

Education

Harvard University PhD Computer Science – <i>Advisor</i> : Prof. Cengiz Pehlevan, Prof. Sham Kakade Kempner Graduate Fellow	2024 - Present
ETH Zürich MSc Data Science – <i>Advisor</i> : Prof. Gunnar Rätsch, Prof. Francesco Orabona	2020 - 2023
University Politehnica of Bucharest (UPB) BSc Computer Science – <i>Advisor</i> : Prof. Iuliu Vasilescu	2016 - 2020

Research (*: equal co-first, †: equal co-last)

Publications and preprints**The Recurrent Transformer: Greater Effective Depth and Efficient Decoding**[In Submission](#)C. Oncescu, D. Morwani, S. Jelassi, [A. Meterez](#), M. Kwun, S. Kakade**Anytime Pretraining: Horizon-Free Learning-Rate Schedules with Weight Averaging**[In Submission](#)[A. Meterez](#)^{*}, P. A. Nair^{*}, D. Morwani^{*}, C. Pehlevan, S. Kakade**Seesaw: Accelerating Training by Balancing Learning Rate and Batch Size Scheduling**[ICLR2026](#)[A. Meterez](#)^{*}, D. Morwani^{*}, J. Wu, C. Oncescu, C. Pehlevan, S. Kakade**A Simplified Analysis of SGD for Linear Regression with Weight Averaging**[OPT25 Workshop \(NeurIPS 2025\)](#)[A. Meterez](#)^{*}, D. Morwani^{*}, C. Oncescu, J. Wu, C. Pehlevan, S. Kakade**Echo Chamber: RL Post-training Amplifies Behaviors Learned in Pretraining**[COLM 2025](#)R. Zhao^{*}, [A. Meterez](#)^{*}, S. Kakade, C. Pehlevan, S. Jelassi[†], E. Malach[†]**The Optimization Landscape of SGD Across the Feature Learning Strength**[ICLR 2025](#)A. Atanasov^{*}, [A. Meterez](#)^{*}, J. Simon^{*}, C. Pehlevan**Why do Learning Rates Transfer? Reconciling Optimization and Scaling Limits for Deep Learning**[NeurIPS 2024](#)L. Noci^{*}, [A. Meterez](#)^{*}, T. Hofmann, A. Orvieto**Towards Training Without Depth Limits: Batch Normalization Without Gradient Explosion**[ICLR 2024](#)[A. Meterez](#)^{*}, A. Joudaki^{*}, F. Orabona, A. Immer, G. Rätsch, H. Daneshmand**Aligning Distant Sequences to Graphs using Long Seed Sketches**[RECOMB 2023, Genome Research](#)A. Joudaki^{*}, [A. Meterez](#)^{*}, H. Mustafa, R. Groot Koerkamp, A. Kahles, G. Rätsch**Towards Workflows for the Use of AI Foundation Models in Visual Inspection Applications**[EUROSTRUCT 2023](#)M. Rigotti, D. Antognini, R. Assaf, K. Bakirci, T. Frick, I. Giurgiu, K. Janoušková, F. Janicki, H. Jubran, C. Malossi, [A. Meterez](#), F. Scheidegger**Talks**

A Defense of the Quadratic Model: Optimization Insights for Pretraining

Princeton Alg-ML Seminar

Experience

Hudson River Trading

PhD Wintern

New York City, New York

Jan. 2026 (3 week program)

Max Planck Institute for Intelligent Systems

Research Intern

Tübingen, Germany

Nov. 2023 - Feb. 2025

IBM Research

Research Intern

Zürich, Switzerland

Sept. 2022 - Feb. 2023

Adobe

Software Engineering Intern

Bucharest, Romania

Jul. 2019 - Oct. 2019

CAMPUS Research Institute, UPB

Student Researcher

Bucharest, Romania

Jul. 2018 - Jul. 2020

Sparktech Software

Software Engineering Intern

Bucharest, Romania

Jul. 2018 - Oct. 2018

Awards

Kempner Fellowship

Full support for my doctoral studies.

2024

Grade I Scholarship*Granted by UPB to students with the best grades in the year (GPA \geq 9.5).*

2017

Performance Scholarship*Granted by UPB to students with the best grades in the year (GPA \geq 9.7).*

2018