



# Doctoral School (ED) MSTII

**Journée d'accueil // Welcome day**

**François Dahmani, 11 Dec. 2025.**

# Overview

- What is ... a **Doctoral School** ? Who are we ?
- **Welcome** ! Find out your **environment** !
  - Highlight : Managing your **mandatory training**
  - Highlight : Create your **CSI**, and use it well
  - Highlight : **Defense** ... !
- Take home message
- Meet your representative, and your « responsable de spécialité »

# What is ... a Doctoral School ?

- Your doctoral journey is about *Research* and *Writing a thesis*
- It is also about *earning a degree : the Doctorate*

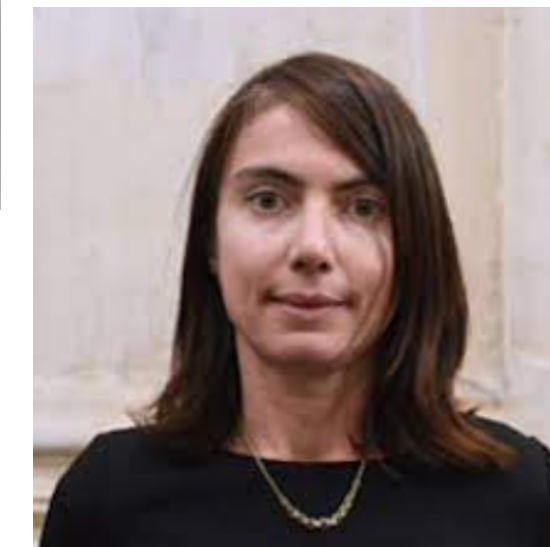
## Where does it happen ?

- The *research* takes place in the *Lab, with your thesis advisors ...*
- Getting *the degree* happens *in the University, through the Doctoral School !*
  - We provide **personalized support, scientific courses, opportunities** to enhance your skills
  - We assist with **planning and adjusting your doctoral training path.**
  - You show your research achievements, and fulfill training requirements

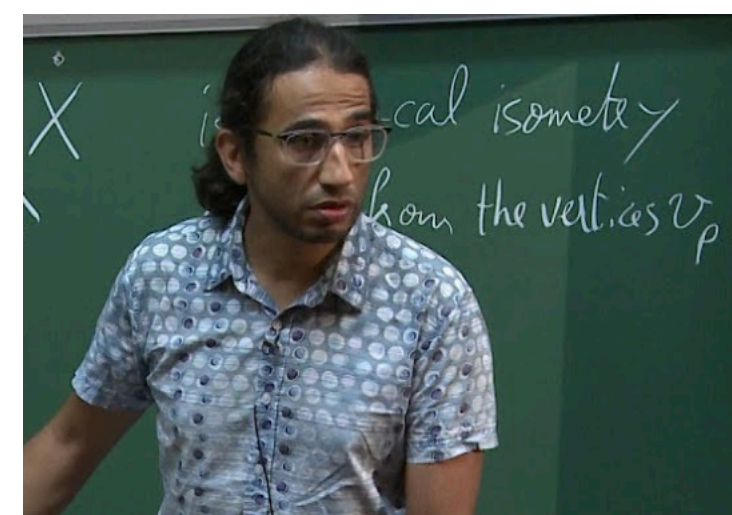


# The Doctoral School Team

- **Zilora Zouaoui and Amiel Kumbah**
- Computer Science : **Nicolas Gast**
- Computer Science : **Pierre Genevès**
- Math/CS : **Karteek Alahari**
- Applied Math : **Clémentine Prieur**
- Pure Math : **Alain Joye**



- Director : **François Dahmani**



# Welcome

## to your doctoral endeavour

- Research
- Becoming an expert
- Experiencing Uncertainty and Complexity
- Overcoming challenges few will understand
- Embracing new ways of thinking

*(and of course, all memes in PhDComics.com, or IlovePhD.com...)*

- Good luck on this remarkable journey!

# Your environment

## Thesis side —

- Your **thesis advisor(s)**

Meet ***regularly*** !

*Discuss science, ideas, tasks, mistakes, objectives... AND paperwork !*

*A significant part of your thesis success depends on maintaining healthy, regular, and relevant discussions with your advisor(s).*

- Your **Lab team**

Participate in **seminars**, working groups, and **convivial gatherings**.

- Your **Lab**

Familiarize yourself with lab **rules and procedures**.

Get to know the **HR person**, you have a contract there ! (Lab, CNRS, Inria...)

# Your environment (2)

## Doctoral side —

- Your **Monitoring Committee « CSI »** (meets every year)  
Meet your external referent to review your working conditions, organizational choices, and progress. (June)
- The **Doctoral School**  
The **Speciality Referent** represents the DS in your topic. Reach out whenever appropriate!  
Reviews your CSI reports and training portfolio annually.  
and handles your yearly registration. *(beware of the deadlines !)*.  
At the end of your doctorate, validates your thesis committee, reviews reports, and...  
eventually authorizes your defense ! *(beware of the rules !)*
- The **Doctoral School and College**,  
Offering the services you'll discover today...  
Training, professional insertion, **Bulle d'Air**, **Regulation cell...**



# Ressources

- **Monthly NewsLetter** from your favorite ED !

Read it !    Keep it !    A lot of important informations there.

- **ED Website** : [edmstii.univ-grenoble-alpes.fr](http://edmstii.univ-grenoble-alpes.fr)  
Rules for CSI, committees, breaks, defenses...  
Links to doctoral courses, formation
- **ED staff** and/or **speciality referent** : questions, alerts...



# Managing your Training

## Your Training Requirements (120 Hours Total):

- **40 hours in your Speciality** (Math, CS...).  
Example : the doctoral mini-courses, winter or summer school, ...
- **40 hours in Transversal Skills.**  
Example : Ethics in Science (mandatory), communication, scientific culture, doctoral courses in other sciences
- **40 hours dedicated to Career Development.**  
Example : training « how to teach », « how to find a job », actually teaching, internship, CIFRE, international experience
  - Those courses must be documented in ADUM, and validated by ED, each year ! You expand your competence portfolio

# Finding the doctoral courses

The screenshot shows the website for the UGA College Doctoral ED MSTII. The browser address bar shows the URL `edmstii.univ-grenoble-alpes.fr`. The website header includes the UGA logo, the text "COLLEGE DOCTORAL ED MSTII", and the name of the doctoral school: "École doctorale Mathématiques, sciences et technologies de l'information, informatique". A search button labeled "RECHERCHE" is visible. The main navigation menu is highlighted in red and includes the following items: "L'ÉCOLE DOCTORALE MSTII", "CANDIDATER", "LA THÈSE", "FORMATION" (which is highlighted with a blue dashed box), "INTERNATIONAL", and "ENCADRANTS / HDR". Below the navigation menu, there is a large banner with a blue and white abstract background. The banner contains the text: "Bienvenue à l'École doctorale Mathématiques, Sciences et technologies de l'information, Informatique". Below this, a smaller text block states: "L'école doctorale Mathématiques, Sciences et technologies de l'information, Informatique (ED MSTII) est une école doctorale thématique de la région grenobloise. L'ED MSTII est une des 13 écoles doctorales du".

UNIVERSITÉ GRENOBLE ALPES

ÉCOLES DOCTORALES

Français

UGA COLLEGE DOCTORAL  
ED MSTII

École doctorale  
Mathématiques, sciences et technologies de l'information, informatique

RECHERCHE

L'ÉCOLE DOCTORALE MSTII

CANDIDATER

LA THÈSE

FORMATION

INTERNATIONAL

ENCADRANTS / HDR

Bienvenue à l'École doctorale  
Mathématiques, Sciences et technologies  
de l'information, Informatique

L'école doctorale Mathématiques, Sciences et technologies de l'information, Informatique (ED MSTII) est une école doctorale thématique de la région grenobloise. L'ED MSTII est une des 13 écoles doctorales du



# Create your « CSI » (monitoring committee)

- Choose at least one person,  
**not** in Grenoble, **not** participating in the supervision : **the CSI expert(s)**.  
Discuss it with your advisor, choose a trusted person who has no conflict of interest and is independent of your thesis advisor.
- You'll meet **every year, around may/june** :
  - you write an overview, or survey, of your progress
  - you organise a meeting with the experts, and advisors, online (zoom, bbb)
    - a/ you present your survey (20' +10'). *this is not a defense!*
    - b/ then you discuss with experts, without advisors
    - c/ then advisors will discuss with experts, without you
    - d/ then you have a debrief all together
- You read the **opinion/advice of experts**, and you can **answer...**  
sometimes meet again in the autumn.



# How to use your CSI ?

- Mission of the CSI : detect room for improvement in the working conditions
- During the meeting, you can say what you find « suboptimal », — you can request some degree of confidentiality — you can benefit from a fresh opinion on a situation, find out what is « normal » what is not...
- In case of problem, this can help finding the good way forward, the good helping service.

# Defense...

- Can be authorized after completion of training, including the validation of « Ethics in Science », and...  
  
after having written a Doctoral Manuscript, with relevant, new, contribution to science, refereed by approved committee... 🤔
- **Writing is difficult**, it takes time, stamina... approach it methodically !
- Defense before 21th dec: you don't need to register for a new year. After ? You need to !
- 4th year ? Find a funding ! Communicate a precise schedule, and outline
- 5th year ?? 🤔 🤔 thesis must be  $\geq 80\%$  written up. Defense date is mandatory.

# The day(s) after...

- Enjoy becoming a doctor (hopefully !)
- But also pay attention to the « days after » :
  - apply to jobs, postdocs (anticipate),
  - have managed the paperwork of your « agrégation » (if applicable)
  - consider other options than « academic research forever », see career services
  - PhD alumni Network
- Know the skills that you (will have) cultivated : determination, analytic thinking, problem solving, team working, experience of complexity and incertitude, self-management, overcoming drawbacks, ...



# Take home message

- Take your CSI seriously, and responsibly, with an eye on deadlines
- Update your ADUM with the courses you take each year
- Signal any problem to the ED — (sooner is better)

*anticipate that for every action there will be delays you can't compress !*

- Have a healthy professional scientific fruitful relationship with your advisors : they must (and will) help you

# Meet your representatives, and referents...

## Vos représentant.e.s doctorant.e.s MSTII

- Malo Hillairet
- Flora Helmers
- William Sarem
- Yiqun Liu
- Antoine Klughertz

1. Retours bienvenus sur votre experience en thèse
2. Élections futures

Mail : [edmstii-representants-elus-doctorants@univ-grenoble-alpes.fr](mailto:edmstii-representants-elus-doctorants@univ-grenoble-alpes.fr) (ou adresses perso)  
+ d'infos sur le site de l'ED

—Questions...

