JOHANN BREHMER

Machine learner and physicist

johannbrehmer.de Google Scholar github.com/johannbrehmer twitter.com/johannbrehmer mail@johannbrehmer.de

RESEARCH INTERESTS

• Geometric deep learning: Equivariant architectures, scalable inductive biases, generative models

• Causality & interactive learning: Non-iid situations, offline reinforcement learning, skill learning

• Simulation-based inference, neural surrogates, inverse problems

EXPERIENCE

Qualcomm AI Research Amsterdam, Netherlands

Research scientist (Senior Staff Engineer)

11/2023 - now

Research scientist (Staff Engineer) 01/2021 – 11/2023

• Topics: Geometric deep learning, diffusion models, causality, offline RL, skill learning

• Roles: Researcher, supervisor, team lead, manager (5 reports)

• Key collaborators: Taco Cohen, Pim de Haan

New York University, USA

Moore-Sloan postdoctoral researcher

09/2017 - 12/2020

• Topics: Simulation-based inference, normalizing flows, machine learning for physics

• Roles: Researcher, supervisor

• Key collaborators: Kyle Cranmer, Gilles Louppe

Heidelberg University, Germany

PhD candidate 07/2014 – 08/2017

Topics: Statistics for particle physics, effective field theories, Higgs boson measurements

• Roles: Researcher, co-supervisor, (head) teaching assistant

• PhD advisor: Tilman Plehn

CERN, Geneva

Summer student 06/2012 – 09/2012

• Topic: Machine learning for particle physics

• Supervisor: Johannes Albrecht

EDUCATION

| PhD in Physics | Heidelberg University | summa cum laude* | 07/2014 – 08/2017 |
|------------------|------------------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| MSc in Physics | Heidelberg University | 1.0* | 02/2012 – 06/2014 |
| BSc in Physics | Heidelberg University | 1.0* | 09/2008 – 02/2012 |
| Visiting student | Imperial College, London, UK | 1.0* | 09/2010 – 07/2011 |
| Abitur | Heidelberg University | 1.0* | 06/2007 |

^{*}German grading scale: from 1.0 (best) to 6.0 (worst); PhD grades: from summa cum laude (best) to rite (worst)

PUBLICATION OVERVIEW

• 44 publications with 4320 citations, h-index of 21

(Google Scholar as of February 18, 2024)

• 17 first-author papers accepted in top venues including PRL, PNAS, NeurIPS

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

GEOMETRIC DEEP LEARNING

| Euclidean, projective, conformal: | de Haan, Cohen, Brehmer | AISTATS 24 |
|--|---------------------------------------|-------------|
| Geometric algebra transformer | Brehmer, de Haan, Behrends, Cohen | NeurIPS 23 |
| Equivariant diffusion for planning w/ embodied agents | Brehmer, Bose, de Haan, Cohen | NeurIPS 23 |
| Flows for simult. manifold learning & density estimation | Brehmer, Cranmer | NeurIPS 20 |
| Neural message passing for jet physics | Henrion, Brehmer , Bruna, Cho, | Workshop 17 |

CAUSALITY & INTERACTIVE LEARNING

| Weakly supervised causal representation learning | Brehmer , de Haan, Lippe, Cohen | NeurlPS 22 |
|--|--|-------------|
| Deconfounded imitation learning | Vuorio, de Haan, Brehmer ,, Cohen | Workshop 22 |
| Hierarchical clustering in particle physics through RL | Brehmer, Macaluso,, Cranmer | Workshop 20 |

SIMULATORS + ML

| Simulation-based inference for particle physics | Brehmer, Cranmer | Book chapter 22 |
|--|--|-----------------|
| Stronger symbolic summary statistics for the LHC | Soybelman, Butter, Plehn, Brehmer | Workshop 22 |
| The frontier of simulation-based inference | Cranmer, Brehmer , Louppe | PNAS 20 |
| MadMiner: ML-based inference for particle physics | Brehmer, Kling, Espejo, Cranmer | CSBS 20 |
| Mining implicit models for likelihood-free inference | Brehmer, Louppe, Pavez, Cranmer | PNAS 20 |
| Inferring subhalo population properties with ML | Brehmer, Mishra-Sharma,, Cranme | r AstrJ 19 |
| Constraining effective field theories with ML | Brehmer, Cranmer, Louppe, Pavez | PRL 18 |
| Guide to constraining EFTs with ML | Brehmer, Cranmer, Louppe, Pavez | PRD 18 |
| Better Higgs-CP tests w/ information geometry | Brehmer, Kling, Plehn, Tait | PRD 18 |
| Better Higgs measurements w/ information geometry | Brehmer, Cranmer, Kling, Plehn | PRD 17 |

OTHER

| Instance-adaptive video compression | van Rozendaal, Brehmer ,, Cohen | TMLR 23 |
|--|--|---------|
| Pushing Higgs Effective Theory to its limits | Brehmer, Freitas, Lopez-Val, Plehn | PRD 16 |

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Speaker: 27 invited talks (43 total) at international conferences / seminars

Keynote speaker at ACAT 2019

Open source: Lead developer of the MadMiner library

Organizer: Seminars, workshops, conferences with up to 150 participants, including CLeaR 2023

Member: ELLIS

Awards: PRL Editor's Suggestion

1 oral + 1 spotlight at workshops Top Reviewer at NeurIPS 2023

Otto Haxel prize for best MSc thesis (out of 150)

Prestigious German Studienstiftung scholarship (top 0.5% of all German students)

Press coverage: TWIML podcast, Physics, phys.org, Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung

SKILLS

Technical: Python, PyTorch, git, Docker, SLURM

Leadership: Team leadership, people management, project management, conference organization,

hiring pipeline design, hiring, grassroots diversity initiative

Communication: Technical writing, LaTeX, data visualization, presentations to experts and non-experts,

teaching

Languages: German (native), English (fluent), Dutch (advanced)