

Chieh-Hsin (Jesse) Lai

Technical Lead / Staff Research Scientist @ Sony AI |
Visiting Assistant Professor @ National Yang Ming Chiao Tung University, Taiwan
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[Google Scholar \(KDnKGU8AAAAJ\)](#) | [Website](#)

Research Interests

Deep learning, generative modeling, and representation learning for computer vision, audio, and language;
AI for sciences and physics-informed machine learning.

Experience

Sony AI, Japan	<i>May 2022 – Present</i>
<i>Senior Research Scientist</i> Focus: Deep Generative Modeling	
National Yang Ming Chiao Tung University, Taiwan	<i>Aug 2024 – Present</i>
<i>Visiting Assistant Professor</i> Supervising AI for Science research	
Sony, USA	<i>Oct 2021 – May 2022</i>
<i>Senior Research Engineer</i> Focus: Deep generative modeling and robustness	
Institute of Mathematics, Academia Sinica, Taiwan	<i>Aug 2015 – July 2016</i>
<i>Research Assistant</i> Focus: Harmonic Analysis, Differential Equations	
University of Minnesota, USA	<i>Sep 2016 – May 2021</i>
<i>Teaching Assistant</i> Courses: Linear Algebra, Calculus, Differential Equations	

Education

University of Minnesota – Twin Cities, USA	<i>Ph.D. in Mathematics, 2016 - 2021</i>
Advisor: Gilad Lerman Focus: ML Theory, Anomaly Detection, Generative Models	
National Tsinghua University, Taiwan	<i>B.Sc. in Mathematics, 2012 - 2015</i>
Undergraduate Research: Harmonic Analysis and Boltzmann Equation	

Selected Publications

(* denotes equal contribution. Full list available on my [Google Scholar](#).)

Book / Monograph

1. **Lai, Chieh-Hsin**, Yang Song, Dongjun Kim, Yuki Mitsufuji, and Stefano Ermon. The principles of diffusion models. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2510.21890*, 2025

Selected Papers

1. Kevin Rojas, Ye He, **Chieh-Hsin Lai**, Yuta Takida, Yuki Mitsufuji, and Molei Tao. Theory-informed improvements to classifier-free guidance for discrete diffusion models. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2507.08965*, 2025
2. Zheyuan Hu*, **Chieh-Hsin, Lai***, Yuki Mitsufuji, and Stefano Ermon. Cmt: Mid-training for efficient learning of consistency, mean flow, and flow map models. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2509.24526*, 2025
3. Gianluigi Silvestri, Luca Ambrogioni, **Chieh-Hsin Lai**, Yuhta Takida, and Yuki Mitsufuji. VCT: Training consistency models with variational noise coupling. In *Forty-second International Conference on Machine Learning*, 2025

4. Ayano Hiranaka*, Shang-Fu Chen*, **Chieh-Hsin, Lai***, Dongjun Kim, Naoki Murata, Toshiaki Shibuya, Wei-Hsiang Liao, Shao-Hua Sun, and Yuki Mitsufuji. Hero: Human-feedback efficient reinforcement learning for online diffusion model finetuning. In *ICLR*, 2025
5. Yong-Hyun Park, **Chieh-Hsin, Lai**, Satoshi Hayakawa, Yuhta Takida, and Yuki Mitsufuji. Jump your steps: Optimizing sampling schedule of discrete diffusion models. In *ICLR*, 2024
6. Koichi Saito, Dongjun Kim, Toshiaki Shibuya, **Chieh-Hsin, Lai**, Zhi Zhong, Yuhta Takida, and Yuki Mitsufuji. Soundctm: Uniting score-based and consistency models for text-to-sound generation. 2025
7. Junyoung Seo, Kazumi Fukuda, Toshiaki Shibuya, Takuya Narihira, Naoki Murata, Shoukang Hu, **Chieh-Hsin, Lai**, Seungryong Kim, and Yuki Mitsufuji. Genwarp: Single image to novel views with semantic-preserving generative warping. In *NeurIPS*, 2024
8. Dongjun Kim*, **Chieh-Hsin, Lai***, Wei-Hsiang Liao, Yuhta Takida, Naoki Murata, Toshimitsu Uesaka, Yuki Mitsufuji, and Stefano Ermon. Pagoda: Progressive growing of a one-step generator from a low-resolution diffusion teacher. In *NeurIPS*, 2024
9. Dongjun Kim*, **Chieh-Hsin, Lai***, Wei-Hsiang Liao, Naoki Murata, Yuhta Takida, Toshimitsu Uesaka, Yutong He, Yuki Mitsufuji, and Stefano Ermon. Consistency trajectory models: Learning probability flow ode trajectory of diffusion. In *ICLR*, 2024
10. Yutong He, Naoki Murata, **Chieh-Hsin, Lai**, Yuhta Takida, Toshimitsu Uesaka, Dongjun Kim, Wei-Hsiang Liao, Yuki Mitsufuji, J Zico Kolter, Ruslan Salakhutdinov, et al. Manifold preserving guided diffusion. In *ICLR*, 2024
11. **Chieh-Hsin, Lai**, Yuhta Takida, Toshimitsu Uesaka, Naoki Murata, Yuki Mitsufuji, and Stefano Ermon. On the equivalence of consistency-type models: Consistency models, consistent diffusion models, and fokker-planck regularization. In *ICML Workshop*, 2023
12. **Chieh-Hsin, Lai**, Yuhta Takida, Naoki Murata, Toshimitsu Uesaka, Yuki Mitsufuji, and Stefano Ermon. Fp-diffusion: Improving score-based diffusion models by enforcing the underlying score fokker-planck equation. In *ICML*, 2023
13. Naoki Murata, Koichi Saito, **Chieh-Hsin, Lai**, Yuhta Takida, Toshimitsu Uesaka, Yuki Mitsufuji, and Stefano Ermon. Gibbsddrm: A partially collapsed gibbs sampler for solving blind inverse problems with denoising diffusion restoration. In *ICML*, 2023
14. **Chieh-Hsin, Lai***, Dongmian Zou*, and Gilad Lerman. Robust variational autoencoding with wasserstein penalty for novelty detection. In *AISTATS*, 2023
15. Yuhta Takida, Toshiaki Shibuya, Weihsiang Liao, **Chieh-Hsin, Lai**, Junki Ohmura, Toshimitsu Uesaka, Naoki Murata, Shusuke Takahashi, Toshiyuki Kumakura, and Yuki Mitsufuji. Sq-vae: Variational bayes on discrete representation with self-annealed stochastic quantization. In *ICML*, 2022
16. **Chieh-Hsin, Lai***, Dongmian Zou*, and Gilad Lerman. Robust subspace recovery layer for unsupervised anomaly detection. In *ICLR*, 2020

Patents

- Yuta Takida, Masaaki Imaizumi, Toshiaki Shibuya, **Chieh-Hsin Lai**, Toshimitsu Uesaka, Naoki Murata, and Yuki Mitsufuji. Information processing device, information processing method, and non-transitory computer readable storage medium

My (Main) Mentee / Students

- Zheyuan Hu (May 2025 - Present): PhD at National University of Singapore
- Che-Chia Chang (August 2024 - Present): PhD at National Yang Ming Chiao Tung University
- Chen-Yang Dai (August 2024 - Present): PhD at National Yang Ming Chiao Tung University

- Yonghyun Kim (July 2024 - Present): PhD student at University of Pennsylvania
- Gianluigi Silvestri (July 2024 - May 2025): PhD at OnePlanet Research Center
- Yangming Li (June 2024 - Nov. 2024): PhD at University of Cambridge
- Ayano Hiranaka (Dec. 2023 - June 2024): PhD student at University of Southern California
- Shang-Fu Chen (Dec. 2023 - June 2024): PhD student at National Taiwan University
- Dongjun Kim (May 2023 - March 2024): Post-doc at Stanford University

Invited Talks / Events / Academic Services

- Area Chair of *NeurIPS 2025, ICLR 2026, ICML 2026*
- Reviewer for *NeurIPS, ICML, ICLR* (since 2022), *IEEE TPAMI*, and *ACM MM 2025*.
- Organizing and Delivering Tutorial on Diffusion Models, *IJCNN 2025, ICASSP 2025, ISMIR 2024*
- NeurIPS 2025, 2024 Expo Workshop on Generative Models
- Invited talks at *NVIDIA Taiwan, National Taiwan University, National Yang Ming Chiao Tung University, National Tsinghua University, Appier Taiwan, Duke University, University of Minnesota, Tokyo University, Tohoku University, Korea Institute for Advanced Study, Sungkyunkwan University, Hanyang University* etc.