

# Vasilis Kontonis

University of Wisconsin-Madison  
Department of Computer Sciences  
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Research Interests    **Theoretical Computer Science, Machine Learning, Statistics**

Education            **University of Wisconsin-Madison**  
Ph.D., Computer Science, 2018 – present.  
Advisor: Christos Tzamos

**National Technical University of Athens**  
Master of Engineering in Electrical & Computer Engineering  
Thesis: Learning Powers of Poisson Binomial Distributions  
Advisor: Dimitris Fotakis

Publications        **Truncated Statistics with Unknown Truncation**  
Vasilis Kontonis, Christos Tzamos, Manolis Zambetakis  
*Proceedings of the 60th Annual IEEE Symposium on Foundations of  
Computer Science, **FOCS 2019***

**Learning Halfspaces under Massart Noise**  
Ilias Diakonikolas, Vasilis Kontonis, Christos Tzamos, Nikos Zarifis  
*Manuscript*

**Removing Bias in Machine Learning via Truncated Statistics**  
Costis Daskalakis, Vasilis Kontonis, Christos Tzamos, Manolis Zambetakis  
*Manuscript*

**Opinion Dynamics with Limited Information**  
Dimitris Fotakis, Vardis Kandiros, Vasilis Kontonis, and Stratis Skoulakis  
*Proceedings of the 14th Conference on Web and Internet Economics  
**WINE 2018***

**Learning Powers of Poisson Binomial Distributions**  
Dimitris Fotakis, Vasilis Kontonis, Piotr Krysta, and Paul Spirakis  
*Manuscript, <http://arxiv.org/abs/1707.05662>*

Teaching            **Spring 2019, University of Wisconsin-Madison**  
Teaching Assistant, "Introduction to Algorithms", CS 577  
Instructor: Dieter van Melkebeek

**Fall 2018, University of Wisconsin-Madison**

Teaching Assistant, "Introduction to Algorithms", CS 577  
Instructors: Christos Tzamos, Shuchi Chawla

**Fall 2017, National Technical University of Athens**

Teaching Assistant, "Algorithms and Complexity"  
Instructor: Aris Pagourtzis

**Fall 2016, National Technical University of Athens**

Teaching Assistant, "Operating Systems"  
Instructors: Nectarios Koziris, Georgios Goumas, Vangelis Koukis

Service

**Conference Reviewer**

STOC 2020, ALT 2020, SODA 2019, ICML 2019, EC 2019, WINE 2019, MFCS 2018

**Journal Reviewer**

Theoretical Computer Science (TCS)

Talks

**Truncated Statistics with Unknown Truncation**

*Symposium on Foundations of Computer Science (FOCS 2019)*

*Workshop on Algorithms for Learning and Economics (WALE2019)*

*14th Athens Colloquium on Algorithms and Complexity (ACAC19)*

*Theory Study Group, University of Wisconsin-Madison*

**Learning Powers of Poisson Binomial Distributions**

*2017, ECCO Research Seminar, University of Liverpool*

**Bias-Variance Tradeoff, VC-Dimension**

*2017, Learning Theory Study Group, Corelab, NTUA*

**Applications of LP, QP, SOCP and SDP.**

**SDP Relaxations: MaxCut.**

**Vector Optimization, Duality**

*2017, Convex Optimization Minicourse, Corelab, NTUA.*

**Programming with Dependent Types**

*2015, Presented within "Lambda-Calculus", undergraduate course.*

Work Experience

**Systems and Services Engineer GRNET**

*2016, Greek Research and Technology Network, Athens*

Awards

Recipient of the Eurobank Grant "The great moment for Education" in 2010 for graduating first in my high-school.

Recipient of the Touramanoglou Grant in 2010 for ranking among the top high school graduates of the cities of Ilioupolis and Ymittos.

## Languages and Skills

English(native), German (advanced)  
Mathematica, Python, L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X, GNU/Linux

## References

**Christos Tzamos**

Assistant Professor, University of Wisconsin-Madison

**Dimitris Fotakis**

Associate Professor, National Technical University of Athens

**Paul G. Spirakis**

Professor, University of Liverpool

**Piotr Krysta**

Professor, University of Liverpool