Alexandru Meterez

alexandrumeterez.github.io
Google Scholar
ameterez@g.harvard.edu

Education

Harvard University — 2024 - Present
PhD Computer Science – *Advisor*: Prof. Cengiz Pehlevan, Prof. Sham Kakade
Kempner Graduate Fellow

ETH Zürich — 2020 - 2023
MSc Data Science – *Advisor*: Prof. Gunnar Rätsch, Prof. Francesco Orabona

University Politehnica of Bucharest (UPB) — 2016 - 2020
BSc Computer Science – *Advisor*: Prof. Iuliu Vasilescu

Research (*: equal co-first, †: equal co-last)

Publications and preprints

Seesaw: Accelerating Training by Balancing Learning Rate and Batch Size Scheduling
ICLR2026
A. Meterez*, D. Morwani*, J. Wu, C. Oncescu, C. Pehlevan, S. Kakade

A Simplified Analysis of SGD for Linear Regression with Weight Averaging
OPT25 Workshop (NeurIPS 2025)
A. Meterez*, D. Morwani*, C. Oncescu, J. Wu, C. Pehlevan, S. Kakade

Echo Chamber: RL Post-training Amplifies Behaviors Learned in Pretraining
COLM 2025
R. Zhao*, A. Meterez*, S. Kakade, C. Pehlevan, S. Jelassi†, E. Malach†

The Optimization Landscape of SGD Across the Feature Learning Strength
ICLR 2025
A. Atanasov*, A. Meterez*, J. Simon*, C. Pehlevan

Why do Learning Rates Transfer? Reconciling Optimization and Scaling Limits for Deep Learning
NeurIPS 2024
L. Noci*, A. Meterez*, T. Hofmann, A. Orvieto

Towards Training Without Depth Limits: Batch Normalization Without Gradient Explosion
ICLR 2024
A. Meterez*, A. Joudaki*, F. Orabona, A. Immer, G. Rätsch, H. Daneshmand

Aligning Distant Sequences to Graphs using Long Seed Sketches
RECOMB 2023, Genome Research
A. Joudaki*, A. Meterez*, H. Mustafa, R. Groot Koerkamp, A. Kahles, G. Rätsch

Towards Workflows for the Use of AI Foundation Models in Visual Inspection Applications
EUROSTRUCT 2023
M. Rigotti, D. Antognini, R. Assaf, K. Bakirci, T. Frick, I. Giurgiu, K. Janoušková, F. Janicki, H. Jubran, C. Malossi, A. Meterez, F. Scheidegger

Experience

Hudson River Trading — New York City, New York
PhD Wintern — Jan. 2025 (3 week program)

Max Planck Institute for Intelligent Systems — Tübingen, Germany
Research Intern — Nov. 2023 - Feb. 2025

IBM Research — Zürich, Switzerland
Research Intern — Sept. 2022 - Feb. 2023

Adobe — Bucharest, Romania
Software Engineering Intern — Jul. 2019 - Oct. 2019

CAMPUS Research Institute, UPB — Bucharest, Romania
Student Researcher — Jul. 2018 - Jul. 2020

Sparktech Software — Bucharest, Romania
Software Engineering Intern — Jul. 2018 - Oct. 2018

Awards

Kempner Fellowship   2024
Full support for my doctoral studies.

Grade I Scholarship   2017
Granted by UPB to students with the best grades in the year (GPA ≥ 9.5).

Performance Scholarship   2018
Granted by UPB to students with the best grades in the year (GPA ≥ 9.7).