomamonjy, [ArXiv](#), ([NeurIPS 2021](#)).

[2] Photonic co-processors in HPC: using LightOn OPUs for Randomized Numerical Linear Algebra. D. Hesslow, A. Cappelli, I. Carron, L. Daudet, R. Lafargue, K. Müller, **R. Ohana**, G. Pariente, I. Poli, [ArXiv](#).

[3] Adversarial Robustness by Design through Analog Computing and Synthetic Gradients. **R. Ohana\***, A. Cappelli\*, J. Launay, L. Meunier, I. Poli, F. Krzakala, [ArXiv](#).

[4] The dynamics of learning with feedback alignment. M. Refinetti, S. d'Ascoli, **R. Ohana**, S. Goldt, [ArXiv](#), ([ICML 2021](#)).

[5] *Reservoir Computing meets Recurrent Kernels and Structured Transforms*. R. Ohana\*, J. Dong\*, M. Rafayelyan, F. Krzakala, [ArXiv](#), [\(Oral Presentation at NeurIPS 2020\)](#).

[6] *Kernel computations from large-scale random features obtained by Optical Processing Units*. R. Ohana., J. Wacker, J. Dong, S. Marmin, F. Krzakala, M. Filippone, L. Daudet, [ArXiv](#), [\(ICASSP 2020\)](#).

[7] *Experimental Approach to Demonstrating Contextuality for Qudits*. A. Sohbi, R. Ohana, I. Zaquine, E. Diamanti, D. Markham, [ArXiv](#), [\(Physical Review A\)](#).

[8] *Impact of epitaxial strain on the topological-nontopological phase diagram and semimetallic behavior of InAs/GaSb composite quantum wells*. H. Irie, T. Akiho, F. Couedo, R. Ohana, K. Suzuki, K. Onomitsu, K. Muraki, [ArXiv](#), [\(Physical Review B\)](#).

**Patent:** *Method and System for machine learning using optical data* I. Poli, J. Launay, K. Müller, G. Pariente, I. Carron, L. Daudet, R. Ohana, D. Hesslow. 2021, [US Patent](#).

**Reviewer in International conferences:** ALT 2020, NeurIPS 2021.

## Academic Projects

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**ENGIE Challenge Data (rank: 33/185)** Predict wind power production from wind turbine operational data (supervised learning). Data preprocessing, feature engineering and model selection.

**Scientific Team Project (ESPCI, 18 months)** Assembly of an electrospray and study of the nano-drops on a liquid (water or oil) collector, as well as the different modes of the spray. Video of the project available [here](#).

## Languages/Computer Science

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**English** Fluent - Degrees: BULATS (level C1, June 2013), TOEIC (965/990, March 2017).

**French** Mother tongue.

**Computer skills** Python, Pytorch, beginner in Jax and Matlab.

## Extracurricular Activity

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**Association** President of the Langevinium (1 year), the laboratory for students of the ESPCI: implementation of a superconductive train self-propelled by liquid nitrogen, showing of many scientific experiments at the *Collège de France* and the *Grand Palais*.

**Music** Harp (11 years of practice, *Diplôme de fin d'études du Conservatoire de Rueil-Malmaison*, 1st Medal), music theory.

**Teaching** Private tutoring (mathematics, quantum physics, chemistry, music theory) to students from various levels.