



**UNIVERSITÉ
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HKUST PhD program

Geneva, January 5, 2021

Letter of recommendation for Anastasiia Kazovskaia:

With this letter, I recommend very strongly Anastasiia Kazovskaia for PhD program at HKUST.

Anastasiia Kazovskaia got her B.Sc. degree in 2022 from the St. Petersburg State University and is now continuing with her Master's studies. I am writing this letter in my capacity of the scientific director of the newly created Department of Mathematics and Computer Science, which is one of the best in Russia. Admissions are very competitive and it has the highest number of national maths Olympiad and IMO winners in the country. The level of undergraduate students is very high, on a par with the world top places, like Ecole Normale, Oxford or Harvard.

Anastasiia Kazovskaia is in the very top of her class, and taking into account the high level of his classmates it is a universally good estimate. In particular, she had a very competitive fellowship throughout her studies, and won a student research competition.

Our department gives a very solid background in mathematics and computer science, with more material covered than in most other universities. Anastasiia had excellent grades throughout her studies, and took particular interest in probability and statistics, as well as in machine learning and bionformatics. She wrote her BSc thesis under direction of Mikhail Lifshits, which contained serious research results and was commended by the thesis committee.

Anastasiia Kazovskaia is very smart, motivated and hard working. I am sure that she will fit greatly into your PhD program.

I very strongly recommend Anastasiia Kazovskaia for PhD program at HKUST.

Yours sincerely,

Stanislav Smirnov