

Alperen Ali Ergür

Address Carnegie Mellon University
School of Computer Science
7225 Gates Hillman Center
Pittsburgh, PA, 15213

Email aergur@cs.cmu.edu
<http://alpergur.xyz>
www.cs.cmu.edu/~aergur

Education

- 2016** PhD in Mathematics - *Texas A&M University, USA*
Advisors: Grigoris Paouris and J. Maurice Rojas
- 2011** MS in Mathematics- *Tobb University, Turkey*
- 2009** BS in Mathematics- *Bilkent University, Turkey*

Employment

- Sep 2019-present** Carnegie Mellon University, Theoretical Computer Science Group
Postdoctoral Fellow
Mentors: Venkat Gruswami and Pravesh Kothari
- May 2017-Aug 2019** Technical University of Berlin, Algorithmic Algebra Group
Einstein Postdoctoral Fellow
Mentors: Peter Bürgisser and Felipe Cucker
- Aug 2016-May 2017** North Carolina State University, Symbolic Computation Group
Postdoctoral Research Scholar
Mentor: Cynthia Vinzant
- Sep 2011-Aug 2016** Texas A&M University, Functional Analysis and Algebraic Geometry Groups
Graduate Research/Teaching Assistant
Assistant Instructor at Research Experience for Undergraduates Program

Teaching Experience

1. Technische Universität Berlin
Seminar on Interior Point Methods in Convex Optimization (co-teaching with T. de Wolff)
Effective Algebraic Geometry Lectures (co-teaching with P. Bürgisser and J. Tonelli-Cueto)
2. NC State University
Instructor for the following courses:
Linear Algebra for Science Majors, Calculus for Engineers, Precalculus
3. Texas A&M University
Assistant Instructor at Research Experience for Undergraduates Program
Mentored eight undergraduate research projects in four summers: 2013-2016.
Recitation Leader for Graduate Algebra, Probability, Advanced Calculus, Calculus

Research Visits

- April 2019** Sorbonne University, Paris, Host: Elias Tsigaridas
Nov 2018 Goethe Universität Frankfurt Am Main, Host: Amin Coja-Oghlan
Oct 2018 University of Missouri, Columbia, Host: Petros Valettas
April 2017 University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Host: Alexander Barvinok
Mar 2016 Middle East Technical University, Host: Özgür Kızısel
Oct 2015 Technische Universität München, Host: Peter Gritzmann
Sept 2015 University of Athens, Host: Apostolos Giannopoulos

Honors and Awards

- Jan 2017** Postdoctoral Fellowship by Einstein Foundation
Jun 2015 Travel Grant by University of Trento
Jan 2015 Travel Grant by Institut Henri Poincare
April 2014 AMS Travel Grant for Graduate Students
Sept 2009 Full Scholarship by ToBB University including tuition and stipend
Sept 2004 Full Scholarship by Bilkent University including tuition and stipend
< 2004 Two Bronze, One Silver Medal in National Math Contest

Research Interest

Efficient ways to understand and manipulate real polynomials, complexity theoretic limits therein.
This naturally involves tools and applications from
optimization, convex geometry (e.g., 1,3)
high dimensional probability, numerical analysis, (e.g., 2,5,6,7)
discrete geometry (e.g., 4,9), extremal and probabilistic combinatorics (e.g., 8,10).

Publications and Preprints

Articles listed below are available at https://arxiv.org/a/ergur_a_1.html

1. Multihomogenous Nonnegative Polynomials and Sums of Squares
Discrete and Computational Geometry, 2018
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s00454-018-0011-3>
2. Probabilistic Condition Number Estimates for Real Polynomials I
(with G. Paouris and J.M. Rojas)
Foundations of Computational Mathematics, 2018
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s10208-018-9380-5>
3. Approximating Nonnegative Polynomials via Spectral Sparsification
SIAM Journal on Optimization, 2019
<https://doi.org/10.1137/17M1121743>
4. Tropical Varieties for Exponential Sums (with G. Paouris and J.M. Rojas)
Mathematische Annalen, 2019
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s00208-019-01808-5>
5. On the Expected Number of Zeros of Random Fewnomials
(with P. Bürgisser and J. Tonelli-Cueto)
Accepted, SIAM Journal on Applied Algebra and Geometry
6. Probabilistic Condition Number Estimates for Real Polynomials II:
Structure and Smoothed Analysis (with G.Paouris and J.M Rojas)
Minor Revision, Mathematics of Computation
7. Plantinga-Vegter Algorithm Takes Average Polynomial Time
(with F. Cucker and J. Tonelli-Cueto)
ACM Symposium on Symbolic and Algebraic Computation (ISSAC), 2019
<https://doi.org/10.1145/3326229.3326252>
Journal version submission @ Journal of Computational Geometry
8. The Rank of Sparse Random Matrices
(with A. Coja-Oghlan, S. Hettereich, H. Rolvien)
Accepted, ACM Symposium on Discrete Algorithms (SODA), 2020
Journal version submission @ Discrete Analysis
9. A Polyhedral Homotopy Algorithm for Real Zeros
(with T. de Wolff)
10. The Multivariate Schwartz-Zippel Lemma
(with L. Dogan, J. Mundo, E. Tsigaridas)

Selected Talks

- Jul 2019** SIAM Conference on Applied Algebraic Geometry 2019, Bern
- Jun 2019** Effective Methods in Algebraic Geometry (MEGA) 2019, Madrid
- Apr 2019** Computational Geometry Workshop, Schloss Dagstuhl, Germany
- Feb 2019** Universität Bonn, Theoretical Computer Science Seminar
- Nov 2018** Goethe Universität Frankfurt, Applied Discrete Mathematics Seminar

- Oct 2018** U Missouri Columbia, Convex Geometry Seminar
- Mar 2018** Emerging Trends in Geometric Functional Analysis, Banff Creativity Centre
- Dec 2017** Methods on Discrete Structures Lecture Series, TU Berlin
- Nov 2017** Algebra Meets Numerics Workshop, Berlin Academy of Sciences
- Mar 2017** U Michigan Ann Arbor, Analysis and Probability Seminar
- Feb 2017** TU Berlin, Algorithmic Algebra Seminar, Germany
- July 2016** Geometric Functional Analysis Concentration Week, Texas A&M
- Apr 2016** MIT, LIDS Seminar
- Apr 2016** Georgia Tech, Algebra Seminar
- Mar 2016** Univ of Chicago, Scientific Computing Seminar
- Mar 2016** NC State University, Symbolic Computation Seminar
- Dec 2015** Colorado State University, FRAGMENT Seminar
- Oct 2015** Technical University of Munich, Applied Geometry Seminar, Germany
- Sept 2015** University of Athens, Convex Geometric Analysis Seminar, Greece
- Aug 2015** SUMIRFAS, Texas A&M, College Station
- June 2015** Effective Methods in Algebraic Geometry (MEGA) 2015, Trento ,Italy

Service

- July 2019** Organizer, SIAM Applied Algebraic Geometry Minisymposia:
Numerical Methods for Structured Polynomial System Solving
- Fall 2017** Organizer, Algorithmic Algebra OberSeminar, TU Berlin
- Feb 2016** Organizer, Lecture Series on Real Stable Polynomials, Bogazici University
- Jan 2016** Organizer, Combinatorial Algebraic Geometry Workshop, Nesin Math Village
- Nov 2014** Member of Power Team, Texas A&M High School Contest
- 2014-2015** Organizer, Texas A&M Working Seminar in Discrete Mathematics

References

- Teaching** Timothee Bryan (Visiting Assistant Professor of Mathematics, Colgate College)
- Peter Bürgisser (Professor of Algorithmic Algebra, TU Berlin)
- Amin Coja-Oghlan (Professor of Discrete Mathematics, Goethe Universität Frankfurt)
- Felipe Cucker (Professor of Mathematics, City University of Hong Kong)
- Venkatesan Gruswami (Professor of Computer Science, Carnegie Mellon University)
- Grigoris Paouris (Professor of Mathematics, Texas A&M University)
- J.Maurice Rojas (Professor of Mathematics and Computer Science, Texas A&M University)
- Cynthia Vinzant (Assistant Professor of Mathematics, North Carolina State University)