

Mingde "Harry" Zhao



Better humanity via the meaningful studies of artificial intelligence!

BASICS

Email: mingde.zhao@mail.mcgill.ca

Location: Montréal, Québec, Canada

Home Page: mingde.world

Languages: English (native), Mandarin (母语), French (élémentaire)

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Essentials of Learning Reasoning, Planning, Consciousness, Reinforcement Learning, Meta-Learning

EDUCATION

Doctor of Philosophy, [Computer Science](#)

2020 – Now

[Mila](#) (L'institut québécois d'intelligence artificielle) / [McGill University](#)

Advisors: [Doina Precup](#) (DeepMind, McGill, Mila) & [Yoshua Bengio](#) (UdeM, Mila)

Master of Science, [Computer Science](#)

2018 – 2020

[Mila](#) / [McGill](#), CGPA: 4.0/4.0; Advisors: [Doina Precup](#) & [Xiaowen Chang](#) (McGill)

Bachelor of Engineering, [Computer Science & Technology](#)

2014 – 2018

[Dalian University of Technology](#), GPA: 90.0%+; Advisor: [Hongwei Ge](#)

PAPERS (CONFERENCE)

- "[META-Learning State-Based Eligibility Traces for More Sample-Efficient Policy Evaluation](#)" – **M.Z.***, S. Luan*, I. Porada*, X.W. Chang & D. Precup @ [AAMAS 2020](#).
- "[Break the Ceiling: Stronger Multi-Scale Deep Graph Convolutional Networks](#)" – S. Luan*, **M.Z.***, X.W. Chang & D. Precup @ [NeurIPS 2019](#).
- "[Exploring Overall Contextual Information for Image Captioning in Human-Like Cognitive Style](#)" – H. Ge, Z. Yan, K. Zhang, **M.Z.** & L. Sun @ [ICCV 2019](#).
- "[Two-stage Automatic Image Annotation Based on Latent Semantic Scene Classification](#)" – H. Ge, K. Zhang, Y. Hou, C. Yu, **M.Z.**, Z. Wang & L. Sun @ [IJCNN 2020](#).
- "[Strategy Selection in Complex Game Environments based on Transfer Reinforcement Learning](#)" – H. Ge, **M.Z.**, K. Zhang & L. Sun @ [IJCNN 2019](#).
- "[Multi-Grained Cascade AdaBoost Extreme Learning Machine for Feature Representation](#)" – H. Ge, W. Sun, **M.Z.**, K. Zhang, L. Sun & C. Yu @ [IJCNN 2019](#).
- "[A Selective Ensemble Learning Framework for ECG-Based Heartbeat Classification with Imbalanced Data](#)" – H. Ge, K. Sun, L. Sun, **M.Z.** & C. Wu @ [BIBM 2018](#).
- "[A Many Objective Evolutionary Algorithm with Fast Clustering & Reference Point Redistribution](#)" – **M.Z.**, H. Ge, H. Han & L. Sun @ [CEC 2018](#).

PAPERS (JOURNAL)

* Equal Contributions

- *"Bi-space Interactive Cooperative Coevolutionary Algorithm for Large Scale Blackbox Optimization"* – H. Ge, **M.Z.**, Y. Hou, K. Zhang, L. Sun, G. Tan, Q. Zhang & C.L.P. Chen @ [Applied Soft Computing](#), 2020.
- *"A Two-Engine Interaction Driven Many-Objective Evolutionary Algorithm with Feasibility-Aware Adaptation"* – H. Ge, **M.Z.**, K. Zhang & Y. Hou @ [Applied Soft Computing](#), 2019.
- *"Stacked Denoising Extreme Learning Machine Autoencoder based on Graph Embedding for Feature Representation"* – H. Ge, W. Sun, **M.Z.** & Y. Yao @ [IEEE Access](#), 2019.
- *"An Interactive Many Objective Evolutionary Algorithm with Cascade Clustering & Reference Point Incremental Learning"* – H. Ge*, **M.Z.***, L. Sun, Z. Wang, G. Tan, Q. Zhang & C.L.P. Chen @ [IEEE Transactions on Evolutionary Computation](#), 2018.

PAPERS (NON-ARCHIVAL) & SOFTWARE TOOLS

- *"A Consciousness-Inspired Planning Agent for Model-Based Reinforcement Learning"* - **M.Z.***, Z. Liu*, S. Luan*, S. Zhang*, D. Precup, Y. Bengio @ [NeurIPS 2021](#), submitted for review. Also on arXiv.
- *"Exploration-Driven Representation Learning in Reinforcement Learning"* – A. Erraqabi, **M.Z.**, M. C. Machado, Y. Bengio, S. Sukhbaatar, L. Denoyer & A. Lazaric @ [ICML 2021 URL Workshop](#).
- *"Training Matters: Unlocking Potentials of Deeper Graph Convolutional Neural Networks"* – S. Luan*, **M.Z.***, X.W. Chang & D. Precup @ arXiv, 2020.
- *"Complete the Missing Half: Augmenting Aggregation with Diversification for Graph Convolutional Networks"* – S. Luan*, **M.Z.***, C. Hua*, X.W. Chang & D. Precup @ arXiv, 2020.
- *"Generalizable Meta-Heuristic based on Temporal Estimation of Rewards for Large Scale Blackbox Optimization"* – **M.Z.***, H. Ge*, Y. Lian & K. Zhang @ arXiv, 2018.
- *"SOOPLAT: An Experimental Platform for Single Objective Optimization"* – **M.Z.** @ [GitHub](#), 2018.

PATENTS


- *"Fast Dichotomic CNN for Hierarchical Traffic Sign Identification"* – H. Ge, **M.Z.**, X. Yang @ [SIPO](#), 2018
- *"Peach Flesh Segmentation with Deep Reinforcement Learning"* – H. Ge, **M.Z.**, J. Lin, L. Sun @ [SIPO](#), 2018.

BEYOND RESEACH

McGill University, Teaching Assistant (COMP 350, COMP 424)	2019, 2020, 2021
CIFAR Deep Learning & Reinforcement Learning Summer School	2019, 2020
Neusoft Dalian , Research Engineer Intern	2016, 2017

HONORS & AWARDS

Ph.D.:

[FRQNT](#) Ph.D. Fellowship (*ranked 1st among all applicants, 2021*) [Québec](#) 

Master:

DeepMind Graduate Award (2019).

Graduate Mobility Award (2019).

Undergraduate:

Scholarships for Academic Excellence for each undergraduate school year (2015 - 2018).

Outstanding Bachelor Thesis (2018).

Outstanding Student Researcher of the Year (2018).