Davin Choo cxjdavin@gmail.com davinchoo.com

### EDUCATION

NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SINGAPORE

Singapore

Aug 2021 – Ongoing

Computer Science PhD

- AI Singapore (AISG) PhD Fellow
- Awarded NUS School of Computing Research Achievement Award

ETH ZÜRICH

Zürich, Switzerland

Jul 2020

Computer Science MSc

• Focus track: Theoretical Computer Science

 $\bullet \ \textit{Masters Thesis} \hbox{: Studied the statistical-computational gap of sparse tensor PCA, and designed distinguishing \& recovery algorithms}$ 

#### NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SINGAPORE

Singapore May 2016

Computer Science and Mathematics Double Degree Programme

- 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%)
- Computer Science Thesis: Designed methods to maintain dynamic maximal independent sets Nominated for NUS Outstanding Undergraduate Researcher Prize (an annual, university-wide competition)

• Computer Science: Completed focus areas in "Algorithms & Theory" and "Artificial Intelligence"

- Mathematics Thesis: Studied notions of Kolmogorov complexity of binary strings in automata theory and CFGs
- 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

## **PUBLICATIONS**

- <u>Davin Choo</u>, Kirankumar Shiragur. Subset verification and search algorithms for causal DAGs. Artificial Intelligence and Statistics (AISTATS), 2023.
- <u>Davin Choo</u>, Kirankumar Shiragur, Arnab Bhattacharyya. Verification and search algorithms for causal DAGs. Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS), 2022.
- 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.
- <u>Davin Choo</u>, Tommaso d'Orsi. The Complexity of Sparse Tensor PCA. Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS), 2021.
- 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.
- <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.
- <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 (NeurIPS Workshop), 2018.

# Work Experience

ETH ZÜRICH Zürich, Switzerland

Post-diplomand (Post-graduate research position under David Steurer)

Aug 2020 – Mar 2021

DSO NATIONAL LABORATORIES
Research Scientist — Information Exploitation Lab (IEL)

Jun 2016 - Sep 2018

• Applied AI techniques to security related problems, including cryptanalysis, SAT solving and reverse engineering

DSO NATIONAL LABORATORIES

Singapore

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

NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SINGAPORE

Singapore

Research Assistant — SeSaMe (Augmented Reality Library)

Aug 2012 – Dec 2012

• Developed an algorithm that identifies spatial coordinates and orientation of user within a building using visual landmarks

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

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

• Set up a cohesive network for Computer Science students in the USP to help juniors navigate through a variety of academic concerns

# 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

## AWARDS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- NUS School of Computing Research Achievement Award: Awarded in 2023
- AISG PhD Fellowship: Awarded in 2021
- $\bullet$  DSTA-DSO Undergraduate Scholarship: Awarded in 2011
- Languages/Technologies: Java, C++, Python, Javascript, MiniZinc, C, C#, Scheme (Basic), Prolog (Basic)
- Attendee of Simons Institute Spring 2022 programme (Causality): https://simons.berkeley.edu/programs/causality2022
- Computer Science UROP: Worked on a reductionist approach to computer vision with applications in robot grasping with uncertainty