Davin Choo

Postdoctoral Fellow @ Harvard SEAS

EDUCATION

NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SINGAPORE

Singapore

Computer Science PhD

Aug 2021 - Nov 2024

Email: davinchoo@seas.harvard.edu

Website: davinchoo.com

- $\bullet\,$ Advisors: Arnab Bhattacharyya and Seth Gilbert
- AI Singapore (AISG) PhD Fellow
- Awarded NUS School of Computing Research Achievement Award
- PhD Thesis: Learning Probabilistic and Causal Models with(out) Imperfect Advice

ETH ZÜRICH

Zürich, Switzerland

Jul 2020

Computer Science MSc

- Focus track: Theoretical Computer Science
- Masters Thesis (Advisor: David Steurer)
 Studied the statistical-computational gap of sparse tensor PCA, and designed distinguishing & recovery algorithms

NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SINGAPORE

Singapore

May 2016

Computer Science and Mathematics Double Degree Programme

- Computer Science: Completed focus areas in "Algorithms & Theory" and "Artificial Intelligence"
 Mathematics: Majored in Applied Mathematics with additional Mathematics courses such as graduate Recursion Theory
- Honours: First Class Honours in Computer Science, First Class Honours in Applied Mathematics, and Dean's List (top 5%)
- Turing Programme: Invitation-only special programme in SoC aimed to nurture students who aspire to engage in research careers
- University Scholars Programme: A selective (180 students) multidisciplinary academic programme for undergraduates Awarded President's Honour Roll which recognizes outstanding academic accomplishments and student-led co-curricular activities
- Computer Science Thesis (Advisor: Seth Gilbert)
 Designed methods to maintain dynamic maximal independent sets
 Nominated for NUS Outstanding Undergraduate Researcher Prize (an annual, university-wide competition)
- Mathematics Thesis (Advisor: Frank Stephan)
 Studied notions of Kolmogorov complexity of binary strings in automata theory and CFGs

AWARDS

- $\bullet~NUS~School~of~Computing~Research~Achievement~Award:$ Awarded in 2023
- \bullet AISG~PhD~Fellowship: Awarded in 2021
- President's Honour Roll, USP Scholar: Awarded in 2016
- DSTA-DSO Undergraduate Scholarship: Awarded in 2011

PUBLICATIONS

- 1. Arnab Bhattacharyya, <u>Davin Choo</u>, Philips George John, Themistoklis Gouleakis. *Learning multivariate Gaussians with imperfect advice*. International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML), 2025.
- 2. <u>Davin Choo</u>, Chandler Squires, Arnab Bhattacharyya, David Sontag. *Probably approximately correct high-dimensional causal effect estimation given a valid adjustment set*. Conference on Causal Learning and Reasoning (CLeaR), 2025.
- 3. Arnab Bhattacharyya, <u>Davin Choo</u>, Sutanu Gayen, Dimitrios Myrisiotis. *Learnability of Parameter-Bounded Bayes Nets.* AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence (AAAI), 2025. Also presented in ICML workshop Structured Probabilistic Inference & Generative Modeling (SPIGM), 2024.
- 4. <u>Davin Choo</u>, Themistoklis Gouleakis, Chun Kai Ling, Arnab Bhattacharyya. *Online bipartite matching with imperfect advice*. International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML), 2024.
- 5. <u>Davin Choo</u>, Yan Hao Ling, Warut Suksompong, Nicholas Teh, Jian Zhang. *Envy-free house allocation with minimum subsidy*. Operations Research Letters (ORL), 2024.
- 6. <u>Davin Choo</u>, Kirankumar Shiragur, Caroline Uhler. *Causal discovery under off-target interventions*. International Conference on Artificial Intelligence and Statistics (AISTATS), 2024.
- 7. <u>Davin Choo</u>, Joy Qiping Yang, Arnab Bhattacharyya, Clément L. Canonne. *Learning bounded degree polytrees with samples*. International Conference on Algorithmic Learning Theory (ALT), 2024.
- 8. Simina Brânzei, <u>Davin Choo</u>, Nicholas Recker. *The Sharp Power Law of Local Search on Expanders*. Symposium on Discrete Algorithms (SODA), 2024.
- 9. Yuval Dagan, Constantinos Daskalakis, Anthimos-Vardis Kandiros, <u>Davin Choo</u>. Learning and Testing Latent-Tree Ising Models Efficiently. Conference on Learning Theory (COLT), 2023.

- 10. <u>Davin Choo</u>, Kirankumar Shiragur. *Adaptivity Complexity for Causal Graph Discovery*. Uncertainty in Artificial Intelligence (UAI), 2023.
- 11. <u>Davin Choo</u>, Kirankumar Shiragur. *New metrics and search algorithms for weighted causal DAGs*. International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML), 2023.
- 12. <u>Davin Choo</u>, Themistoklis Gouleakis, Arnab Bhattacharyya. *Active causal structure learning with advice*. International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML), 2023.
- 13. <u>Davin Choo</u>, Kirankumar Shiragur. Subset verification and search algorithms for causal DAGs. Artificial Intelligence and Statistics (AISTATS), 2023.
- 14. <u>Davin Choo</u>, Kirankumar Shiragur, Arnab Bhattacharyya. *Verification and search algorithms for causal DAGs*. Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS), 2022.
- 15. Arnab Bhattacharyya, <u>Davin Choo</u>, Rishikesh Gajjala, Sutanu Gayen, Yuhao Wang. *Learning Sparse Fixed-Structure Gaussian Bayesian Networks*. Artificial Intelligence and Statistics (AISTATS), 2022.
- 16. <u>Davin Choo</u>, Tommaso d'Orsi. *The Complexity of Sparse Tensor PCA*. Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS), 2021.
- 17. Mélanie Cambus, <u>Davin Choo</u>, Havu Miikonen, Jara Uitto. *Massively Parallel Correlation Clustering in Bounded Arboricity Graphs*. International Symposium on Distributed Computing (DISC), 2021.
- 18. <u>Davin Choo</u>, Christoph Grunau, Julian Portmann, and Václav Rozhoň. *k-means++: few more steps yield constant approximation*. International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML), 2020.
- 19. <u>Davin Choo</u>, Mate Soos, Kian Ming A Chai, and Kuldeep S Meel. *Bosphorus: Bridging ANF and CNF Solvers*. Design, Automation & Test in Europe Conference & Exhibition (DATE), pages 468–473. IEEE, 2019.
- Jing Lim, Joshua Wong, Minn Xuan Wong, Lee Han Eric Tan, Hai Leong Chieu, <u>Davin Choo</u>, and Neng Kai Nigel Neo. Chemical Structure Elucidation from Mass Spectrometry by Matching Substructures. Machine Learning for Molecules and Materials (MLMM, a NeurIPS Workshop), 2018.

PREPRINTS (SEE MY WEBSITE FOR ARXIV LINKS)

- 1. <u>Davin Choo</u>, Winston Fu, Derek Khu, Tzeh Yuan Neoh, Tze-Yang Poon, Nicholas Teh. *Approximate Proportionality in Online Fair Division*, 2025.
- 2. <u>Davin Choo</u>, Yohai Trabelsi, Fentabil Getnet, Samson Warkaye Lamma, Wondesen Nigatu, Kasahun Sime, Lisa Matay, Milind Tambe, Stéphane Verguet. *Optimizing Health Coverage in Ethiopia: A Learning-augmented Approach and Persistent Proportionality Under an Online Budget*, 2025.
- 3. <u>Davin Choo</u>, Yuqi Pan, Tonghan Wang, Milind Tambe, Alastair van Heerden, Cheryl Johnson. *Adaptive Frontier Exploration on Graphs with Applications to Network-Based Disease Testing*, 2025.
- 4. <u>Davin Choo</u>, Billy Jin, Yongho Shin. Learning-Augmented Online Bipartite Fractional Matching, 2025.
- 5. Arnab Bhattacharyya, <u>Davin Choo</u>, Philips George John, Themis Gouleakis. *Product Distribution Learning with Imperfect Advice*, 2025.
- 6. Jia Peng Lim, Shawn Tan, <u>Davin Choo</u>, Hady W. Lauw. A partition cover approach to tokenization, 2025.
- 7. Davin Choo, Chun Kai Ling. A short note about the learning-augmented secretary problem, 2024.

Professional Service

- Program Committee for AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence (AAAI), 2026
- Reviewer for Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS), 2025
- Reviewer for Transactions on Machine Learning Research (TMLR), 2025
- Reviewer for International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML), 2025
- Reviewer for International Joint Conference on Artificial Intelligence (IJCAI), 2025
- Reviewer for Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS), 2024; Top reviewer
- Reviewer for International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML), 2024
- Reviewer for International Joint Conference on Artificial Intelligence (IJCAI), 2024
- Reviewer for International Conference on Artificial Intelligence and Statistics (AISTATS), 2024
- Subreviewer for Innovations in Theoretical Computer Science (ITCS), 2024
- Reviewer for Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS), 2023; Top reviewer
- Subreviewer for Symposium on Theory of Computing (STOC), 2023

- Subreviewer for International Colloquium on Automata, Languages, and Programming (ICALP), 2023
- Reviewer for International Conference on Artificial Intelligence and Statistics (AISTATS), 2023
- Subreviewer for Conference on Learning Theory (COLT), 2022
- Subreviewer for Scandinavian Symposium and Workshops on Algorithm Theory (SWAT), 2022
- Subreviewer for European Symposium on Algorithms (ESA), 2020

Teaching

NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SINGAPORE

Singapore

Teaching Assistant — GET1031, GEI1000

Aug 2021 - Dec 2021

- Collaborated with 2 faculty members on refining teaching materials and pedagogies to suit student needs
- Led discussion groups for a total of 64 students on the topic of computational thinking

NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SINGAPORE

Singapore

Teaching Assistant — CS1101S, CS1231, CS2020, CS3230, CS4344, GET1031 Aug 2012 - May 2016

- Collaborated with over 8 faculty members on refining teaching materials and pedagogies to suit student needs
- Led discussion groups for a total of 86 students across 6 different courses on topics including programming methodology, computational thinking, data structures and algorithms, design and analysis of algorithms, and discrete structures
- Averaged a feedback score of 4.7/5 across all tutored courses (faculty average: 4.16/5) with 15 nominations for Best Teaching

NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SINGAPORE

Singapore

University Scholars Programme (USP) Mentor

Aug 2012 - May 2016

TEMASEK JUNIOR COLLEGE

Singapore

Course Instructor

Jan 2014 - May 2014

• Initiated a student outreach programme to encourage young students to explore the field of Computer Science

Work Experience

HARVARD UNIVERSITY

Cambridge, Massachusetts

Postdoctoral Fellow (in Teamcore with Milind Tambe)

Dec 2024 – Present

- Working with domain experts in health and policy to translate high-level policy goals into formal problem statements
- Applying tools and techniques from Computer Science to design effective AI/ML solutions

ETH ZÜRICH

Zürich, Switzerland

Post-diplomand (Post-graduate research position, with David Steurer)

Aug 2020 – Mar 2021

DSO NATIONAL LABORATORIES

Singapore

Research Scientist — Information Exploitation Lab (IEL)

Jun 2016 – Sep 2018

 $\bullet \ \ \text{Applied AI techniques to security related problems, including cryptanalysis, SAT solving and reverse engineering}$

DSO NATIONAL LABORATORIES

Singapore

Research Intern — Cognitive Fusion Lab (CFL)

May 2013 – Jul 2013

• Worked on a research project to improve the performance of speech-to-text recognition

Defence Science & Technology Agency (DSTA)

Singapore

Research Intern — C4I development (PC8)

Feb 2011 - May 2011

• Designed an in-house Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) algorithm that maps image points to actual geolocation coordinates

Additional Information

- Visiting PhD student of Bernhard Schölkopf at Empirical Inference group of Max Planck Institute for Intelligent Systems: Summer 2023
- Visiting graduate student to the Simons Institute for the Theory of Computing under the Causality programme: Spring 2022
- Languages/Technologies: Python, C++, Java, Javascript, SAT solvers, MiniZinc, C, C#, Scheme (Basic), Prolog (Basic)