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Daniel Kunin

EDUCATION

Stanford UniversityStanford, CAPh.D. Computational and Mathematical Engineering
M.S. Computational and Mathematical Engineering2020 - 2025 (expected)Brown UniversityProvidence, RISc.B. Applied Mathematics
A.B. Computational Biology2013 - 2017

Under Review

1. Clémentine Dominé*, Nicolas Anguita*, Alexandra M. Proca, Lukas Braun, Daniel Kunin, Pedro A.M. Mediano, Andrew Saxe. From Lazy to Rich: Exact Learning Dynamics in Deep Linear Networks. arXiv.

PUBLICATIONS

- 1. Daniel Kunin*, Allan Raventós*, Clémentine Dominé, Feng Chen, David Klindt, Andrew Saxe, Surya Ganguli. *Get rich quick: exact solutions reveal how unbalanced initializations promote rapid feature learning.* Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS) 2024. Spotlight. arXiv.
- 2. Feng Chen*, Daniel Kunin*, Atsushi Yamamura*, Surya Ganguli. Stochastic Collapse: How Gradient Noise Attracts SGD Dynamics Towards Simpler Subnetworks. Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS) 2023. arXiv.
- 3. Daniel Kunin*, Atsushi Yamamura*, Chao Ma, Surya Ganguli. *The Asymmetric Maximum Margin Bias of Quasi-Homogeneous Neural Networks*. International Conference on Learning Representations (ICLR) 2023. Spotlight. arXiv.
- 4. Daniel Kunin*, Javier Sagastuy-Brena*, Lauren Gillespie, Eshed Margalit, Hidenori Tanaka, Surya Ganguli, Daniel L.K. Yamins. *The Limiting Dynamics of SGD: Modified Loss, Phase Space Oscillations, and Anomalous Diffusion*. Neural Computation 2023. arXiv.
- Chao Ma, Daniel Kunin, Lei Wu, Lexing Ying. Beyond the Quadratic Approximation: the Multiscale Structure of Neural Network Loss Landscapes. Journal of Machine Learning Research 2022. arXiv.
- 6. Hidenori Tanaka, **Daniel Kunin**. Noether's Learning Dynamics: The Role of Kinetic Symmetry Breaking in Deep Learning. Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS) 2021. arXiv.
- 7. Daniel Kunin*, Javier Sagastuy-Brena, Surya Ganguli, Daniel L.K. Yamins, Hidenori Tanaka*. Neural Mechanics: Symmetry and Broken Conservation Laws in Deep Learning Dynamics. International Conference on Learning Representations (ICLR) 2021. arXiv.
- 8. Hidenori Tanaka*, Daniel Kunin*, Daniel L.K. Yamins, Surya Ganguli. *Pruning neural networks without any data by iteratively conserving synaptic flow*. Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS) 2020. arXiv.
- 9. Daniel Kunin*, Aran Nayebi*, Javier Sagastuy-Brena*, Surya Ganguli, Jonathan M. Bloom, Daniel L.K. Yamins. *Two Routes to Scalable Credit Assignment without Weight Symmetry*. International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML) 2020. arXiv.
- Daniel Kunin*, Jonathan M. Bloom*, Aleksandrina Goeva, Cotton Seed. Loss Landscapes of Regularized Linear Autoencoders. International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML) 2019. Oral. arXiv.

PROJECTS

Seeing Theory: a visual introduction to probability and statistics

Online textbook of fundamental concepts in probability and statistics

2015 - 2018

- Created seeing-theory.brown.edu while an undergraduate along with three others.
- Over three million views and more than a million unique users worldwide.
- Won a Webby Award for best education website in 2018.

Awards and Honors

CPAL Rising Star Award | Conference on Parsimony and Learning

• Cohort of sixteen exceptional early-career researchers.

Open Philanthropy AI Fellowship | Open Philanthropy

2022.09

2024.01

• Cohort of eleven promising machine learning researchers selected across institutions. Full graduate stipend and tuition is covered for up to three years.

Stanford Data Science Scholar | Stanford University

2020.01

• Cohort of graduate students selected for using data science in their research. Half my stipend and tuition is covered for two years.

Harvey A. Baker Fellowship | Brown University

2017.05

• Awarded annually to outstanding members of the graduating class to aid them in undertaking graduate study at the university of their choice.

Royce Fellowship | Brown University

2016.06

• Supports Brown undergraduates as they carry out independent engaged research projects of their own design.

Internships

NTT Research | Sunnyvale, CA

2021.06 - 2021.09

• Researched the physics of intelligence with Hidenori Tanaka.

Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard | Cambridge, MA

2018.06 - 2018.09

- Developed a deep learning model for matrix factorization.
- Researched loss landscapes of linear autoencoders with regularization.

TEACHING

Course Assistant | Stanford, CA

2018.09 - 2019.03

- Course assistant for Andrew Ng's Deep Learning course CS230.
- Created the weekly discussion sections and educational tutorials.

Co-Instructor | Santa Barbara, CA

2023.09 - 2023.12

• Co-taught UCSB's ECE-3: Python Programming for Science & Engineering.

Talks and Workshops

• KITP Deep Learning Program. Participant. Santa Barbara, CA.	2023.11
• IAIFI Summer Workshop. Presented plenary talk. Boston, MA.	2023.08
• Princeton ML Theory Summer School. Participant. Princeton, NJ.	2023.06
• ICLR 2023. Presented spotlight talk. Kigali, RWND.	2023.05
• Sparsity in Neural Networks. Presented poster. Virtual.	2021.07
• Physics ∩ ML. Presented talk. Virtual.	2021.02
• ML and the Physical Sciences workshop. Presented poster. Virtual.	2020.12
• DeepMath workshop. Presented poster. Virtual.	2020.11
• Institute for Advanced Study. Presented spotlight talk. Princeton, NJ.	2019.10
• ICML 2019. Presnted oral talk. Long Beach, CA.	2019.06
• Models, Inference and Algorithms. Presented talk. Cambridge, MA.	2019.02
• OECD. Presented paper on data literacy. Paris, FR.	2017.10