



Congratulations to

**Mahdi  
Soltanolkotabi**

for being named a 2019  
**Sloan Research Fellow**

**USC** Viterbi

# USC Viterbi

School of Engineering

**Mahdi Soltanolkotabi**, Andrew and Erna Viterbi Early Career Chair in the Ming Hsieh Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, has been named a **2019 Sloan Research Fellow**. Awarded by the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, the fellowship is given to only 126 early-career scholars each year and comes with \$70,000 over two years to support research. He joins three other Trojans in this year's list.

Soltanolkotabi is recognized in the field of mathematics for his work on design and mathematical understanding of computationally efficient algorithms. His research has been instrumental in the development of scalable and reliable algorithms in a variety of areas including optimization, high-dimensional statistics, machine learning, signal processing, and computational imaging. For machine learning and computational imaging specifically, Soltanolkotabi's research is seen as important to making the promise of these fields a reality by developing reliable and mathematically rigorous alternatives.

He recently received a 2019 NSF CAREER Award for developing nonconvex optimization algorithms, as well as two prestigious 2018 awards: a Packard Fellowship to build new mathematical foundations for signal processing and artificial intelligence and an Air Force Young Investigator Award for his work on learning data representations.

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