vas.livanos@gmail.com

Website

Google Scholar

Nationality:
Greek

Date of Birth:
September 20th, 1993

Address:
EPFL CDM MTEI GO
ODY 2.18 (Odyssea)
1015 Lausanne
Switzerland

Research Interests

- Algorithms under Uncertainty
- Combinatorial Optimization
- Algorithmic Game Theory
- Online Mechanism Design

Languages

- Greek (Native)
- English (Fluent)
- Spanish (Basic)
- Italian (Basic)

Vasilis Livanos

Experience

Oct 2024 - Apr 2025, EPFL
Visiting Postdoctoral Researcher. Host: Andrés Cristi.

Sep 2024 - *current*, Archimedes AI
Affiliated Researcher.

Jan 2024 - Jun 2024, University of Chile
Post-Doctoral Researcher. Host: José Correa.

Education

Aug 2017 - Dec 2023, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Ph.D. in Computer Science. Advisors: Ruta Mehta and Chandra Chekuri.
  Thesis: Optimal Stopping Problems And Combinatorial Optimization Under Uncertainty

Oct 2011 - Mar 2017, National Technical University of Athens
Diploma in Electrical and Computer Engineering. Advisor: Dimitris Fotakis.
  GPA: 9.2/10 (Top 2%) - Excellent.

Conference Publications

[8] *Minimization I.I.D. Prophet Inequality via Extreme Value Theory: A Unified Approach*
with Ruta Mehta, *in submission*

[7] *Matroid Secretary via Labeling Schemes*
with Kristóf Bérczi, José Soto and Victor Verdugo, *in submission (IPCO 2025)*

[6] *Improved Mechanisms and Prophet Inequalities for Graphical Dependencies*
with Kalen Patton and Sahil Singla, *EC 2024*

[5] *Oracle-Augmented Prophet Inequalities*
with Sariel Har-Peled and El-Farouk Harb, *ICALP 2024*

[4] *Minimization is Harder in the Prophet World*
with Ruta Mehta, *SODA 2024*

[3] *Simple and Optimal Greedy Online Contention Resolution Schemes*
NeurIPS 2022

[2] *(Almost) Envy-Free, Proportional and Efficient Allocations of an Indivisible Mixed Manna*
with Ruta Mehta and Aniket Murhekar, *AAMAS 2022*

[1] *On Submodular Prophet Inequalities and Correlation Gap*
with Chandra Chekuri, *SAGT 2021*

Journal Publications

[2] *Improved Mechanisms and Prophet Inequalities for Graphical Dependencies*
with Kalen Patton and Sahil Singla, *in submission*

[1] *On Submodular Prophet Inequalities and Correlation Gap*
with Chandra Chekuri, *Theoretical Computer Science*

Theses

2023, *Optimal Stopping Problems And Combinatorial Optimization Under Uncertainty,* **PhD Thesis**

2017, *Convergence and Equilibria in Coevolutionary Opinion Formation Games,* **Diploma Thesis**

Scientific Visits

Jan. 2025, 1-month visit at University of Chile
Host: Jose Correa

Sep. 2023 - Nov. 2023, 2-month visit at Georgia Institute of Technology
Host: Sahil Singla

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- Spanish (Basic)
- Italian (Basic)

Feb. 2023, 1-month visit at Eötvös Loránd University
Host: Kristóf Bérczi

Jan. 2023, 1-month visit at University of Chile
Host: Jose Correa

Talks and Presentations

2025, Talk: *Matroid Secretary via Labeling Schemes*
Summer Workshop on Combinatorial Optimization, Santiago, Chile.

2024, Talk: *Improved Mechanisms and Prophet Inequalities for Graphical Dependencies*
INFORMS Annual Meeting, Seattle, USA.

2024, Invited Talk: *Minimization I.I.D. Prophet Inequality via Extreme Value Theory: A Unified Approach*
UC Irvine, Irvine, USA.

2024, Tutorial: *An Overview of Optimal Stopping Theory*
UC Irvine, Irvine, USA.

2024, Talk: *Laminar Matroid Secretary via Parking Functions*
19th Athens Colloquium on Algorithms and Complexity (ACAC), Athens, Greece.

2024, Talk: *Oracle-Augmented Prophet Inequalities*
51st EATCS International Colloquium on Automata, Languages and Programming (ICALP), Tallinn, Estonia.

2024, Talk: *Prophet Inequalities with Oracle Calls*
CMM, Santiago, Chile.

2024, Talk: *Minimization is Harder in the Prophet World*
ACM-SIAM Symposium on Discrete Algorithms (SODA) 2024, Alexandria, USA.

2023, Talk: *Towards a Unified Theory of I.I.D. Prophet Inequalities*
GeorgiaTech, Atlanta, USA.

2023, Talk: *Optimal Stopping Problems for Cost Minimization*
EPFL, Lausanne, Switzerland.
Google, Zurich, Switzerland.
ETH, Zurich, Switzerland.
University of Bonn, Bonn, Germany.

2023, Talk: *Combinatorial Optimization under Uncertainty*
2nd Drafting Workshop in Discrete Mathematics and Probability, Budapest, Hungary.

2023, Talk: *Rounding LPs in a "Fair" Way - Many Questions, Few Answers*
Workshop on Combinatorial Optimization, Santiago, Chile.

2022, Poster: *Simple and Tight Greedy Online Contention Resolution Schemes*
36th Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS), New Orleans, USA.

2022, Talk: *Combinatorial Optimization under Uncertainty and Prophet Inequalities*
Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest, Hungary.
Karlsruhe Institute of Technology, Karlsruhe, Germany.
Max Planck Institute for Informatics, Saarbrücken, Germany.

2022, Talk: *Prophet Inequalities for Cost Minimization*
17th Athens Colloquium on Algorithms and Complexity (ACAC), Athens, Greece.

2022, Talk: *How to Choose a Partner Using Math*
2022 PhD Intern Conference (PIRC), Google, USA.

2021, Talk: *On Submodular Prophet Inequalities and Correlation Gap*
14th Symposium on Algorithmic Game Theory (SAGT), Aarhus, Denmark.

2021, Poster: *On Submodular Prophet Inequalities and Correlation Gap*
22nd Conference on Economics and Computation (EC), Budapest, Hungary.

Awards and Honours

2023, *Dissertation Travel Award,* **University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign**
Awarded for the completion of the PhD dissertation.

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- Spanish (Basic)
- Italian (Basic)

2022, *NeurIPS Scholar Award,* **NeurIPS '22**
Awarded to provide financial assistance to graduating PhD students.

2020, *Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award, Lifetime,* **University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign**
Awarded based on ranking by students and recommendation by faculty.

2018 - 2022, *List of Teachers Ranked as Excellent,* **University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign**
Ranked "Outstanding" based on students' ratings on five occasions.

2017 - 2018, *Andrew and Shana Laursen Fellowship,* **University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign**
Awarded to provide meaningful assistance in the recruitment of top graduate students to the Department of Computer Science.

2012 - 2016, *John S. Latsis Foundation Undergraduate Scholarship,* **National Technical University of Athens**
Awarded continuously for achieving excellence during undergraduate studies.

2011, *Great Moment for Education Scholarship,* **Eurobank EFG**
Awarded for being first among all high school students in the national final examinations.

Professional Activities and Service

Program Committee Member
EC '24

Peer Reviewer

- *Journals:* SIAM Journal of Computing, Journal of Computer and System Sciences, Theoretical Computer Science, Mathematics of Operations Research, Algorithmica, Mathematical Programming.
- *Conferences:* ITCS '25, SODA '25, FOCS '24, EC '24, STOC '24, IPCO '24, STACS '24, SODA '24, ITCS '24, ESA '23, SODA '23, STOC '23, IPCO '23, SOSA '23, SODA '23, ICALP '22, EC '22, IPCO '22, ICALP '21, WINE '21, EC '20, ICALP '19, STOC '18, EC '18, WINE '18, WWW '18, SAGT '18.

EC'22 Mentoring Workshop, *Mentor*

Teaching

Jan 2018 - Dec 2022, *Teaching Assistant,* **University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign**

- "CS 583 Approximation Algorithms" (Fall 2021).
- "CS 580 Algorithmic Game Theory" (Fall 2019, Fall 2022).
- "CS 473 Algorithms" (Spring 2018).
- "CS 374 Introduction to Algorithms" (Fall 2018, Spring 2019, Spring 2020, Spring 2021, Spring 2022).

Mar 2012 - Feb 2017, *Teaching Assistant,* **National Technical University of Athens**

- "Algorithms and Complexity" (Fall 2016).
- "Cryptography and Number Theory" (Fall 2016).
- "Introduction to Computer Science" (Spring 2013 - Spring 2016).
- "Programming Techniques" (Spring 2012 - Spring 2016).
- "Introduction to Programming" (Fall 2012 - Fall 2016).

Experience

May 2023 - Aug 2023, *Research Intern,* **Google, Mountain View**

May 2022 - Aug 2022, *Software Engineering Intern,* **Google, Mountain View**

Jun 2021 - Dec 2022, *Software Engineer (Contractor),* **Public Benefit Enterprise of Ancient Olympia**

Jun 2015 - Sep 2015, *Software Engineer (Contractor),* **Proini News**