

Jan Harold Mercado Alcantara

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Research Interests

Nonlinear Optimization, Feasibility Problems, Variational Inequalities

Education

Doctor of Philosophy in Mathematics 02/2018 - 06/2020

National Taiwan Normal University

Dissertation: Dynamical Systems Approach to Complementarity Problems

Advisor: Prof. Jein-Shan Chen

Master of Science in Mathematics 05/2013 - 04/2015

De La Salle University

Bachelor of Secondary Education major in Mathematics 05/2009 - 09/2012

De La Salle University

Academic Experience

Postdoctoral Researcher 04/2023 - present

RIKEN Center for Advanced Intelligence Project (AIP), Japan

Supervisor: Prof. Akiko Takeda

Postdoctoral Scholar 08/2021 - 03/2023

Institute of Statistical Science, Academia Sinica, Taiwan

Supervisor: Prof. Ching-pei Lee

Postdoctoral Fellow 08/2020 - 07/2021

Department of Mathematics, National Taiwan Normal University, Taiwan

Supervisor: Prof. Jein-Shan Chen

Teaching Experience

Assistant Professor 01/2017 - 12/2017

Mathematics and Statistics Department, De La Salle University

Teaching Associate 01/2016 - 12/2016

Mathematics and Statistics Department, De La Salle University

Lecturer 08/2015 - 12/2015

Mathematics and Statistics Department, De La Salle University

Lecturer 06/2015 - 10/2015

Mathematics Department, Adamson University

11/2012 - 03/2013

• Courses taught

Graduate courses: Linear Algebra and Calculus

Undergraduate courses: Abstract Algebra, Differential Equations, Differential Calculus, Integral Calculus, Multivariable Calculus, Differential Equations, Algebra and Trigonometry

Visiting Experience

Department of Applied Mathematics, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University

02/2023

Host: Prof. Defeng Sun

Department of Mathematics, National University of Singapore

08/2022 - 10/2022

Host: Prof. Kim-Chuan Toh

Publications

Articles

1. Tang, Jingyong, Zhou, Jinchuan, **Alcantara, Jan Harold**, and Chen, Jein-Shan, "A family of smooth NCP functions and an inexact Levenberg-Marquardt method for nonlinear complementarity problems", to appear in *Journal of Nonlinear and Convex Analysis*, vol. 24, no. 9 (2023).
2. **Alcantara, Jan Harold**, Chen, Jein-Shan, and Tam, Matthew K., "Method of alternating projections for the general absolute value equation", *Journal of Fixed Point Theory and Applications*, vol. 25, no. 1, Article 39 (2023).
3. **Alcantara, Jan Harold** and Lee, Ching-pei, "Accelerated projected gradient algorithms for sparsity constrained optimization problems", *Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS)* vol. 35, pp. 26723--26735 (2022).
4. **Alcantara, Jan Harold** and Chen, Jein-Shan, "A new class of neural networks for NCPs using smooth perturbations of the natural residual function", *Journal of Computational and Applied Mathematics*, vol. 407, 114092 (2022).
5. Sun, Juhe, Fu, Weichen, **Alcantara, Jan Harold**, and Chen, Jein-Shan, "A neural network based on the metric projector for solving SOCCVI problem", *IEEE Transactions on Neural Networks and Learning Systems*, vol. 32, no. 7, pp. 2886--2900 (2021).
6. Wu, Caiying, Wang, Jing, **Alcantara, Jan Harold**, and Chen, Jein-Shan, "Smoothing strategy along with conjugate gradient algorithm for signal reconstruction", *Journal of Scientific Computing*, vol. 87, no. 1, Article 21 (2021).
7. **Alcantara, Jan Harold** and Chen, Jein-Shan, "A novel generalization of the natural residual function and a neural network approach for the NCP", *Neurocomputing*, vol. 413, pp. 368--382 (2020).
8. **Alcantara, Jan Harold**, Lee, Chen-Han, Nguyen, Chieu Thanh, Chang, Yu-Lin, and Chen, Jein-Shan, "On construction of new NCP functions", *Operations Research Letters*, vol. 48, pp. 115--121 (2020).
9. **Alcantara, Jan Harold** and Chen, Jein-Shan, "Neural networks based on three classes of NCP-functions for solving nonlinear complementarity problems", *Neurocomputing*, vol. 359, pp. 102--113 (2019).
10. **Alcantara, Jan Harold**, Lao, Angelyn, and Ruivivar, Leonor, "Stability analysis of the ODE model representation of amyloidogenic processing in Alzheimer's disease in the presence of SORLA", *Molecular BioSystems*, vol. 12, pp. 1468--1477 (2016).

Preprints

11. Nguyen, Chieu Thanh, **Alcantara, Jan Harold**, Hao, Zijun, and Chen, Jein-Shan, "Smoothing penalty approach for solving second-order cone complementarity problems" (2023).

12. **Alcantara, Jan Harold** and Lee, Ching-pei, "Global convergence and acceleration of projection methods for feasibility problems involving union convex sets", arXiv:2202.10052 (2022).
13. Nguyen, Chieu Thanh, **Alcantara, Jan Harold**, Okuno, Takayuki, Takeda, Akiko, and Chen, Jein-Shan, "Unified smoothing approach for best hyperparameter selection problem using a bilevel optimization strategy", arXiv:2110.12630 (2021).

In Preparation

14. Nguyen, Chieu Thanh, **Alcantara, Jan Harold**, Lu, Yue, and Chen, Jein-Shan, "Smoothing penalty method for second-order cone programming".
15. Miao, Xin-He, **Alcantara, Jan Harold**, and Chen, Jein-Shan, "A Gauss-Seidel type method for solving $\ell_2 - \ell_p$ minimization"
16. **Alcantara, Jan Harold** and Chen, Jein-Shan, "An efficient and accurate solver for large-scale sparse recovery problems using a conjugate gradient algorithm for a class of smooth nonconvex regularizers".

Conference Talks

- o "Global convergence and acceleration of fixed point iterations of union upper semicontinuous operators with applications to feasibility problems and optimization ", Contributed talk at 2023 Taiwan Society of Industrial and Applied Mathematics (TWSIAM) Annual Conference, Taipei, Taiwan, May 2023.
- o "Accelerated projected gradient algorithms for sparsity constrained optimization problems", Poster presentation at NeurIPS 2022, New Orleans, USA, December 2022.
- o "Method of alternating projections for solving absolute value equations", Contributed talk at the International Conference on Continuous Optimization, Pennsylvania, USA, July 2022.
- o "Proximal algorithms for a class of nonconvex nonsmooth minimization problems involving piecewise smooth and min-weakly-convex functions", Invited Speaker for the Special Session of 2021 Taiwan Mathematical Society Annual Meeting, Taipei, Taiwan, January 2022.
- o "Neural networks based on three classes of NCP-functions for solving nonlinear complementarity problems", Oral presentation delivered at Taiwan Mathematical Society Annual Meeting, Taipei, Taiwan, December 2018.
- o "The dynamics of a breast cancer model with Raphanus sativus extract", Oral presentation delivered at the 2017 Mathematical Society of the Philippines Annual Convention, Legazpi City, Philippines, May 2017.
- o "The dynamics of SORLA's influence on amyloidogenic processing", Oral presentation delivered at the 2016 Mathematical Society of the Philippines Annual Convention, Cebu City, Philippines, May 2016.
- o "Stability Analysis of the ODE Model Representation of Amyloidogenic Processing in Alzheimer's Disease in the presence of SORLA", Oral presentation delivered at the 3rd Asian Regional Conference on Systems Biology (ARCSB2015-TriSys), Selangor, Malaysia, September 2015.

Invited Talks

- o "Smoothing approach for hyperparameter learning using bilevel programming", 2023 National Center for Theoretical Sciences Optimization Workshop, National Taiwan Normal University, Taipei, Taiwan, May 2023.

- “Hyperparameter learning and sparse optimization: Theory and algorithms”, Seminar (Online), RIKEN Center for Advanced Intelligence Project, Tokyo, Japan, October 2022.
- “Smooth nonconvex regularizers for sparse recovery problems and an efficient conjugate gradient algorithm”, 2020 National Center for Theoretical Sciences Optimization Day for Young Researchers, National Taiwan Normal University, Taipei, Taiwan, December 2020.
- “Smoothed neural networks for nonlinear complementarity problems”, Workshop on Advances in Continuous Optimization, University of Tokyo, Tokyo, Japan, September 2019.

Invited Lectures

- “Projection methods for feasibility problems”, DLSU Mathematics and Statistics Lecture Series, De La Salle University, Manila, Philippines, August 2021.
- “Qualitative Analysis of Solutions and Introduction to Bifurcation”, DLSU Mathematics Lecture Series, Manila, Philippines, 2017.
- “On Stability and Bifurcation Analysis”, First Lecture Series for AY2016-2017, Mathematical Society of the Philippines – National Capital Region held at Mapua Institute of Technology 2016.
- “Mathematical Modelling of Dynamical Systems: Stability Analysis of ODE Models”, DLSU Mathematics Lecture Series, Manila, Philippines, 2016.

Grants and Awards

- Participant, Global Young Scientists Summit (GYSS), 2023.
- Travel Grant for Young Scholars Attending International Conferences Abroad, Academia Sinica, 2022.
- Department of Science and Technology – Accelerated Science and Technology Human Resource Development Program (DOST-ASTHRDP) Scholarship, Department of Science and Technology – Science Education Institute, 2013-2015.
- St. La Salle Scholarship, De La Salle University, 2009-2012.

Professional Service

Reviewer:

- Computational Optimization and Applied Mathematics
- Journal of Applied Mathematics and Computing
- Journal of Computational and Applied Mathematics
- Journal of Global Optimization
- Journal of Machine Learning Research
- Neural Computing and Applications
- Pacific Journal of Optimization
- Taiwanese Journal of Mathematics

References

Jein-Shan Chen, Ph.D.

Professor and Dean of the College of Science
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National Taiwan Normal University
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Akiko Takeda, D.Sc.

Professor
Department of Mathematical Informatics
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Ching-pei Lee, Ph.D.

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