

Daniel Kunin

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Education

Stanford University

M.S. Computational and Mathematical Engineering
Ph.D. Computational and Mathematical Engineering

Stanford, CA
September 2017 - June 2020
Expected graduation June 2025

Brown University

Sc.B. Applied Mathematics, A.B. Computational Biology

Providence, RI
September 2013 - May 2017

Publications

From Lazy to Rich: Exact Learning Dynamics in Deep Linear Networks

Clémentine Dominé*, Nicolas Anguita*, Alexandra M. Proca, Lukas Braun,
Daniel Kunin, Pedro A.M. Mediano, Andrew Saxe

Preprint 2024

([link](#))

Get rich quick: exact solutions reveal how unbalanced initializations promote rapid feature learning

Daniel Kunin*, Allan Raventós*, Clémentine Dominé, Feng Chen, David Klindt, Andrew Saxe, Surya Ganguli

NeurIPS Spotlight 2024

([link](#))

Stochastic Collapse: How Gradient Noise Attracts SGD Dynamics Towards Simpler Subnetworks

Feng Chen*, Daniel Kunin*, Atsushi Yamamura*, Surya Ganguli

NeurIPS 2023

([link](#))

The Asymmetric Maximum Margin Bias of Quasi-Homogeneous Neural Networks

Daniel Kunin*, Atsushi Yamamura*, Chao Ma, Surya Ganguli

ICLR Spotlight 2023

([link](#))

The Limiting Dynamics of SGD: Modified Loss, Phase Space Oscillations, and Anomalous Diffusion

Daniel Kunin*, Javier Sagastuy-Brena*, Lauren Gillespie, Eshed Margalit, Hidenori Tanaka, Surya Ganguli, Daniel L.K. Yamins

NECO 2023

([link](#))

Beyond the Quadratic Approximation: the Multiscale Structure of Neural Network Loss Landscapes

Chao Ma, Daniel Kunin, Lei Wu, Lexing Ying

JMLR 2022

([link](#))

Noether's Learning Dynamics: The Role of Kinetic Symmetry Breaking in Deep Learning

Hidenori Tanaka, Daniel Kunin

NeurIPS 2021

([link](#))

Neural Mechanics: Symmetry and Broken Conservation Laws in Deep Learning Dynamics

Daniel Kunin*, Javier Sagastuy-Brena, Surya Ganguli, Daniel L.K. Yamins, Hidenori Tanaka*

ICLR 2021

([blog](#)) ([link](#))

Pruning neural networks without any data by iteratively conserving synaptic flow

Hidenori Tanaka*, Daniel Kunin*, Daniel L.K. Yamins, Surya Ganguli

NeurIPS 2020

([link](#))

Two Routes to Scalable Credit Assignment without Weight Symmetry

Daniel Kunin*, Aran Nayebi*, Javier Sagastuy-Brena*, Surya Ganguli, Jonathan M. Bloom, Daniel L.K. Yamins

ICML 2020

([link](#))

Loss Landscapes of Regularized Linear Autoencoders

Daniel Kunin*, Jonathan M. Bloom*, Aleksandrina Goeva, Cotton Seed

ICML Oral 2019

([blog](#)) ([link](#))

Workshops/Talks

KITP Deep Learning Program

- Participated in Deep Learning from the Perspective of Physics and Neuroscience ([link](#))

Santa Barbara, CA

October 2023

IAIFI Summer Workshop

- Presented plenary talk on Stochastic Collapse ([link](#))

Boston, MA

August 2023

Princeton Machine Learning Theory Summer School

- Presented poster on Stochastic Collapse ([link](#))

Princeton, NJ

June 2023

International Conference on Learning Representations

- Oral presentation of a top 25% paper ([link](#))

Kigali, RWND

May 2023

Sparsity in Neural Networks: Advancing Understanding and Practice

- Presented poster on theory of network pruning ([link](#))

Virtual

July 2021

Physics \cap ML	Virtual
- Gave talk of my work on symmetry in deep learning (link)	February 2021
Machine Learning and the Physical Sciences	Virtual
- Presented poster on neural mechanics at NeurIPS 2020 workshop (link)	December 2020
DeepMath	Virtual
- Presented poster on network pruning at conference (link)	November 2020
Institute for Advanced Study	Princeton, NJ
- Selected to give a “spotlight talk for young researchers” at <i>Workshop on Theory of Deep Learning: Where next?</i> (link)	October 2019
International Conference on Machine Learning	Long Beach, CA
- One of two papers on Representation Learning selected to give a 20 minute talk at the 2019 International Conference on Machine Learning (link)	June 2019
Models, Inference and Algorithms	Cambridge, MA
- Presented research on regularized linear autoencoders at Broad Institute’s weekly seminar on the interface of biology and mathematics (link)	February 2019
Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development	Paris, Fr
-Presented a paper on the importance of data literacy to the 6th Informal Working Group of the Future of Education and Skills: Education 2030 Project	October 2017

Work Experience

Research Intern at NTT Research	Virtual
-Researched the intersection of deep learning theory and physics	Jun 2021 - Sept 2021
Deep Learning Course Assistant	Stanford, CA
-Course assistant for Andrew Ng’s deep learning class CS230	Sept 2018 - March 2019
Visiting Graduate Student at The Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard	Cambridge, MA
-Developed a deep learning model for matrix factorization	Jun 2018 - Sept 2018
-Researched loss landscapes of linear autoencoders with regularization	
Deep Learning Visualizations Engineer	Palo Alto, CA
-Developed educational visualizations of deep learning models for Deeplearning.ai	April 2018 - Sept 2019
-Developed using D3.js and Tensorflow.js	
Undergraduate Researcher for Chip Lawrence Lab	Providence, RI
-Helped rewrite a HMM alignment software for paleoclimate data in Matlab	Jan 2017 - June 2017
-Designed and developed a web platform for using the HMM alignment software	
Front-End Web Developer	Providence, RI
-Used D3.js to create interactive visualizations of probability and statistics concepts	May 2016 - Dec 2016
-Designed and developed a web platform with over two million page views and users from nearly every country in the world: <i>seeingtheory.io</i>	

Awards/Fellowships

CPAL Rising Star Award	Hong Kong
- Part of cohort of sixteen exceptional junior researchers at a starting point in their career.	January 2024
- Presented recent work on SGD at Conference on Parsimony and Learning (CPAL).	
Open Philanthropy AI Fellowship	San Francisco, CA
- Part of cohort of eleven promising machine learning researchers selected across institutions	September 2022
- Full graduate stipend and tuition is covered for up to three years.	
Stanford Data Science Scholar	Stanford, CA
- Part of cohort of graduate students using data science in their research	January 2020
- Half my stipend and tuition is covered for two years.	
Citadel Data Open Championship	New York City, NY
- Investigated the effect of education, demographics, and economics on social mobility	November 2017
- Presented report to a panel of experts and placed in the top five teams.	
Citadel Data Open at Berkeley	Berkeley, CA
- Analyzed how Airbnb affects the local renting market in San Fransisco	September 2017
- First place winner; \$20,000 award prize; One of 20 teams invited to compete in The Data Open Championship for a \$100,000 prize.	
Harvey A. Baker Fellowship	Providence, RI
- Awarded annually to outstanding members of the graduating class to aid them in undertaking graduate study at the university of their choice	May 2017
Brown University Royce Fellowship	Providence, RI
- Designed and developed a web platform for learning probability and statistics	April 2016