

“Training the world’s foremost experts and leaders in
Management of Technology”

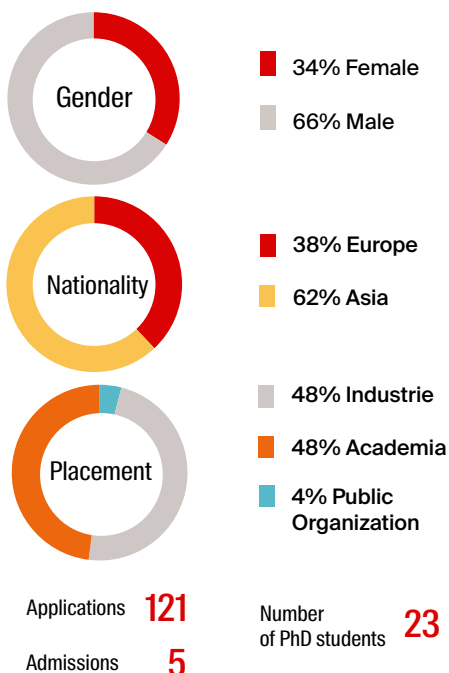
Welcome!

This is the fourth annual newsletter of the EPFL Doctoral Program in Management of Technology (EDMT). It aims at informing alumni, prospective applicants, and current participants by highlighting recent events, achievements, and other newsworthy activities.

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EDMT in Brief (2023)



Message from our Director



Dear Doctoral Students, Faculty, and Alumni,

We are pleased to welcome five new students and four new alumni! Once you enter the EDMT community, you always stay a part of it.

Quot homines, tot sententiae—there are as many opinions as there are people. This ancient wisdom encapsulates the essence of a shared journey, and its author (Terence) is quick to add: *suo quoique mos*—to everyone his or her own way. Our doctoral students, with their unique backgrounds and experiences, are pushing the boundaries of knowledge, as hard as they can. This diversity of thought is our collective strength, realized when minds of different kinds converge in the pursuit of a common goal.

Manum de tabula—know when to release your creation. The pursuit of knowledge is an art, and yet (as Cicero noted) any artist has to sense when it is time to step back from the canvas. Thus, we must recognize when to pause, reflect, and appreciate the intellectual masterpieces we create, rather than to end up ruining them by too much work. Drop your pencil therefore now and take a moment to step back and acknowledge the significance of your contributions over the past year and the impact they may have on our academic community and beyond.

Let us approach the holiday season with a sense of accomplishment and anticipation for what the future holds. May this festive season be a time of relaxation, reflection, and connection with your loved ones. Happy Holidays!

Warm regards,

Thomas Weber
Director, EDMT

Our New Students



This fall, the EDMT Program admitted 5 new students:

- Anaëlle Touré, joining the team of Prof. Michaël Aklin (PASU chair)
- Mohammad Shahverdikondori, joining the team of Prof. Negar Kiyavash (BAN chair)
- Qi Yi, joining the team of Prof. Ralf Seifert (TOM chair)
- Ru Zhang, joining the team of Prof. Thomas Weber (OES chair)
- Tsung-Han Chou, joining the team of Prof. Gaétan de Rassenfosse (STIP chair)

Theses Defended in 2023

Quantitative Methods for Omnichannel Decision-Making.

[A. Vasilyev](#) / [R. W. Seifert](#) (Dir.)
Lausanne, EPFL, 2023.

Economic Effect of Patents and the Patent System: Insights from Linked Patent-Product Data.

[G. Abi Younes](#) / [G. J. A. de Rassenfosse](#) (Dir.)
Lausanne, EPFL, 2023.

Optimizing Sales Forecasting, Inventory, Pricing and Sourcing Decisions.

[Y. Kayyali El Alem](#) / [R. W. Seifert](#) (Dir.)
Lausanne, EPFL, 2023.

Entrepreneurial Opportunities and Threats in the Era of Grand Societal Challenges.

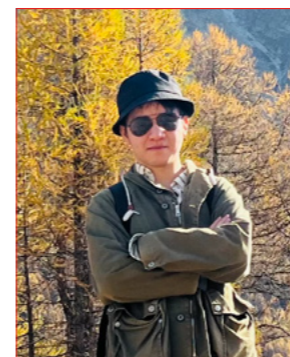
[E. Bergamini](#) / [M. Gruber](#) (Dir.)
Lausanne, EPFL, 2023.

Testimonials



[Annaëlle Touré](#), Incoming EDMT PhD Student

"I'm happy to join the EDMT PhD program at the Policy and Sustainability chair! It is exciting to participate in the beginning of a new group, and I am lucky to also benefit from the insights of more experienced students of the department. As a first-year PhD student, I get to learn from the variety of courses at EPFL while getting started on my research. This is a great opportunity to explore exciting subjects, and I look forward to seeing where this journey takes me!"



[Qi Yi](#), Incoming EDMT PhD Student

"My PhD journey in the EDMT program has been a remarkable blend of honor and opportunity. Surrounded by world-class facilities and educational resources, I have been able to learn freely and develop my own research interests under the guidance of top-tier professors from around the world. The program has not only connected me with outstanding peers worldwide but also immersed me in diverse academic events like a winter school, seminars and international conferences. I am deeply grateful for these enriching experiences and the knowledge I have gained."

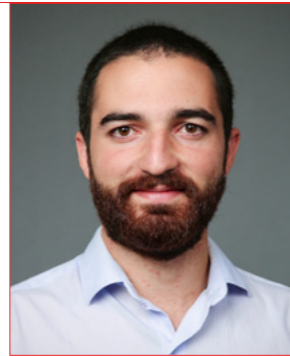


Yves Rychener, EDMT PhD Student since 2021

“The EDMT doctoral program offers a great combination of courses, teaching support and research. While the courses allow us to learn about new concepts, helping teach these to new students is not only a valuable experience, but also forces us to truly understand them. Applying some of these concepts to our research and thereby, hopefully, exploring uncharted territory, is not only highly rewarding, but also prepares us for future challenges. I find that sharing this experience with peers and being supported by supervisors and other staff makes it that much more enjoyable.”

Roy Sarkis, EDMT PhD Student since 2022

“As I begin my third year as a Ph.D. student at EDMT, the journey has been both intellectually stimulating and personally rewarding. The supportive community at EDMT has been invaluable. Engaging in inspiring conversations with talented peers from diverse backgrounds and benefiting from a wide selection of courses, seminars and workshops have enriched my academic journey. The close-knit nature of our doctoral program, combined with the mentorship and freedom to explore research ideas, has set the stage for my growth as a researcher. As I progress through my Ph.D. journey, I’m grateful for the opportunities offered to me, both professionally and personally. It’s not just an academic pursuit; it’s a journey of learning, collaboration, and adventure.”



Yara Kayyali Elalem, EDMT 2023 Alumnus



“With the right environment and support system, the journey through a PhD program transforms from being predominantly challenging to profoundly rewarding. The community of PhD students, professors, and assistants at EDMT made me thrive both personally and professionally. As a student representative, I was encouraged to organize both intellectual and fun outings with my colleagues, engaging us in impactful discussions and friendships. I was also encouraged to pursue research in areas that I was fond of, which led me to me define my career path early on after I graduated.”

List of Awards

- Finalist for the 2023 INFORMS George Nicholson Award: [Bahar Taskesen](#)
- MTE Program Best Teaching Assistant Award 2023: [Yves Rychener](#)

EDMT Doctoral Committee

- Prof. Thomas Weber, Director
- Prof. Gaétan de Rassenfosse
- Prof. Negar Kiyavash
- Prof. Michaël Aklın

EDMT Life in Pictures



1 Aare boat trip

2 Game night



3



5



4



6

3 Summer hike

4 Summer Apéro

5 Zinal Winter school

6 Research Day

Important Dates

Application deadlines: **January 15, 2024**, and **April 15, 2024**

Start of the program: **September 15, 2024**

Next Research Day: **Spring 2024**

Program Core Courses (please refer to our official website for recent updates and additional information):

- MGT-418 Convex Optimization
- MGT-484 Applied Probability & Stochastic Processes
- MGT-581 Introduction to Econometrics
- MGT-602 Mathematical Models in Supply Chain Management
- MGT-621 Microeconomics

Stay in Touch

Thank you for keeping up with the EDMT Program!

Please share this newsletter on social media or by forwarding it via email.

If you have recently been promoted, received honors or awards, or have other news, please email Céline at celine.cordey@epfl.ch. We would love to hear from you!

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EDMT Newsletter

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