HANNES STÄRK

M.Sc. Informatics Student with Machine Learning major at TUM, Munich, DE

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EDUCATION

M.Sc. Informatics | Machine Learning major

Technical University of Munich

since Oct 2019 | Munich, DE | Full-time

- 2nd Year: Advanced topics in machine learning and probabilistic inference
- 1st Year: Introduction to machine learning and learning theory

Attending and regularly presenting papers at the theoretical foundations of AI and protein prediction reading groups

B.Sc. Informatics | Mathematics track

Bundeswehr University Munich

Sept 2017 – Sept 2019 | Munich, DE | Full-time

- 2nd Year: Networking, statistics, and advanced maths
- 1st Year: Mathematics, algorithms, and programming foundations

Built concept and started development of the app CoachPTBS

EXTRACURRICULAR TRAINING

Eastern European Machine Learning Summer School

07. Jul 2021 – 15. Jul 2021 | Budapest, HU | Selective Admission

- **EEML**: lectures and practical sessions to improve the theoretical and practical understanding of ML

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE (3/6)

Master's Thesis on graph representation learning

Pietro Liò, Cambridge University + Stephan Günnemann, TUM

Mar 2021 – Present | Cambridge, UK | Full-time remote

- **3D aware self-supervised learning for small molecular graphs**
- Leveraging isometries of molecules for efficient representation learning via mutual information maximization between 2D and 3D representations

Interdisciplinary project Bioinformatics

Burkhard Rost, Technical University of Munich

Sept 2020 – Feb 2021 | Munich, DE | Full-time course

- **Developed new attention mechanism and architecture for predicting proteins' subcellular location beating the previous SOTA by 8 percentage points**
- Evaluate different types of learned representations for proteins and what information is captured by Transformers' protein embeddings

Guided Research Computer Vision

Matthias Nießner's CV & AI chair, Technical University of Munich

March 2020 – Sept 2020 | Munich, DE | Full-time course

- **Adapted Neural Radiance Fields for a dynamic scene of a human to interpolate between and render different views and human poses**

"Neural Radiance Fields for Novel View and Human Pose Synthesis" (unpublished) with video explanation and code

PUBLICATIONS

- Stärk, Hannes et al. (2021) "Light Attention Predicts Protein Location from the Language of Life". In: *Posters and contributed talk at ICLR'21 AI4PH and ICLR'21 MLPCP*. Poster and long talk at MLCSB 2021.

SUMMARY

*I am passionate about **MACHINE LEARNING** and especially **GRAPH REPRESENTATION LEARNING**. I have hands-on experience from academia + industry and am now fully devoted to research. My main expertise has revolved around Transformers for **PROTEIN PREDICTION**, and **SYMMETRY** aware **GNNs**. I am a researcher with a mathematical background, eager to learn about important problems and find impactful solutions.*

SKILLS

Python ●●●●○
Main language in projects and personal use

Java + Scala ●●●○○
Two years of backend development and main language during studies

Other Languages: HTML, CSS, JavaScript (proficient) R, C++, SQL, ARM assembly, Swift, MATLAB (used occasionally)

PyTorch ●●●●○
Protein localization prediction, Neural Radiance Fields, Graph representations in reinforcement learning, WaveNet for denoising audio, Enzyme prediction + projects done as coursework, exercises created for courses

TensorFlow, Keras ●○○○○
Variational Autoencoder for remote sensing images

Other: Spectral Methods for Graphs, Audio processing, Robotics, Computer Vision and Graphics, Git, Unix systems, Shell, Docker, Cloudfoundry, Jenkins, Unittesting, Jupyter, LaTeX, **clean code**, AWS, Google Cloud Platform

Languages:

German ●●●●●
Native Speaker

English ●●●●●
Professional Proficiency | 96% in TOEFL test

French ●○○○○
Secondary language at school and from friends

Skill rankings represent personal frame of reference

LEISURE

Sports: Gymnastics, Calisthenics, Acrobatics
Maths: Explaining and illustrating short topics from maths or science, Watching online lectures, and writing summaries with reviews
Other: Chess, reading popular science, attending ML conferences, paper discussion groups

WORK EXPERIENCE

Teaching Assistant for Operations Research
Technical University of Munich, Decision Sciences

April 2021 – Sept 2021 | Munich, DE | Part-time

Giving 2 exercise sessions per week

- Explaining lecture content and answering questions via online teaching tool

Mathematics Lecturer
BIB Augsburg gGmbH

since Feb 2020 | Augsburg, DE | Part-time

Teaching linear algebra, analysis, and statistics

- Organizing online teaching and weekly individual lessons
- Student mediation and counseling. Collecting feedback, Weekly reports

Teaching Assistant for Deep Learning
Technical University of Munich, CV & AI Niessnerlab

Nov 2020 – April 2021 | Munich, DE | Part-time

Held office hours and gave lessons to subgroups of the students

- Created exercises and learning material like jupyter notebooks or graphics
- Explained lecture content and answered questions via online teaching tool

Student Assistant
Institute of Mathematics and OR, Bundeswehr University Munich

Sept 2018 – July 2019 | Munich, DE | Part-time

Worked on causal inference for train traffic data with structure learning in Bayesian networks and validated approaches with simulation data

- Implemented and evaluated methods for regression on time-series data

PyTorch, Python, Anylogic simulations, Recurrent neural networks, SARIMA, ARIMAX, LSTMs, Bayesian network structure learning, causal inference

Dual Study Program
Allianz Deutschland AG

Sept 2017 – Sept 2019 | Munich, DE | Part-time

Web-development and digital infrastructure maintenance in an agile development team, technical training in computer science

- Designed and Developed an app for organizing large software releases
- Provided web-applications for customer interaction and deployment pipelines

Java (Spring Boot), HTML, CSS, TypeScript (Angular), Git, Jenkins, software engineering best practices, clean and fast programming

VOLUNTARY WORK

ICLR 2021 Volunteer
International Conference on Learning Representations

April 2021 – May 2021 | Remote | One-time event

- Tested online infrastructure and assisting organization before the conference
- Helped presenters during poster and live sessions and in workshops

Gymnastics and Acrobatics Trainer
VfL Buchloe

Sept 2015 – Present | Buchloe, DE | 2-6 days per week

- Started acrobatics show group Akrobatik Astral
- Training gymnastics and acrobatics groups for competitions and shows
- Choreograp acrobatics shows and participate in them

TALKS

Language Models for Protein Prediction
ISMB/ECCB 2021

July 2021 | Remote

- Protein-sequence language models and how to most efficiently leverage their representations

Contributed talk ICLR'21 MLPCP
ICLR 2021 MLPCP

May 2021 | Remote

- Presented work on learning protein representations for downstream predictions

PROJECTS

Predict Protein webserver
Rostlab at Technical University of Munich

April 2021 | Munich, DE

- Provide the state-of-the-art subcellular localization predictions for the predict protein webserver

GNNs for Reinforcement Learning
Technical University of Munich

Nov 2020 – Mar 2021 | Munich, DE

- **Project in a course: using graph representations of robots in reinforcement learning**
- Implementing and evaluating Graph Neural Networks that are able to capture the full spatial geometry of a represented robot

"Graph representations in Reinforcement Learning"

Seminar: Topics in machine learning
DAML at Technical University of Munich

April 2020 – Sept 2020 | Munich, DE

- Seminar where each student wrote a survey on selected machine learning topics and had to review the papers of three other students

A detailed "Survey on Transformers" (unpublished)

Bachelor's Thesis
Bundeswehr University Munich

May 2019 – Sept 2019 | Munich, DE

- Implemented a convolutional variational autoencoder and investigated methods for interpolating in the latent space and understanding it with t-SNE and linear probing
- "Understanding Variational Autoencoders' Latent Representations of Remote Sensing Images"

Tool for calculating Network centralities
Bundeswehr University Munich

Feb 2019 – Aug 2019 | Munich, DE

- Implemented a web application that calculates different centrality measures for arbitrary graphs

Talent base Memmingen: Physics
BSG Memmingen

Sept 2016 – Jul 2017 | Memmingen, DE

- Extracurricular program where we built a nitrogen laser using high voltage to ionize a thin strip of air