Caroline Choi

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Education

Stanford University 2022–2024

M.S. Computer Science Advisor: Chelsea Finn

Stanford University 2019–2023

B.S. Mathematics, With Distinction

Publications & Patents

Caroline Choi*, Yoonho Lee*, Annie Chen, Allan Zhou, Aditi Raghunathan, Chelsea Finn. Auto-FT: Robust Fine-Tuning by Optimizing Hyperparameters on Out-of-Distribution Data. *NeurIPS DistShift 2023. Submitted to CVPR 2024.*

Caroline Choi*, Fahim Tajwar*, Yoonho Lee*, Ananya Kumar, Huaxiu Yao, Chelsea Finn. Conservative Prediction via Data-Driven Confidence Minimization. *Submitted to ICLR* 2024.

Huaxiu Yao*, **Caroline Choi***, Bochuan Cao, Yoonho Lee, Pang Wei Koh, Chelsea Finn. Wild-Time: A Benchmark of in-the-Wild Distribution Shift Over Time. *NeurIPS* 2022.

Mateo Attanasio*, **Caroline Choi***, Andrei Mandelshtam*, Charlotte Ure*. Symbol Length in Brauer Groups of Elliptic Curves. *Proceedings of the American Mathematical Society*, 151 (2023): 5031-5046.

Talia Blum*, **Caroline Choi***, Alexandra Hoey*, Jonas Iskander*, Kaya Lakein*, Thomas Martinez*. On Class Numbers, Torsion Subgroups, and Quadratic Twists of Elliptic Curves. *Transactions of the American Mathematical Society 375, no.* 1 (2022): 351-368.

Aman Agrawal*, **Caroline Choi***, Nathan Sun*. On Permutation Weights and *q*-Eulerian Polynomials. *Annals of Combinatorics* 24, *no.* 2 (2020): 363–378.

Caroline Choi. Method for Diagnosing, Predicting, Determining Prognosis, Monitoring, or Staging Disease Based on Vascularization Patterns. *U.S. Patent* 11,200,666, issued December 14, 2021.

Research Experience

Stanford Artificial Intelligence Laboratory (SAIL) | IRIS Lab

1/2022—Present

Advised by Prof. Chelsea Finn

- O Developing robust and trustworthy machine learning.
- Led one project and co-led a second. Developed core approaches, initiated & executed experiments, analyzed results, presented progress at weekly meetings, and created paper figures and presentations.
- Advised by Prof. Chelsea Finn. Collaborated with Prof. Aditi Raghunathan. Mentored by Yoonho Lee and Prof. Huaxiu Yao.
- O Published one paper in NeurIPS 2022. Submitted one paper to ICLR 2024 and one paper to CVPR 2024.

University of Virginia REU in Number Theory

06/2021-07/2021

Advised by Prof. Charlotte Ure

- Proved a bound on the symbol length of Brauer groups of elliptic curves, revealing insights on the structure of elliptic curves.
- Implemented toy experiments to explicitly compute symbol length.
- o Formulated and proved conjectures, contributed to paper writing, and led the journal submission process.

University of Virginia REU in Number Theory

06/2020—07/2020

Advised by Prof. Ken Ono

- Improved existing bounds on the class number a problem first posed by Gauss in 1801 using elliptic curves, while drawing connections between two areas of number theory.
- Implemented initial toy experiments, formulated conjectures, and contributed to theorem proofs and paper writing.
- O Published in a top-20 peer-reviewed mathematics journal. Presented work at the largest math conference in the US.

Program in Mathematics for Young Scientists (PROMYS)

06/2018—07/2019

Advised by Dr. Roger Van Peski and Prof. Paul Gunnells

- Conducted combinatorics research on new permutation statistics known as weights.
- O Developed theory to characterize permutation weights and proved an open conjecture by Gunnells et al.
- Implemented initial toy experiments, conjectured, and proved main theorems. Led the paper writing and journal submission process.

Selected Projects

AutoFT: Robust Fine-Tuning via Hyperparameter Optimization on OOD Data

5/2023—Present

Advised by Prof. Chelsea Finn, Prof. Aditi Raghunathan, and Yoonho Lee

- O Developed AutoFT, a data-driven approach for fine-tuning foundation models to enhance OOD generalization.
- Initiated and executed experiments to make design decisions. Evaluated on several large-scale vision benchmarks, including ImageNet and WILDS datasets, in distribution shift, transfer learning, and few-shot settings.
- Implemented code to perform distributed fine-tuning of CLIP Vision Transformers on TPUs.
- Led weekly meetings, contributed to paper writing, and created paper figures.

Conservative Prediction via Data-Driven Confidence Minimization

10/2022—5/2023

Advised by Prof. Chelsea Finn and Yoonho Lee

- Developed a framework, Data-Driven Confidence Minimization (DCM; under review at ICLR 2024), for producing
 conservative models capable of detecting and abstaining from predictions on "unknown" inputs by minimizing
 confidence on an uncertainty dataset.
- Theoretically analyzed the effect of the uncertainty dataset within this framework to develop an approach that provably detects "unknown" inputs.
- Conducted initial toy experiments to identify important design choices, such as random augmentations to prevent overfitting with confidence minimization.
- O Led selective classification experiments: developed and implemented our core algorithm and baselines.
- Ocontributed to paper writing and revisions, rebuttals, and poster design.

A Benchmark for In-the-Wild Distribution Shift Over Time

10/2022—5/2023

Advised by Prof. Chelsea Finn and Prof. Huaxiu Yao

- Developed Wild-Time (NeurIPS 2022), a benchmark for real-world distribution shifts over time, spanning diverse applications and data modalities, including image, text, and tabular data.
- Designed an extensive, modular codebase to load datasets and implemented 13 representative methods from the domain generalization and continual learning literature.
- Conducted comprehensive experiments to benchmark existing approaches.
- Contributed to problem formulation and evaluation design.
- Wrote portions of the paper and drafted some rebuttal responses.

Awards and Honors

Sterling Award 2023

Awarded to the top 25 graduating seniors in the Stanford School of Humanities and Sciences.

Phi Beta Kappa 2023

One of 120 graduating seniors elected to Phi Beta Kappa for academic excellence in the major and across a broad range of fields.

Computing Research Association (CRA) Outstanding Undergraduate Researcher Nominee 2022

One of four undergraduates nominated by the Stanford Computer Science Department for the Computing Research Association (CRA) Outstanding Undergraduate Researcher award.

Tau Beta Pi 2022

Awarded to the top 12.5% of juniors in the Stanford School of Engineering.

Joint Mathematics Meetings Outstanding Poster Award

2021

Awarded to the top 10% of presenters in the undergraduate poster session.

Dingwall Korean Ancestry Grant

2019

Awarded to one outstanding undergraduate of Korean ancestry per year. Provides up to four years of merit-based scholarship.

Industry Experience

Snap 6/2022—9/2022

Machine Learning Engineer Intern — Perception

- Extended the object detection model in Screenshop to detect new fashion categories using weakly semi-supervised object detection (PyTorch, Python, BigQuery).
- Improved detection by 1.1 mAP using only image-level annotations compared to a box-supervised baseline.
- Wrote the design doc, initiated experiments, and presented progress in team-wide meetings.

Meta 8/2021—11/2021

Software Engineer Intern — AI Infra Privacy & Security

- O Developed an MVP of an automated data lineage discovery tool for machine learning workflows (MySQL, Presto, Hive, Python). Wrote, tested, and shipped 7,000 lines of industry-quality code.
- \circ Improved data lineage accuracy by $30\times$ on test pipelines.
- O Consulted with stakeholders to make design decisions and wrote the design doc.

Leadership

Tau Beta Pi (Engineering Honor Society)

9/2022—6/2023

Professional Development Chair

- Proposed and launched the Tau Beta Pi mentoring program. Worked with other board members to organize the program, pairing underclassmen interested in engineering with upperclassmen mentors.
- Arranged and facilitated group dinners with CEOs, CTOs, and founders from tech companies like Snorkel AI, Databricks, and Applied Intuition.
- Cold-messaged dozens of CEOs and founders, prepared relevant topics and questions, and facilitated discussions.
- Organized a distinguished speaker series on AI for healthcare.

Selected Coursework

Computer Science: Deep Multi-task and Meta Learning[†], Reinforcement Learning[†], Natural Language Processing[†], Deep Learning for Computer Vision[†], Machine Learning[†], Artificial Intelligence[†], Computer Systems, Algorithms **Mathematics:** Stochastic Processes, Complex Analysis, Real Analysis, Measure Theory, Probability Theory, Discrete Probabilistic Methods, Differential Equations, Linear Algebra & Matrix Theory, Abstract Algebra, Galois Theory, Number Theory, Graph Theory

† indicates graduate-level coursework