

Tra My (Chiffon) Nguyen

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RESEARCH INTERESTS

Human-AI systems that reflect and support diverse human experiences: **multilingual and multicultural AI**, **socio-technical AI alignment** (pluralistic alignment, cooperative AI, scalable oversight, evaluation, interpretability), **socially aware AI** (human-AI collaboration, human-AI interaction, social intelligence), and **AI ethics**.

EDUCATION

Minerva University, College of Computational Sciences <i>B.Sc in Computational Sciences (Machine Learning and Statistics)</i> , GPA: 3.7/4.0	Sep 2021 — May 2025 <i>San Francisco, CA, USA</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Relevant Coursework: Machine Learning (A), AI Ethics, Bayesian Modeling (A), Statistical Modeling and Causal Inference (A), Optimization Methods (A), Probability and Statistics (A-), Software EngineeringGlobal Rotation: Seoul (South Korea), Chinese Taipei, Hyderabad (India), Buenos Aires (Argentina), Berlin (Germany)Self-study: Technical AI Alignment (ARENA, 2025), Introduction to AI Alignment (Bluedot Impact, 2025)	

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

AI Research Mentee Cohere Labs Open Science Initiative (Advisor: Ilia Badanin)	Nov 2025 — Present <i>Remote</i>
AI Safety Research Mentee Algoverse AI Research (Advisor: Eyon Jang)	Sep 2025 — Present <i>Remote</i>
Machine Learning Research Assistant AI & Mixed Reality Lab, Landshut University of Applied Sciences	Jun 2024 — Aug 2024 <i>Landshut, Bavaria, Germany</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Advisors: Prof. Sandra Eisenreich and Prof. Eduard KromerTopic: 3D object detection pipeline using PointPillars algorithm on standard and synthetic LiDAR point cloud datasets	
Causal Inference Research Intern (Replication and Extension) Minerva University (Advisor: Prof. Alexis Diamond)	Nov 2023 — Dec 2023 <i>Remote</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Replicated and extended Chrisinger (2021)'s analysis of Philadelphia's SNAP benefit redemption in R, analyzing policy impacts across 4 counties and 50+ months of longitudinal dataIdentified critical limitations in dataset reliability and magnitude discrepancies between original and replicated resultsConducted new leave-one-out robustness analysis on synthetic control models, showing model instability	

TEACHING & MENTORING EXPERIENCE

<ul style="list-style-type: none">Curious Cardinals, Passion Project & Executive Functioning, Middle and High School MentorMinerva University, PR51 Programming with Python, Peer Tutor and Data AnalystMinerva University, FA51 Algorithmic Thinking and Game Theory, Lead Teaching AssistantMinerva University, FA50 Formal Logic, Probability and Statistics, Lead Teaching Assistant	Nov 2025 - Present Spring 2025 Spring 2023, 2024 Fall 2022, 2023
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OPEN-SOURCE

Open-source and Eval Dataset Contributor @ HumaneBench	Oct 2025 - Present
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Help build new human-friendly benchmark for AI using Pydantic and Inspect frameworks	
Lead Design Engineer @ SEACrowd	Aug 2025 - Present
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Main designer, developer and maintainer of seacrowd.org website (Jekyll, Bootstrap)	

Dataset Contributor @ [Humanity's Last Exam](#)

Feb 2025

SELECTED PROJECTS

More projects on mychifffonn.com/projects.

SportConnect: Connect Through Local Sport Events (github.com/mychifffonn/sport-connect)

Nov 2025

Scalable web application connecting users to local recreational sports events, featuring secure multi-provider OAuth authentication, comprehensive event management, easy event discovery and filtering, and real-time RSVP tracking. Two-person full-stack project with TypeScript, React, Express, PostgreSQL, TailwindCSS, DaisyUI, and BetterAuth.

Academic Portfolio Theme for Researchers (github.com/mychiffonn/website) Aug 2025 — Oct 2025

High-performance academic theme, enabling fast, accessible, and multilingual publishing of publications and technical blogs while ensuring top-tier SEO (99) and Lighthouse (100) scores using Astro, TailwindCSS, and shadcn/ui

Mnemonic Generation for Vocabulary Learning (github.com/mychiffonn/mnemonic-gen) Oct 2024 — Mar 2025

- Designed an AI chatbot that generated diverse and memorable mnemonic devices for learning and retaining vocabulary, synthesizing 50+ papers across linguistics, psycholinguistics, language education, and large language models
- Utilized chain-of-thought distillation from a teacher model (DeepSeekR1) to instill linguistic chain-of-thought reasoning to a student model (Gemma3-1b) through supervised fine-tuning
- Implemented a Direct Preference Optimization (DPO) pipeline for preference modeling on Gemma3-1b using 500 human and LLM-annotated preference pairs (on memorability, imageability, and retention rates)

CERTIFICATES

- **Advanced Web Development**, CodePath (codepath.org/courses/web-development) Dec 2025
- **Natural Language Specialization**, deeplearning.ai (coursera.org/verify/specialization/3FJ3W7QJX8GK) Nov 2023
- **Applied Data Science**, World Quant University (credly.com/badges/2e1e6902-aae4-47c4-97e2-0ad9265e5561) Aug 2023
- **Machine Learning Specialization**, deeplearning.ai (coursera.org/verify/specialization/G9898XKB9EAV) Jun 2022

TECHNICAL SKILLS

- **Programming Languages:** Python, TypeScript, SQL, R, Bash
- **Machine Learning:** PyTorch, Inspect, nnsight/nnterp, unsloth, trl, scikit-learn, LangGraph, LlamaIndex
- **Web Development:** Astro, React, FastAPI, Flask, Express.js, PostgreSQL, TailwindCSS, shadcn/ui
- **Tools & DevOps:** Git, Docker, Render, Netlify, LaTeX, Zotero, Typst