# Thong Minh Lai (Tom)

+44 (0)7746722114 | laiminhthong1@gmail.com

in thong-lai | ThongLai | Personal Website | Kaggle

Huddersfield, United Kingdom

# **OBJECTIVE**

Enthusiastic and skilled in AI, Machine Learning, Deep Learning, Neural Networks, and various models and domains, with 2 years of experience in Python, C++ and Octave (MATLAB). I am seeking opportunities to leverage my expertise and contribute to innovative projects in AI and practical problem-solving in related fields

#### SKILLS

- Programming Languages: Python, C++, Java, MATLAB/Octave
- AI & Machine Learning: Neural Networks, Deep Learning, Computer Vision, NLP, YOLOv9, Support Vector Classification (SVC)
- Data Science & Analytics: Descriptive Statistics, EDA, PCA, Outlier Detection, Data Visualisation (Matplotlib, Seaborn, Tableau)
- Machine Learning Libraries: TensorFlow, PyTorch, Scikit-learn, NumPy, Pandas
- Cloud & Development Tools: AWS, Azure, Git, GitHub, Docker
- Database Systems: SQL, Relational Databases, Database Management Systems
- Web Development: HTML5, CSS3, JavaScript, React.js, Node.js, Bootstrap, MongoDB, Django, Flask, Responsive Design, Web Security, API Integration, Git/GitHub Pages, AWS Deployment
- Mathematical Foundations: Linear Algebra, Calculus, Statistics, Probabilities, Discrete Mathematics
- Research Skills: Data Analysis, Academic Writing, Literature Review, Scientific Documentation
- Soft Skills: Leadership, Project Management, Team Collaboration, Problem Solving

# **EXPERIENCE**

Learnspot

June 2024 - September 2024

Hybrid - London

- AI Software Engineer Summer Intern
- Designed and implemented a customer service Chatbot using Prompt Engineering with the OpenAI API
- Integrated the Moderation API to ensure safe and appropriate interactions
- Employed Chain-of-Thought prompting to enhance the chatbot's reasoning capabilities
- Implemented evaluation techniques to minimise response leakage and hallucination
- Developed an AI tutor chat feature to assist students with their questions and assignments, providing real-time support and guidance

# **EDUCATION**

University of Huddersfield

September 2022 - Present

BSc (Hons) Computer Science with Artificial Intelligence SW

Huddersfield, United Kingdom

- First-year Overall Grade: 93.125% | Second-year Overall Grade: 92.8%
- Key Modules: Computer Network Fundamentals (100%), Introduction to AI (93%), Algorithm and Data Structures (94%), Computational Mathematics (100%)
- Ho Chi Minh University of Science Vietnam National University

October 2020 - September 2022

BSc Information Technology

Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

• GPA: 3.7/4.0

• Received Honour Scholarship for Excellent Academic Student

# PUBLICATIONS AND TECHNICAL REPORTS

T=TECHNICAL REPORT, P=PROJECT PROPOSAL

- [P.1] Lai, M. T. (2025). Explainable AI (XAI) in Deep Learning Models for Credit Card Fraud Detection. Project Thesis, University of Huddersfield. Supervisor: Prof. Hyunkook Lee
- [T.2] Lai, M. T. (2025). Parallel Computer Architecture Clusters and Grids Benchmarking. Technical Report, University of Huddersfield. Supervisor: Prof. Hamza Aagela
- [T.1] Lai, M. T. (2024). LearnSpot: Implementing Advanced Prompting Techniques for AI Chat Systems. Technical Report, Learnspot AI
- [T.2] Lai, M. T. (2024). Investment Allocation Analysis: A Machine Learning Approach. Technical Report, McGill-FIAM Asset Management Hackathon

# Explainable AI (XAI) in Deep Learning Models for Credit Card Fraud Detection

Tools: Deep Learning, SHAP, LIME, Anchors, TensorFlow, Scikit-learn

[Supervisor: Prof. Hyunkook Lee ☑]

October 2024 - Present

[Academic Poster] [**?**]

- Integrated XAI methods (SHAP, LIME, Anchors) to provide explanations for Deep Learning model predictions.
- Evaluated explainability using XAI metrics (Faithfulness, Monotonicity, and Completeness) in confidence levels.
- Compared XAI outputs across models (CNN, LSTM) to identify strengths and limitations for different user needs.
- Delivered actionable explanations to support regulatory compliance and stakeholder trust in AI-driven decisions.

#### McGill-FIAM Asset Management Hackathon: Investment Allocation

September 2024 - October 2024

Tools: Machine Learning, Big Data Analytics, Financial Analysis

[Report **(1)**]

- Collaborated with finance specialists as Machine Learning Specialist to develop portfolio trading strategies
- Implemented ML methods for portfolio optimisation and stock selection
- Developed models to identify key financial factors for stock performance prediction
- Conducted back-testing to validate portfolio performance using historical data
- $\circ$  Our strategy delivered over 7500% return from 2010 to 2024, far surpassing the S&P 500

#### Work It: Exercise Recommender System

January 2024 - Present

Tools: Filtering Collaboration, Web Development, User Feedback Analysis

[Demo **(1)**]

- Developed recommender system using Filtering Collaboration to suggest 10 personalised exercises
- · Implemented online batch updates for continuous model improvement based on user feedback
- Integrated PLESI considerations for privacy, legal compliance, and inclusivity
- Designed system architecture focusing on gender-inclusive exercise recommendations

# • Eye-tracking in Reading Comprehension: Anomaly Detection

October 2023 - December 2023

Tools: Local Outlier Factor (LOF), Data Analysis, Python

[Reference in] [7]

- Developed Anomaly Detection mechanism using Local Outlier Factor for eye-tracking dataset
- Analysed 20+ features related to readers' eye movements, fixations, and directions
- Support PhD researcher Minh Huyen Nguyen to categorise fixations into "First Pass" and "Second Pass" sequences
- Improved 11.25% data analysis accuracy through systematic outlier removal and feature engineering

# HONOURS AND AWARDS

#### Outstanding Leadership Award

February 2023

University of Huddersfield International Office

- Led and managed the Vietnamese Society as President, demonstrating exceptional leadership skills
- Successfully managed social media platforms achieving 2.2k+ Facebook likes and active Instagram engagement
- Recognised by International Office for impactful community leadership and cultural integration initiatives [#]

# Academic Excellence Awards

2022 - 2024

University of Huddersfield

- Maintained an overall grade of over 92% in both years
- Achieved perfect scores (100%) in Computer Network Fundamentals and Computational Mathematics
- Received Merit-based Scholarship for Outstanding Academic Performance [ )

## • Professional Certifications

2023 - 2024

DeepLearning.AI, IBM, Stanford University

- Completed Deep Learning and NLP Specialisation from DeepLearning.AI [ )
- Earned Cloud Computing certification from IBM [
- Completed Writing in the Sciences course from Stanford University [ •]

#### Previous Academic Achievements

2020 - 2022

Ho Chi Minh University of Science & High School

- Received Honour Scholarship for Excellent Academic Student at HCMUS
- Bronze Medal in Mathematics at the Excellent Student Olympic Competition
- Demonstrated exceptional problem-solving skills in competitive mathematics

# ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

**Languages:** English (Professional), Vietnamese (Native), Chinese (Basic) Technical Writing: Scientific documentation, research papers, technical blogs Interests:

- Any AI Fields: Fraud Detection, Computer Vision, Natural Language Processing, Generative AI
- Financial Technology: Investment Analysis, Trading Strategies
- Cultural Exchange: International student community, cross-cultural communication
- Sports: Badminton (Captain of University Badminton Team)

**Personal Website:** Portfolio and Technical Blog

# REFERENCES

# 1. Prof. Hyunkook Lee

Professor of Music Technology Department of Computing and Engineering University of Huddersfield Email: H.Lee@hud.ac.uk

in

Relationship: Final Year Project Supervisor

# 2. Dr. Ilias Tachmazidis

Senior Lecturer

Department of Comput

Department of Computing and Engineering University of Huddersfield

Email: I.Tachmazidis@hud.ac.uk

in

Relationship: Academic Advisor

# 3. Dr. Muhammad Ansari

Senior Lecturer

Department of Computing and Engineering University of Huddersfield

Email: m.a.ansari@hud.ac.uk

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Relationship: Course Lecturer

#### 4. Dr. Dinh Ba Tien

Senior Lecturer Faculty of Information Technology Ho Chi Minh University of Science

Email: dbtien@fit.hcmus.edu.vn Relationship: Former Academic Advisor

Additional references available upon request.