



## François GLINEUR

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Born on 2/10/1974. Belgian citizen, married, two children.



### PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

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- 2020– Full professor at *École Polytechnique de Louvain (EPL), Université catholique de Louvain (UCLouvain)*. Member of the ICTEAM Institute (applied mathematics division) and affiliated to LIDAM Institute, *Center for Operations Research and Econometrics*
- 2011–2020 Professor at *École Polytechnique de Louvain, Université catholique de Louvain*
- 2002–2011 Assistant professor at *École Polytechnique de Louvain, Université catholique de Louvain* (tenured since October 2005)
- 2001–2002 Post-doctoral researcher at *Fonds National de la Recherche Scientifique*, attached to *Mathematics and Operations Research* department at *Faculté Polytechnique de Mons* (now *Université de Mons*) ; post-doctoral stay in the lab of prof. Tamás TERLAKY at *McMaster University, Hamilton* (Canada)

### EDUCATION

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- 1997–2001 Research Fellow at the *Fonds National de la Recherche Scientifique, Faculté Polytechnique de Mons* (now *Université de Mons*). *PhD in applied sciences* under the supervision of profs. Jacques TEGHEM and Tamás TERLAKY.
- 1992–1997 *Computer Science and Management Engineering degree at Université de Mons & Engineering degree at Ecole Supérieure d'Electricité* (Paris) (T.I.M.E. dual degree)

### SUMMARY OF TEACHING ACTIVITIES

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- Teaching at all stages of the EPL engineering/computer science programs, on the topics of calculus and optimization models and methods (introductory bachelor: LEPL1102, LEPL1105, LINFO1111, major/minor bachelor: LINMA702, master: LINMA2471, LINMA2120)
- Involvement in doctoral courses at UCLouvain (SOCN) and outside of UCLouvain
- Supervision of 65 master theses in mathematical engineering

### SUMMARY OF RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

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- Main research topic: algorithms in mathematical optimization, applications in engineering; second area of expertise in numerical linear algebra and data science: nonnegative matrix factorization; more than 75 peer-reviewed publications (3379 citations, h-index 29)
- Supervision of 16 doctoral theses (including 6 ongoing)
- Research contracts: 10 FNRS/FRIA grants, one H2020 ITN network (2019, 3.8 M€, sole UCLouvain PI), one FNRS-FWO EOS (2018-2021, 3.1 M€), one ARC (2014, 500 k€) as leader, several federal IAPs as member, GlobalPartnership KULeuven, several FSRs; with industry: two FIRST (2008/11) and one Doctiris (2012) grants, a BioWin (WR) project (2017, 977 k€)
- Awarded 2017 Optimization Letters Best Paper Award and, as supervisor, the 2018 IBM Innovation award, A.W. Tucker prize finalist 2015–2017, 2014 Householder award, three ICTEAM thesis awards (2012, 2014, 2018) and two ORBEL awards (2013 and 2008)

## SUMMARY OF SERVICE ACTIVITIES

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- Academic responsibility for *Dédra-MATH-isons* in 2023 (high school mathematics event)
- Vice-dean of the *École Polytechnique de Louvain* (June 2016–October 2020)
- Program director for the mathematical engineering degrees (2006–2012), vice-head of the mathematical engineering division (2012–2015 and 2017)
- Responsible for bachelor schedule within the major-minor elective system (2010–2021)
- Calculus examiner for the EPL entrance exam (2007–2011)
- Organization of workshops and conferences, including ORBEL19 and ORBEL30 in Louvain-la-Neuve (January 2005 and 2016, 125 participants), the Convex and Nonsmooth optimization cluster at ICCOPT (July 2013), BFG'09 in Leuven (September 2009, 250 participants), TraDE-OPT Workshop on Algorithmic and Continuous Optimization (July 2022) and PEP talks workshop (February 2023)
- Member of the board of the IEEE Signal Processing Benelux chapter (2013–2016), of the board of the ORBEL society, jury in a FRIA commission (2015–2018)
- Organizer of local scientific activities, incl. the Operations Research (CORE) and Mathematical Engineering (INMA) research seminars, doctoral courses, reading groups, FRIA coaching
- Consulting activity in applied mathematics for several companies

## List of publications

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(see complete list of publications in separate file)

## Scientific supervision

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### *PhD students*

1. Robert CHARES, *Cones and Interior-Point Algorithms for Structured Convex Optimization involving Powers and Exponentials* (2005–2009)
2. Nicolas GILLIS, *Nonnegative Matrix Factorization, Complexity, Algorithms, Applications* (2007–2011)
3. Jonathan DENIES, *Development and implementation of topology optimization methods for the design of electromagnetic devices with multi-physics coupling* (with B. Dehez and H. Ben Ahmed, ENS Cachan, 2008–2013)
4. Olivier DEVOLDER, *Exactness, Inexactness and Stochasticity in First-order Methods for Large-scale Convex Optimization* (with Y. Nesterov, 2009–2013)
5. Arnaud LATIERS, *Autonomous Frequency Containment Reserves from Energy Constrained Loads: A system perspective* (with E. De Jaeger, 2012–2016)
6. Adrien TAYLOR, *Convex Interpolation and Performance Estimation of First-order Methods for Convex Optimization* (with J. Hendrickx, 2012–2017)
7. Benoît MARTIN, *Autonomous microgrids for rural electrification: joint investment planning of power generation and distribution through convex optimization* (with E. De Jaeger, 2013–2018)
8. Julien DEWEZ, *Computational Approaches for Lower Bounds on the Nonnegative Rank* (2013–2022)
9. Valentin HAMAIDE, *Data-driven learning and optimization approaches for proton therapy* (with B. Macq, 2018–2022)
10. Cécile HAUTECOEUR, *Nonnegative Matrix Factorization using Parametrizable Functions* (2018–2022)

### *Ongoing:*

11. Guillaume VAN DESSEL, *Convex optimization using tunable first-order inexact oracles* (2019–)

12. Yassine KAMRI, *Performance estimation and design of optimal optimization methods in data science* (with J. Hendrickx, 2021-)
13. Teodor ROTARU, *Computing the exact performance of black-box optimization methods: an automated tool to improve understanding and design better algorithms* (with P. Patrinos, KU Leuven, 2021-)
14. Philémon BEGHIN, *Using photogrammetry for the objective study of ancient bowed instruments: a machine learning approach* (with A.-E. Ceulemans, 2021-)
15. Nizar BOUSSELMY, *Efficient optimization of functions with compositional structure: a performance estimation approach* (with J. Hendrickx, 2021-)
16. Sofiane TANJI, *Automated method selection and tuning for optimization problems in data science* (2021-)

#### *Postdoctoral researchers*

- Moslem ZAMANI (2023, SeLMA EOS project), worked on *Performance Estimation of Optimization Methods*
- Yu GUAN (2018-2020, SeLMA EOS project, with P.-A. Absil), worked on *Graph regularized tensor completion*
- Sebastian STICH (2014-2016, ARC Big Data and SNF grants, with Y. Nesterov), worked on *Large-scale optimization*
- Augustin LEFÈVRE (2012-2013, IAP Dysco, with P.-A. Absil), worked on *Informed source separation*
- Nicolas GILLIS (2012-2013, FNRS grant), worked on *Constrained low-rank matrix and tensor approximations: complexity, algorithms, and applications.*
- Paschalis TSIAFLAKIS (2011, Francqui intercommunity grant), worked on *Optimization in Wireless MIMO Relay Networks*

#### *Master theses*

- 65 master theses supervised, mainly by students from the master in mathematical engineering at UCLouvain (see <https://perso.uclouvain.be/francois.glineur/> for list)

#### *Research internships*

- Pierrick GUICHARD (3 months in 2019, ENSTA Paris), *Approche moyennée de l'efficacité de l'algorithme du gradient.*
- Théo GOLVET (3 months in 2017, ENSTA ParisTech), *Etude de performance de méthodes d'optimisation du premier ordre à oracle inexact.*
- Pasquale ESPOSITO (5 months in 2015, Università della Calabria), *A numerical approach for solving the problem of the body of least resistance.*

### **(Recent) Invitations to conferences and seminars (excerpt)**

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1. Invited speaker (two keynote talks) at the *48th conference on the Mathematics of Operations Research*, Dutch Network on the Mathematics of Operations Research (LNMB), Soesterberg (The Netherlands), An introduction to performance estimation of first-order methods and Performance estimation of first-order methods: extensions and recent results, January 2023
2. Invited speaker at the seminar of the *Information and Science Engineering Lab*, KTH (Stockholm), Performance estimation of first-order methods, August 2019
3. Invited speaker at the research seminar of *University of Coimbra*, Performance estimation of first-order methods, October 2018
4. Invited speaker at the *Optimization for Learning workshop 2018* (Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile, Santiago), Performance estimation of first-order methods, January 2018

5. Invited to give a seminar at *INRIA Grenoble*, Performance estimation of first-order methods, November 2017
6. Invited speaker at the *University of Trier colloquium*, Performance estimation of first-order methods, May 2017
7. Invited speaker at the Phi-Tab workshop, Telecom ParisTech (Paris), Performance estimation of first-order methods for composite convex optimization, September 2016
8. Invited to speak at the *CentER Operations Research seminar* (Tilburg university), Performance estimation of first-order methods for (composite) convex optimization, January 2016
9. Invited speaker at the *Optimization and Big Data workshop 2015*, Smooth Strongly Convex Interpolation and Exact Worst-case Performance of First-order Methods, University of Edinburgh, May 2015
10. *ERGO Seminar* (University of Edinburgh), Computing lower and upper bounds on the extension complexity of polytopes, May 2015
11. Speaker at Dagstuhl seminar 15082 (by invitation) Limitations of Convex Programming: Lower Bounds on Extended Formulations and Factorization Ranks, Wadern, Germany, February 15-20 2015, *A geometric lower bound for the nonnegative rank*
12. Speaker at the Fifth Cargese Workshop In Combinatorial Optimization (by invitation), IESC, France, September 12 2014, *Computing upper and lower bounds on the nonnegative rank*
13. *MIT-LIDS seminar*, June 3rd 2013, Second-order cone representations of positive semidefinite cones
14. Invited speaker at one-day conference on Selected Topics in Optimization at University of Mons, April 15 2013, *Towards an optimal method for convex optimization using an inexact first-order oracle*
15. Invited speaker at 4th SDP days, workshop at CWI Amsterdam, March 21-22 2013, *Second-order cone representations of positive semidefinite cones*
16. Speaker at Dagstuhl seminar 13082 (by invitation) Communication Complexity, Linear Optimization, and lower bounds for the nonnegative rank of matrices, Wadern, Germany, February 17-22 2013, *A geometric lower bound for the nonnegative rank*
17. *MIT-LIDS seminar*, November 28th 2012, Towards an optimal method for convex optimization using an inexact first-order oracle
18. Invited speaker at HPOPT2012, 12th International Workshop on High Performance Optimization: Algorithmic convexity and applications, Delft (The Netherlands), June 20-22 2012

### **Awards and recognition**

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1. (as supervisor) *2018 ICTEAM thesis award* for Adrien TAYLOR's PhD thesis (best PhD thesis defended within the ICTEAM institute)
2. (as supervisor) *IBM Innovation Award 2018* for Adrien TAYLOR's PhD thesis (outstanding PhD thesis that presents an original contribution to informatics or its applications)
3. *2017 Optimization Letters (OPTL) best paper award* (with Adrien Taylor and Etienne de Klerk)
4. (as supervisor) *Mathematical Optimization society's Tucker prize finalist* for Adrien TAYLOR's PhD thesis (among top three PhD theses in mathematical optimization defended worldwide during 2015-2017 period)
5. (as supervisor) *2016 Robert Sinave award* for Arnaud LATIERS's PhD thesis (by Belgian Electricity society SRBE to the best PhD thesis in 2014-2016)
6. (as supervisor) *2014 Alston S. Householder award* for Nicolas GILLIS's PhD thesis (best PhD dissertation in numerical linear algebra in 2011-2013)
7. (as supervisor) *2014 ICTEAM thesis award* for Olivier DEVOLDER's PhD thesis (best PhD thesis defended within the ICTEAM institute)

8. (as supervisor) *2013 ORBEL award* for Sophie MARQUAND and Cyrille LEFÈVRE (awarded by Belgian Operations Research society to the best master thesis)
9. (as supervisor) *2012 ICTEAM thesis award* for Nicolas GILLIS (best PhD thesis defended within the ICTEAM institute)
10. (as supervisor) First prize in *S.C.M.-FFJM mathematical modelling contest* La conception d'un réseau de bus (2009) awarded to a team of students (INMA1375 course)
11. (as supervisor) *2008 ORBEL award* for Nicolas GILLIS's PhD thesis (awarded by Belgian Operations Research society to best master thesis in Belgium)
12. *Richard Stiévenart award* for the best master thesis defense, *Université de Mons* (June 1997)

### **Research grants, contracts and conventions, research networks (excerpt)**

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1. (as supervisor) *Aspirant F.R.I.A. (doctoral researcher)* funding the PhD of Nizar BOUSSELMI (October 2021-September 2025)
2. Global Partnership KU Leuven-UCLouvain (2021-2025, 48 PhD months, with P. PATRINOS) on *Computing the exact performance of black-box optimization methods*
3. Marie Skłodowska-Curie Innovative Training Network (H2020-MSCA-ITN-2019) *Training Data Driven Experts in Optimization* (TraDE-Opt) (consortium with 8 participants et 6 partners, sole PI at UCLouvain, 3.8M€, 2020-2023)
4. FSR UCL grant on the topic *Characterization of violins : a digital tool at the service of organology*, funding a PhD candidate (with P. FISETTE and A.-E. CEULEMANS, 15 months, 2019, declined)
5. EOS (Excellence of Science) grant awarded by F.R.S.-FNRS on the topic *Structured Low-Rank Matrix/Tensor Approximation Numerical Optimization-Based Algorithms and Applications*, 2018-2021, 3.1M€ (with P.A. ABSIL, L. DE LATHAUWER, B. DE MOOR, N. GILLIS, M. ISHTEVA, I. MARKOVSKY, P. PATRINOS, M. VAN BAREL)
6. FSR UCL grant funding a PhD candidate on *nonnegative matrix factorization with signals* (12 months, 2018)
7. BioWin (Région Wallonne) grant on the topic *Application of « Big data » digital technologies in the healthcare sector*, with IBA company, 2017-2021, 977 k€ (with B. MACQ and R. JUNGERS)
8. ARC (Action de Recherche Concertée) grant on the topic *Mining and Optimization of Big Data Models - Developing and Applying Efficient Algorithms for Very Large-Scale Structured Models*, 2014-2019, 500 k€ (as "porte-parole" promotor, with P.A. ABSIL, V. BLONDEL, J.-C. DELVENNE, R. LAMBIOTTE, Y. NESTEROV)
9. WBI grant supporting travel and collaboration with Romanian Academy of Sciences (with Ion NECOARA) on the topic *Efficient Optimization Algorithms for Big Data Network Systems*, 2016-2018)
10. (as supervisor) *Chargé de Recherches F.N.R.S. grant (postdoctoral researcher)* for Nicolas GILLIS (October 2012-September 2015, resigned October 2013)
11. (as supervisor) DOCTIRIS grant from Région de Bruxelles-Capitale to fund doctoral student Arnaud LATIERS (February 2012-September 2016, co-promotor Emmanuel De Jaeger), with industrial partner ELIA
12. Member of the Marie Curie Initial Training Network on Mixed Integer Nonlinear Optimization (MINO, n. 316647), 2012-2016
13. WBI grant supporting travel and collaboration with Romanian Academy of Sciences (with Ion NECOARA) on the topic Huge-scale sparse optimization: theory, algorithms and applications, 2014-2015)

14. MIT-Belgium - Université catholique de Louvain Seed Fund to fund collaboration with Prof. Parrilo (MIT) on the topic Nonnegative, Positive Semidefinite and Cone Ranks: Algebraic, Geometric, and Complexity Aspects (2011-2013)
15. (as supervisor) *Chargé de Recherches F.N.R.S. grant (postdoctoral researcher)* for Paschalis TSIAFLAKIS (co-promotor Luc VANDENDORPE, October 2011-September 2014, declined)
16. (as supervisor) *Françqui Intercommunity scientific collaborator grant (postdoctoral researcher)* for Paschalis TSIAFLAKIS (January-July 2011)
17. FIRST-Entreprise (Région wallonne) project on the topic « Modelling and solving optimization problems in energy utility systems » with BELSIM s.a. (funding for researcher Damien GÉRARD, September 2011-August 2012)
18. Consulting contracts with OPTIMOR HRM CONSULTANTS company (August 2007, July 2010 and October 2010)
19. (as supervisor) *Aspirant F.N.R.S. grant (doctoral researcher)* funding the PhD of Olivier DEVOLDER (October 2009-September 2013)
20. *Tournesol grant* (Hubert Curien partnership, C.G.R.I.), on the topic Optimization over positive polynomials: numerical aspects (2009-2010, with P. VAN DOOREN) ; French partner LAAS (Laboratoire d'Architecture and d'Analyse des Systèmes, Toulouse, with D. HENRION and J. LASSERRE)
21. FIRST-Entreprise (Région wallonne) project on the topic « Robopt – Robust optimization » with SAMTECH s.a. (two-year funding for postdoctoral researcher Samih ZEIN, 2008-2010)
22. (as supervisor) *Aspirant F.R.I.A. (doctoral researcher)* funding the PhD of Jonathan DENIES (October 2008-September 2012, with B. DEHEZ)
23. FSR UCL grant funding the PhD of J. DENIES (with B. Dehez, 15 months, 2008)
24. (as supervisor) *Aspirant F.N.R.S. (doctoral researcher)* funding the PhD of Nicolas GILLIS (October 2007-September 2011)
25. (as supervisor) *Aspirant F.R.I.A. (doctoral researcher)* funding the PhD of Robert CHARES (October 2006-September 2009)
26. Member du Marie Curie Initial Training Network on Algorithmic Discrete Optimization (ADONET, n. 504438), 2004-2007
27. FSR UCL grant funding the PhD of R. CHARES (15 months, 2003, postponed to 2005)

#### **Conference and seminar organization (excerpt)**

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- Co-organizer (with A. TAYLOR) of the minisymposium on « Principled and computer-assisted approaches for the analysis and design of optimization algorithms » at the 2023 SIAM Conference on Optimization, Seattle (USA), May 31-June 3, 2023 (twelve talks scheduled)
- Member of the organizing team of the PEP talks workshop, February 13-14 2023, at UCLouvain
- Organizer of the TraDE-OPT Workshop on Algorithmic and Continuous Optimization, July 4-8 2022 at UCLouvain
- Co-organizer of the minisymposium on « Performance Estimation of First-Order Methods » at the 2019 International Conference on Continuous Optimization (ICCOPT 2019), Berlin, August 5-8 2019.
- Co-organizer of the IMMAQ/ICTEAM/EPL/SC *Doctorat Honoris Causa in Data Science* ceremony, sponsor of prof. Stephen BOYD, May 18 2017
- Co-organizer (with J. LOUVEAUX) of the 36th WIC Symposium on Information Theory in the Benelux and 5th joint WIC/IEEE SP Symposium on Information Theory and Signal Processing in the Benelux, May 19-20 2016

- Co-organizer (program chair) of the ORBEL30 conference (chair M. QUEYRANNE), 30th Conference on Quantitative Methods for Decision Making, annual meeting of the Belgian Operations Research society, 28-29 January 2016 at UCLouvain (80 speakers, 130 participants)
- Chair (with P. RICHTARIK) of cluster on « Convex and Nonsmooth optimization » (more than 60 talks scheduled) at ICCOPT 2013, Fourth International Conference on Continuous Optimization, Lisbon, July 27-August 1st 2013
- Co-organizer of BFG09 (chair M. DIEHL), 14th Belgian-French-German Conference on Optimization, Leuven, September 14-18 2009 (more than 250 participants)
- Organizer (chair) of the Optimization and Engineering workshop (with Y. CRAMA, E. LOUTE and A. SARTENAER), 24 May 2006 at Université catholique de Louvain (40 participants)
- Co-chair of the ORBEL19 conference (with B. FORTZ), 19th Conference on Quantitative Methods for Decision Making, annual meeting of the Belgian Operations Research society, 27- 28 January 2005 at Université catholique de Louvain (70 speakers, 125 participants)

### **Doctoral courses (invited lecturer, excerpt)**

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- Performance Estimation of First-Order Methods, Dutch Network on the Mathematics of Operations Research (LNMB), Soesterberg (The Netherlands), January 2023 (more than 200 participants)
- Algorithmic Convex Optimization (with Y. Nesterov), SOCN Graduate School in Systems Optimization Control and Networks, UCL, October 2016 (15 hours, more than 40 participants)
- Convex optimization Why ? What ? How ?, eVITA Winter School on eScience on Optimization, SINTEF, Norway, 11-16 January 2009
- Introduction to continuous optimization, doctoral course within the IAP *Inverse problems and optimization in low frequency electromagnetism*, ULg, March 2008
- Convex Optimization – models and methods, *SOCN Graduate School in Systems Optimization Control and Networks*, UCL, November-December 2006

### **Participation to doctoral thesis committees**

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(member of more than 40 juries, at UCLouvain, in other Belgian universities and abroad, including KU Leuven, UMONS, KTH, TU Delft, ENS/INRIA, LAAS, CERFACS, U. Paris-Sud, U. Grenoble, U. of Edinburgh, U. Tilburg)