

CONTACT
INFORMATION

Department of Computer Science and Operations Research
University of Montréal

Mila, Quebec AI Institute
6666 St. Urbain, Montréal

E-mail: ioannis@iro.umontreal.ca
Web: mitliagkas.github.io

RESEARCH
INTERESTS

Statistical machine learning, optimization, deep learning, game theory, generative models, distributed learning systems.

AFFILIATIONS

University of Montréal, Department of Computer Science and Operations Research

Associate professor

June 2022 -

Assistant professor

Sept. 2017 - May 2022

Mila, Quebec AI Institute

September 2017 -

Core member, Canada CIFAR AI chair

Member of Mila's Scientific Council

Google DeepMind, Montréal, Staff Research Scientist (part time) September 2022-

PAST AFFILIATIONS

ElementAI, Montréal, Faculty Fellow (part time)

2018-2020

Stanford University, Postdoc, Departments of CS and Statistics

2015-2017

Supervised by: Associate prof. [Christopher Ré](#), Adjunct prof. [Lester Mackey](#)

EDUCATION

The University of Texas at Austin

PhD, ECE department.

Awarded in August 2015

Advised by: Prof. Constantine Caramanis and Prof. Sriram Vishwanath

Thesis topic: Resource-Constrained, Scalable Learning

Technical University of Crete, Chania, Greece

MSc., ECE department.

2008 - 2010

Diploma, Electronic and Computer Engineering (5 year degree),

2002 - 2008

Advisor: Professor [Nikos D. Sidiropoulos](#)

RESEARCH GRANTS During my first six years of tenure-track work, I was awarded a total of about 90 PhD years in competitive funding (about 2.7 million CAD after subtracting any overhead), to be disbursed over a period of 10 years.

- CIFAR Canada AI chair, (originally awarded December 2018 for five years): Phase II awarded until 2028.
- Google x Mila Research grant, awarded 2023
- Microsoft Research collaborative grant, awarded 2021
- Samsung-Mila collaborative three-year grant, awarded 2020.
- IVADO Postdoctoral Scholarship, for my postdoc K. Ahuja, awarded August 2020
- CIFAR Catalyst Grant, in collaboration with Manuela Girotti and Murat Erdogdu (UofT, Vector).
- IVADO Postdoctoral Scholarship, Fellow tier, for my postdoc N. Loizou, awarded December 2019
- Microsoft Research collaborative grant, awarded June 2019
- NSERC Discovery, awarded April 2019 (+ competitive accelerator supplement)
- CIFAR Canada AI chair, awarded December 2018
- Fonds de Recherche du Québec, Nature et technologies, Nouveau Chercheur, 2018
- IVADO professorship grant, 2017

POSTDOCS

Kilian Fatras (postdoctoral scholar)

DOCTORAL STUDENTS

Brady Neal (PhD candidate)
Reyhane Askari (PhD candidate)
Adam Ibrahim (PhD candidate)
Charles Guille-Escuret (PhD candidate)
Ryan D'Orazio (PhD candidate)
Hiroki Naganuma (PhD candidate)

Divyat Mahajan (PhD student)
Zichu Liu (PhD student)

MASTERS STUDENTS

Mehrnaz Mofakhami (MSc student)

INTERNS

Ange-Clement Akazan (intern from the African Institute of Mathematical Sciences)

PAST STUDENTS
AND SUPERVISEES

Nicolas Loizou (postdoctoral scholar → assistant prof. at Johns Hopkins Univ.)
Manuela Girotti (postdoctoral scholar → assistant prof. at Emory University, Atlanta, GA)
Kartik Ahuja (postdoctoral scholar → research scientist at FAIR Paris)

Alexia Jolicoeur-Martineau (PhD → research scientist at Samsung SAIT AI Lab, Montreal)

Rémi Piché-Taillefer (graduated MSc summer 2021 → Microsoft Research, Montréal)
Brady Neal (graduated MSc, December 2019; continuing his PhD at Mila / Senior Research Scientist at Dataiku)

Séb Arnold (intern, summer 2018; PhD candidate at USC)
Vinayak Tantia (intern, 2018, now at FAIR Montréal)
Baptiste Goujeaud (intern, 2020; PhD candidate Ecole Polytechnique)
Amartya Mitra (intern, summer 2020; PhD candidate at UC Riverside)
Nicolas Gagné (intern, summer 2018; PhD candidate at McGill)
Jian Zhang (mentee; PhD candidate at Stanford)
Panos Achlioptas (mentee; PhD candidate at Stanford)

TEACHING

University of Montreal	Latest teaching evaluation: 3.7/4.0
<i>Fundamentals of machine learning</i>	Fall 2023
<i>Theoretical principles for deep learning</i>	Winter 2023
<i>Fundamentals of machine learning</i>	Fall 2022
<i>Theoretical principles for deep learning</i>	Winter 2022
<i>Fundamentals of machine learning</i>	Fall 2021
<i>Theoretical principles for deep learning</i>	Winter 2021
<i>Fundamentals of machine learning</i>	Fall 2020
<i>Theoretical principles for deep learning</i>	Winter 2020
<i>Fundamentals of machine learning</i>	Fall 2019
<i>Theoretical principles for deep learning</i>	Winter 2019
<i>Fundamentals of machine learning</i>	Fall 2018
<i>Theoretical principles for deep learning</i>	Winter 2018
The University of Texas at Austin	
<i>Teaching Assistant—Information Theory</i>	Spring 2012
Technical University of Crete	
<i>Teaching Assistant—Telecommunication Networks</i>	Fall 2008

PUBLICATIONS

- S. Lachapelle, D. Mahajan, **I. Mitliagkas**, S. Lacoste-Julien
Additive Decoders for Latent Variables Identification and Cartesian-Product Extrapolation
Accepted NeurIPS, 2023. [oral presentation]
- C.G. Escuret, P. Rodriguez, D. Vazquez, **I. Mitliagkas**, J. Monteiro
CADet: Fully Self-Supervised Anomaly Detection With Contrastive Learning
Accepted at NeurIPS 2023 arXiv:2210.01742.
- T. Salvador, K. Fatras, **I. Mitliagkas**, A. Oberman
A Reproducible and Realistic Evaluation of Partial Domain Adaptation Methods
Transactions of Machine Learning Research (TMLR) arXiv:2210.01210.
- R. D'Orazio, N. Loizou, I. Laradji, **I. Mitliagkas**
Stochastic Mirror Descent: Convergence Analysis and Adaptive Variants via the Mirror Stochastic Polyak Stepsize
Transactions of Machine Learning Research (TMLR) arXiv:2110.15412.
- S. Lachapelle, T. Deleu, D. Mahajan, **I. Mitliagkas**, Y. Bengio, S. Lacoste-Julien, Q. Bertrand.
Synergies Between Disentanglement and Sparsity: a Multi-Task Learning Perspective
ICML, 2023.
- H. Naganuma, K. Ahuja, S. Takagi, T. Motokawa, R. Yokota, K. Ishikawa, I. Sato, **I. Mitliagkas**
Empirical Study on Optimizer Selection for Out-of-Distribution Generalization
Transactions of Machine Learning Research (TMLR) arXiv:2211.08583.
- S. Sokota, R. D'Orazio, J. Z. Kolter, N. Loizou, M. Lanctot, **I. Mitliagkas**, N. Brown, C. Kroer
A Unified Approach to Reinforcement Learning, Quantal Response Equilibria, and Two-Player Zero-Sum Games
ICLR, 2023.
- A. Mousavi-Hosseini, S. Park, M. Girotti, **I. Mitliagkas**, M. A. Erdogdu
Neural Networks Efficiently Learn Low-Dimensional Representations with SGD
ICLR, 2023.
- R. Askari Hemmat*, A. Mitra*, G. Lajoie, **I. Mitliagkas**.
LEAD: Least-Action Dynamics for Min-Max Optimization
Transactions of Machine Learning Research (TMLR) arXiv:2010.13846, 2023. [featured]
- M. Mofakhami, **I. Mitliagkas**, G. Gidel.
Performative Prediction with Neural Networks
Artificial Intelligence and Statistics (AISTATS) 2023 .
- C. Guille-Escuret, A. Ibrahim, B. Goujaud, **I. Mitliagkas**
Gradient Descent Is Optimal Under Lower Restricted Secant Inequality And Upper Error Bound
Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS), 2022.
- K. Fatras, H. Naganuma, **I. Mitliagkas**.
Optimal transport meets noisy label robust loss and MixUp regularization for domain adaptation.
CoLLAs 2022.

- K. Ahuja, D. Mahajan, V. Syrgkanis, **I. Mitliagkas**.
Towards efficient representation identification in supervised learning
CLeaR 2022.
- N. Loizou, H. Berard, G. Gidel, **I. Mitliagkas**, S. Lacoste-Julien.
Stochastic Gradient Descent-Ascent and Consensus Optimization for Smooth Games:
Convergence Analysis under Expected Co-coercivity
Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS), 2021 .
- K. Ahuja, E. Caballero, D. Zhang, Y. Bengio, **I. Mitliagkas**, I. Rish.
Invariance Principle Meets Information Bottleneck for Out-of-Distribution General-
ization
Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS), 2021. [**spotlight presentation**]
- A. Jolicoeur-Martineau, R. Piche-Taillefer, **I. Mitliagkas**, R. Tachet des Combes.
Adversarial score matching and improved sampling for image generation
International Conference on Learning Representations (ICLR), 2021.
- C. Guille-Escuret*, B. Goujaud*, M. Girotti, **I. Mitliagkas**.
A Study of Condition Numbers for First-Order Optimization
Artificial Intelligence and Statistics (AISTATS) 2021. [**best student paper award OPT2020**]
- G. K. Dziugaite, A. Drouin, B. Neal, N. Rajkumar, E. Caballero, L. Wang, **I. Mitliagkas**,
D. Roy.
In search of robust measures of generalization
Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS), 2020.
- N. Loizou, H. Berard, A. Jolicoeur-Martineau, P. Vincent, S. Lacoste-Julien, **I. Mitliagkas**.
Stochastic Hamiltonian Gradient Methods for Smooth Games
International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML), 2020.
- A. Ibrahim, W. Azizian, G. Gidel, **I. Mitliagkas**.
Linear Lower Bounds and Conditioning of Differentiable Games
International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML), 2020.
- W. Azizian, D. Scieur, **I. Mitliagkas**, S. Lacoste-Julien, G. Gidel.
Accelerating Smooth Games by Manipulating Spectral Shapes
Artificial intelligence and Statistics (AISTATS), 2020
- W. Azizian, **I. Mitliagkas**, S. Lacoste-Julien, G. Gidel.
A Tight and Unified Analysis of Gradient-Based Methods for a Whole Spectrum of
Differentiable Games
Artificial Intelligence and Statistics (AISTATS), 2020
- S. M. Arnold, P. A. Manzagol, R. Babanezhad, **I. Mitliagkas**, N. L. Roux.
Reducing the variance in online optimization by transporting past gradients.
Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS), 2019 [**spotlight presentation**].
- I. Albuquerque, J. Monteiro, T. Doan, B. Considine, T. Falk, **I. Mitliagkas**.
Multi-objective training of Generative Adversarial Networks.
International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML), 2019.
- V. Verma, A. Lamb, C. Beckham, A. Najafi, **I. Mitliagkas**, A. Courville, D. Lopez-Paz,
Y. Bengio.
Manifold Mixup: Better Representations by Interpolating Hidden States .
International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML), 2019.

A. Lamb, J. Binas, A. Goyal, S. Subramanian, **I. Mitliagkas**, Y. Bengio, M. Mozer.
State-Reification Networks: Improving Generalization by Modeling the Distribution of Hidden Representations.

International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML), 2019 [**oral presentation**].

B. Kanuparthi, D. Arpit, G. Kerg, N. R. Ke, **I. Mitliagkas**, Y. Bengio.
h-detach: Modifying the LSTM Gradient Towards Better Optimization .

International Conference on Learning Representations (ICLR), 2019.

G. Gidel, R. Askari, M. Pezeshki, G. Huang, S. Lacoste-Julien, **I. Mitliagkas**.
Negative Momentum for Improved Game Dynamics.

Artificial Intelligence and Statistics (AISTATS), 2019.

J. Zhang, **I. Mitliagkas**.

YellowFin and the Art of Momentum Tuning.

Systems and ML (SysML), 2019.

P. Achlioptas, O. Diamanti, **I. Mitliagkas**, L. Guibas.

Learning Representations and Generative Models for 3D Point Clouds.

International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML), 2018.

J. Zhang, **I. Mitliagkas**.

YellowFin: Adaptive optimization for (A)synchronous systems.

Systems and ML (SysML), 2018 [**oral presentation**].

C. De Sa, B. He, **I. Mitliagkas**, C. Ré, P. Xu.

Accelerated stochastic power iteration.

Artificial Intelligence and Statistics (AISTATS), 2018.

T. Kurth, J. Zhang, N. Satish, **I. Mitliagkas**, E. Racah, M.A. Patwary, T. Malas, N. Sundaram, W. Bhimji, M. Smorkalov, J. Deslippe, M. Shiryayev, S. Sridharan, P. Dubey.
Deep Learning at 15PF: Supervised and Semi-Supervised Classification for Scientific Data.

Supercomputing (SC), 2017.

I. Mitliagkas, L. Mackey.

Improving Gibbs Sampler Scan Quality with DoGS.

International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML), 2017.

I. Mitliagkas, C. Zhang, S. Hadjis, C. Ré.

Asynchrony begets Momentum, with an Application to Deep Learning.

Allerton Conference on Communication, Control, and Computing, 2016.

B. He, C. De Sa, **I. Mitliagkas**, C. Ré.

Scan Order in Gibbs Sampling: Models in Which it Matters and Bounds on How Much.

Neural Information Processing Systems (NIPS), 2016.

I. Mitliagkas, M. Borokhovich, A. Dimakis, C. Caramanis.

FrogWild! – Fast PageRank Approximations on Graph Engines.

VLDB, 2015.

D. Papailiopoulos, **I. Mitliagkas**, A. Dimakis, C. Caramanis.

Finding dense subgraphs through low-rank approximations.

International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML), 2014.

- I. Mitliagkas**, C. Caramanis, P. Jain.
Memory-limited Streaming PCA.
Neural Information Processing Systems (NIPS), 2013.
- I. Mitliagkas**, A. Gopalan, C. Caramanis, S. Vishwanath.
User Rankings from Comparisons: Learning Permutations in High Dimensions.
Allerton Conference on Communication, Control, and Computing, 2011.
- I. Mitliagkas**, N. D. Sidiropoulos, and A. Swami.
Joint Power and Admission Control for Ad-hoc and Cognitive Underlay Networks: Convex Approximation and Distributed Implementation.
IEEE Transactions on Wireless Communications, 2011.
- I. Mitliagkas**, S. Vishwanath.
Strong Information-Theoretic Limits for Source/Model Recovery.
Allerton Conference on Communication, Control, and Computing, 2010.
- I. Mitliagkas**, N. D. Sidiropoulos, and A. Swami.
Distributed Joint Power and Admission Control for Ad-hoc and Cognitive Underlay Networks.
ICASSP 2010.
- I. Mitliagkas**, N. D. Sidiropoulos, and A. Swami.
Convex Approximation-based Joint Power and Admission Control for Cognitive Underlay Networks.
International Wireless Comm. and Mobile Computing Conference, 2008. IWCMC'08. IEEE.

WORKSHOP PAPERS

- B. Neal, **I. Mitliagkas**.
In Support of Over-Parametrization in Deep Reinforcement Learning: an Empirical Study
ICML 2019 Workshop on Identifying and Understanding Deep Learning Phenomena
- B. Neal, S. Mittal, A. Baratin, V. Tantia, M. Scicluna, S. Lacoste-Julien, **I. Mitliagkas**.
A Modern Take on the Bias-Variance Tradeoff in Neural Networks
ICML 2019 Workshop on Identifying and Understanding Deep Learning Phenomena
- J. Zhang, C. De Sa, **I. Mitliagkas**, C. Ré.
Parallel SGD: When does averaging help?
Optimization Methods for the Next Generation of Machine Learning Workshop, ICML 2016.

PREPRINTS, TECHNICAL REPORTS

- D. Mahajan, B. Neal, **I. Mitliagkas**, V. Syrgkanis.
Empirical Analysis of Model Selection for Heterogenous Causal Effect Estimation
(Submitted to ICLR 2024) *arXiv:2210.01210*.
- A. Ibrahim, C. Guille-Escuret, **I. Mitliagkas**, I. Rish, D. Krueger, P. Bashivan
Towards Out-of-Distribution Adversarial Robustness
(Submitted to ICLR 2024) *arXiv:2210.03150*.

M. Girotti, **I. Mitliagkas**, Gauthier Gidel
 Convergence Analysis and Implicit Regularization of Feedback Alignment for Deep Linear Networks
arXiv:2110.10815.

A. Jolicoeur-Martineau, K. Li*, R. Pich-Taillefer*, T. Kachman*, **I. Mitliagkas**.
 Gotta Go Fast When Generating Data with Score-Based Models
arXiv:2105.14080.

I. Albuquerque, J. Monteiro, T. Falk, **I. Mitliagkas**.
 Generalizing to unseen domains via distribution matching
preprint, 2020.

A. Jolicoeur-Martineau, **I. Mitliagkas**.
 Gradient penalty from a maximum margin perspective
preprint, 2020

S. Hadjis, C. Zhang, **I. Mitliagkas**, C. Ré.
 Omnivore: An Optimizer for Multi-device Deep Learning on CPUs and GPUs. Technical report, arXiv:1606.04487.

IN THE PRESS

The Greek AI Ecosystem

Trudeau meets with newly appointed Canada CIFAR AI Chairs, **CIFAR News**

Sept chercheurs de IUdeM titulaires de chaires en intelligence artificielle Canada-CIFAR, **UdeM Nouvelles**

NERSC Scales Scientific Deep Learning to 15 Petaflops, **HPC Wire**

De la Grèce à l'UdeM: l'étonnant parcours d'Ioannis Mitliagkas, **UdeM Nouvelles**

AWARDS, DISTINCTIONS

NeurIPS Foundation, top 10% of reviewers, 2020

CIFAR Canada AI chair

NIPS Foundation, listed among best reviewers, 2018

Gerondelis Foundation Inc.: Graduate Scholarship, 2014

The University of Texas at Austin: Microelectronics and Computer Development (MCD) Fellowship, 2009-2011

Technical University of Crete: Undergraduate excellence award, 2008

State Scholarships Foundation (Greece): Undergraduate excellence award, 2005

Technical Chamber of Greece: Undergraduate excellence award, 2005

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Archimedes summer school, Athens, Greece (2022)

Neuromatch Academy Deep Learning Track, World-wide (2021, 2022)

AI4Good Summer School, Canada (2021)

Co-organizer of INFORMS 2021 workshop:
“Accelerated methods in convex and non-convex optimization”

Co-founder and organizer of [MTL MLOpt](#), a Montreal-based group of researchers from many universities and industrial labs.

Member of the inaugural program committee of MLSys:
The committee’s role was to decide the conference’s focus and steer its future goals.

Organizer of NeurIPS 2018, 2019 workshop:
“Smooth Games Optimization and Machine Learning”

Reviewer of MITACS Accelerate grants

Served as head of the scientific committee in charge of evaluating IVADO grants (2018) and as member in subsequent years.

Host of oral session, NeurIPS 2021

Reviewer and AC for a number of journals and conferences including NeurIPS, ICML, COLT, AISTATS, ALT, AAAI, ICLR, JMLR (editorial board), IJCAI, SIGGRAPH, Transactions on Information Theory, ISIT, ICASSP, Transactions on Wireless Communications.

RECENT INVITED
TALKS (NOT
INCLUDING
ACCEPTED PAPER
PRESENTATIONS)

Neuromatch Academy Deep Learning Track, World-wide	Summer 2023
Archimedes summer school, Athens, Greece	July 2022
Simons semester in game theory, Berkeley, CA	January-March, 2022
SIAM conference in optimization OP21, Spokane, WA	July 2021
Neuromatch Academy Deep Learning Track, World-wide	Summer 2021
AI4Good Summer School, Canada	May 2021
Google Brain, Montreal, QC	November 2020
ITA, San Diego, CA	February 2020
INFORMS, Seattle, WA	October 2019
Microsoft Research workshop, Montréal, QC	October 2019
Theoretical Advances in Deep Learning, Workshop, Istanbul	July 2019
UT Austin, TX	March 2019
NVIDIA, Webinar	March 2019
ElementAI, Toronto, ON	November 2018
BorealisAI, Toronto, ON	October 2018
USC, Los Angeles, CA	October 2018
Microsoft Research workshop, Montréal, QC	October 2018
ElementAI, Toronto, ON	September 2018
Microsoft Research, Montréal, QC	August 2018
ElementAI, Montréal, QC	June 2018
FAIR, Montréal, QC	May 2018
RLLab, McGill, Montréal, QC	April 2018

ElementAI, Montréal, QC	April 2018
TechAide, Montréal, QC	April 2018
ECE Seminar, UT Austin, TX	March 2018
BayesComp, Barcelona Spain	March 2018
SysML, Stanford CA	February 2018
Google Brain, Montréal	November 2017
Texas Wireless Summit, Austin, TX	October 2017
Colloquium, University of Montréal	September 2017
Colloquium, The University of Texas, Austin	September 2017
AutoML workshop, ICML, Sydney	August 2017
Workshop on Advances in Computing Architectures, Stanford SystemX	April 2016
ITA workshop, San Diego, CA	February 2017
AAAI 2017 Workshop on Distributed Machine Learning	February 2017
Microsoft Research, Cambridge, UK	December 2016
SystemX Stanford Alliance Fall Conference	November 2016
Microsoft Research, New England	October 2016
Allerton Conference, Monticello, IL	September 2016
Google Brain, Mountain View, CA	August 2016
MIT Lincoln Labs, MA	August 2016
NVIDIA, Santa Clara, CA	July 2016