Huy Nguyen

CONTACT Information

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EDUCATION

The University of Texas at Austin, Texas, USA.

2022-2027

Last update: August 24, 2024

Ph.D Student in Statistics at the Department of Statistics and Data Sciences.

• Advisors: Professor Nhat Ho and Professor Alessandro Rinaldo.

• GPA: 4.0/4.0

Ho Chi Minh University of Science, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam.

2017 - 2020

Bachelor of Science in Mathematics and Computer Science, Honor Program.

• Supervisor: Professor Dang Duc Trong.

• GPA: 9.75/10.0 - Summa Cum Laude.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Microsoft AI, Redmond, WA, USA.

Summer 2024

Research Intern.

Research topics: Applications of Mixture of Experts in Large Language Models.

The University of Texas at Austin, Texas, USA.

2023-Present

Graduate Research Assistant.

- Research topics: Towards Understanding Mixture of Experts: From Theory to Practice.
- Advisor: Professor Nhat Ho and Professor Alessandro Rinaldo.

VinAI Research, Hanoi, Vietnam.

2020 - 2022

AI Research Resident.

- Research topics: Optimal Transport theory and its applications in Domain Adaptation.
- Skill gained: Did research on Optimal Transport (Sinkhorn algorithms, Barycenter computation, etc) and applied them to study Data Shift and Label Shift problems in Domain Adaptation.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

My current research focuses on theoretical foundations for Mixture-of-Experts models. In particular, I try to comprehend the effects of different gating functions (softmax, top-K sparse, dense-to-sparse, etc) on the convergence of expert estimation under the Mixture-of-Experts models. Based on insights from these results, I aim to design novel gating functions which help improve the performance of Mixture-of-Experts applications, including Large Language Models, Continual Learning and Medical Images.

Preprints

- 5. **Huy Nguyen**, Nhat Ho**, Alessandro Rinaldo**. Sigmoid Gating is More Sample Efficient than Softmax Gating in Mixture of Experts . *Under review, arXiv:2405.13997*.
- 4. **Huy Nguyen**, Pedram Akbarian*, Trang Pham*, Trang Nguyen*, Shujian Zhang, Nhat Ho. Statistical Advantages of Perturbing Cosine Router in Sparse Mixture of Experts. *Under review*, arXiv:2405.14131.
- 3. Minh Le, An Nguyen*, **Huy Nguyen***, Trang Nguyen*, Trang Pham*, Linh Van Ngo, Nhat Ho. Mixture of Experts Meets Prompt-Based Continual Learning. *Under review, arXiv:2405.14124*.
- 2. Xing Han, **Huy Nguyen***, Carl Harris*, Nhat Ho, Suchi Saria. FuseMoE: Mixture-of-Experts Transformers for Fleximodal Fusion . *Under review*, arXiv:2402.03226.
- 1. Quang Pham, Giang Do, **Huy Nguyen**, TrungTin Nguyen, Chenghao Liu, Mina Sartipi, Binh T. Nguyen, Savitha Ramasamy, Xiaoli Li, Steven Hoi, Nhat Ho. CompeteSMoE Effective Training of Sparse Mixture of Experts via Competition. *Under review*, arXiv:2402.02526.

- 14. **Huy Nguyen**, Nhat Ho**, Alessandro Rinaldo**. On Least Squares Estimation in Softmax Gating Mixture of Experts. *Proceedings of the International Conference on Machine Learning*, 2024.
- 13. **Huy Nguyen**, Pedram Akbarian, Nhat Ho. Is Temperature Sample Efficient for Softmax Gaussian Mixture of Experts? *Proceedings of the International Conference on Machine Learning*, 2024.
- 12. **Huy Nguyen**, Pedram Akbarian, TrungTin Nguyen, Nhat Ho. A General Theory for Softmax Gating Multinomial Logistic Mixture of Experts. *Proceedings of the International Conference on Machine Learning*, 2024.
- 11. **Huy Nguyen**, Pedram Akbarian, Fanqi Yan, Nhat Ho. Statistical Perspective of Top-K Sparse Softmax Gating Mixture of Experts. *In International Conference on Learning Representations*, 2024.
- Huy Nguyen*, TrungTin Nguyen*, Khai Nguyen, Nhat Ho. Towards Convergence Rates for Parameter Estimation in Gaussian-gated Mixture of Experts. In International Conference on Artificial Intelligence and Statistics, 2024.
- 9. **Huy Nguyen**, Khai Nguyen, Nhat Ho. On Parameter Estimation in Gaussian Deviated Mixture of Experts. In International Conference on Artificial Intelligence and Statistics, 2024.
- 8. **Huy Nguyen**, TrungTin Nguyen, Nhat Ho. Demystifying Softmax Gating Function in Gaussian Mixture of Experts. Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems, 2023 (Spotlight, Top 3.6%).
- 7. Dat Do*, **Huy Nguyen***, Khai Nguyen, Nhat Ho. Minimax Optimal Rate for Parameter Estimation in Multivariate Deviated Models. *Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems*, 2023.
- 6. Dung Le*, **Huy Nguyen***, Khai Nguyen*, Trang Nguyen*, Nhat Ho. Fast Approximation of the Generalized Sliced-Wasserstein Distance. *IEEE International Conference on Acoustics, Speech and Signal Processing*, 2024.
- 5. Khai Nguyen, Tongzheng Ren, **Huy Nguyen**, Litu Rout, Tan Nguyen, Nhat Ho. Hierarchical Sliced Wasserstein Distance. In International Conference on Learning Representations, 2023.
- 4. **Huy Nguyen***, Khang Le*, Dung Le*, Dat Do, Tung Pham, Nhat Ho. Entropic Gromov-Wasserstein between Gaussian Distributions. *Proceedings of the International Conference on Machine Learning*, 2022.
- 3. Huy Nguyen*, Khang Le*, Khai Nguyen, Tung Pham, Nhat Ho. On Multimarginal Partial Optimal Transport: Equivalent Forms and Computational Complexity. In International Conference on Artificial Intelligence and Statistics, 2022.
- 2. **Huy Nguyen***, Khang Le*, Quang Minh Nguyen, Tung Pham, Hung Bui, Nhat Ho. On Robust Optimal Transport: Computational Complexity and Barycenter Computation. *Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems*, 2021.
- 1. Thu Nguyen, Duy H. M. Nguyen, **Huy Nguyen**, Binh T. Nguyen, Bruce A. Wade. EPEM: Efficient Parameter Estimation for Multiple Class Monotone Missing Data. *Information Sciences Journal, Volume 567*, page 1-22.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE The University of Texas at Austin, Texas, USA.

Teaching Assistant at the Department of Statistics and Data Sciences.

• SDS302F - Foundations of Data Analysis.

Fall 2022

• SDS322E - Elements of Data Science.

Spring 2023

• SDS320E - Elements of Statistics.

Fall 2023

Professional Services

- Reviewer at the Electronic Journal of Statistics (EJS).
- Reviewer at the International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML) 2022, 2024.
- Reviewer at the Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS) 2022-2024.
- Reviewer at the International Conference on Artificial Intelligence and Statistics (AISTATS) 2022-2024.
- Reviewer at the International Conference on Learning Representations (ICLR) 2024-2025.
- Reviewer at the Association for the Advancement of Artificial Intelligence (AAAI) 2025.
- Reviewer at the New Frontiers in Learning, Control, and Dynamical Systems Workshop (ICML) 2023.

Honors and Awards

• AISTATS 2024 Registration Grant.

• ICLR 2024 Travel Award. 2024

2024

• NeurIPS 2023 Scholar Award. 2023

• Doctoral Fellowship of the University of Texas at Austin. 2022

• Class of 2020 Valedictorian of Ho Chi Minh University of Science (HCMUS). 2020

• Graduated 1 year earlier with the highest GPA ever in HCMUS, at 9.75/10.0.

• Merit Scholarship for gifted students in Mathematics. 2018, 2019

o Granted by Vietnam Institute for Advanced Study in Mathematics (VIASM).

• Full Scholarship of Ho Chi Minh University of Science. 2017

o Only for a student having the highest score in the university entrance examination.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

- System: MacOS, Linux, Windows.
- Programming Languages: Python (Pytorch, Sci-kit Learn, Numpy, Matplotlib), R, MATLAB.
- Softwares: LaTeX, Microsoft Offices.

REFERENCES

- Nhat Ho. Email: minhnhat@utexas.edu (Advisor).
- Alessandro Rinaldo. Email: alessandro.rinaldo@austin.utexas.edu (Advisor).