

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We are greatly indebted to H. Edwin Romeijn who initiated creating the Ph.D. course “Topics in Data Science.” The Lecture Notes for this course form the seed of the book to follow. We gratefully acknowledge support from SF Grant CC-1523768 *Statistical Inference via Convex Optimization*; this research project is the source of basically all novel results presented in Chapters 2–5. Our deepest gratitude goes to Lucien Birge, who encouraged us to write this monograph, and to Stephen Boyd, who many years ago taught one of the authors “operational philosophy,” motivating the research we are presenting.

Our separate thanks to those who decades ago guided our first steps along the road which led to this book—Rafail Khasminskii, Yakov Tsympkin, and Boris Polyak. We are deeply indebted to our colleagues Alekh Agarwal, Aharon Ben-Tal, Fabienne Comte, Arnak Dalalyan, David Donoho, Céline Duval, Valentine Genon-Catalot, Alexander Goldenshluger, Yuri Golubev, Zaid Harchaoui, Gérard Kerkyacharian, Vladimir Koltchinskii, Oleg Lepski, Pascal Massart, Eric Moulines, Axel Munk, Aleksander Nazin, Yuri Nesterov, Dominique Picard, Alexander Rakhlin, Philippe Rigollet, Alex Shapiro, Vladimir Spokoiny, Alexandre Tsybakov, and Frank Werner for their advice and remarks.

We would like to thank Elitsa Marielle, Andrey Kulunchakov and Hlib Tsyntseus for their assistance when preparing the manuscript. It was our pleasure to collaborate with Princeton University Press on this project. We highly appreciate valuable comments of the anonymous referees, which helped to improve the initial text. We are greatly impressed by the professionalism of Princeton University Press editors, and in particular, Lauren Bucca, Nathan Carr, and Susannah Shoemaker, and also by their care and patience.

Needless to say, responsibility for all drawbacks of the book is ours.

A. J. & A. N.

