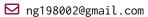
Nuwan Gunasekara



in linkedin





Summary

I am an AI researcher specializing in evolving data stream learning, focusing on advanced techniques like Neural Networks and Gradient Boosting. My work addresses critical challenges in Online Learning, including detecting and adapting to concept drifts in data streams and mitigating catastrophic forgetting in Neural Networks for online learning. I actively contribute to the open-source MOA and CapyMOA stream learning frameworks. I have also published multiple publications in reputed venues and have delivered tutorials on online learning. I bring a wealth of industry experience in participating in multiple machine learning projects and developing network capture tools. Explore my GitHub for accessible source codes.

Research Publications

- H. M. Gomes, A. Lee, **N. Gunasekara**, et al., Capymoa: Efficient machine learning for data streams in python, 2025. arXiv: 2502.07432 [cs.LG]. **O** URL: https://arxiv.org/abs/2502.07432.
- N. Gunasekara, B. Pfahringer, H. M. Gomes, and A. Bifet, "Gradient boosted trees for evolving data streams," in *Machine Learning*, Springer, 2024.
- **N. Gunasekara**, B. Pfahringer, H. M. Gomes, A. Bifet, and Y. S. Koh, "Recurrent concept drifts on data streams," in *Thirty-Third International Joint Conferences on Artificial Intelligence (IJCAI)*, 2024.
- N. Gunasekara, B. Pfahringer, H. M. Gomes, and A. Bifet, "Survey on online streaming continual learning," in *Thirty-Second International Joint Conferences on Artificial Intelligence (IJCAI)*, 2023.
- N. A. Gunasekara, "Advanced adaptive classifier methods for data streams," Ph.D. dissertation, University of Waikato, 2023.
- N. Gunasekara, H. Gomes, A. Bifet, and B. Pfahringer, "Adaptive neural networks for online domain incremental continual learning," in *Discovery Science (DS): 25th International Conference, Montpellier, France, October 10–12, 2022, Proceedings*, Springer, 2022, pp. 89–103.
- N. Gunasekara, H. Gomes, A. Bifet, and B. Pfahringer, "Adaptive online domain incremental continual learning," in 31st International Conference on Artificial Neural Networks (ICANN), Bristol, UK, September 6–9, 2022, Proceedings, Part I, Springer, 2022, pp. 491–502.
- **9 N. Gunasekara**, H. M. Gomes, B. Pfahringer, and A. Bifet, "Online hyperparameter optimization for streaming neural networks," in *2022 International Joint Conference on Neural Networks (IJCNN)*, IEEE, 2022, pp. 1–9.
- N. Gunasekara, S. Pang, and N. Kasabov, "Tuning n-gram string kernel svms via meta learning," in Neural Information Processing. Models and Applications: 17th International Conference, ICONIP 2010, Sydney, Australia, November 22-25, 2010, Proceedings, Part II 17, Springer, 2010, pp. 91–98.
- N. A. Gunasekara, "Meta learning on string kernel syms for string categorization," M.S. thesis, Auckland University Of Technology, 2010.

Projects

Projects (continued)

CapyMOA Stream Learning Framework.

MOA Massive Online Analysis Stream Learning Framework.

Memberships

Tertiary Student Representative, New Zealand Artificial Intelligence Researchers Association.

Employment History

Postdoctoral Fellow, Halmstad University. Sweden. AIM-TRUE Project with Volvo Logistics.

2021 – 2024 Research Assistant, Artificial Intelligence Institute, University of Waikato. New Zealand.

Develop CapyMOA Stream Learning Framework.

Maintain MOA (Massive Online Analysis) Stream Learning Framework.

Project with Civil Engineers to predict the Axial Capacity of Cold-Formed Steel.

Teaching Assistant (Machine Learning), Faculty of Computer Science, University of Waikato.

Tutor Machine Learning Course (COMPX310).

2010 – 2020 **Senior Software Engineer.** Endace Tecnologies Ltd. New Zealand.

Develop and maintain high-speed network packet capturing and analysing tools and libraries for Endace network capturing hardware.

2007 – 2008 **Support Engineer.** Virtusa.

Support internal applications for internal customers around the globe.

Education

2020 – 2023 Ph.D., University of Waikato, Hamilton, NZ.

Thesis title: Advanced Adaptive Classifier Methods for Data Streams.

2008 – 2010 M.Sc. Information Sciences, Auckland University of Technology, NZ.

Thesis title: Meta learning on string kernel SVMs for string categorization.

2005 – 2007 B.Sc. Management Information Systems, University College Dublin, Ireland.

Skills

ML Frameworks Pytorch, TensorFlow, Deep Java Library (DJL) by Amazon, Scikit-learn, Scikit-multiflow, MOA (Massive Online Analysis), Weka, Avalanche (Continual Learning), FLAML (AutoML) by Microsoft.

General Online ML Techniques | Neural Networks, Bagging and Boosting

Drift Detection Techniques ADWIN, DDM

Online Replay Buffer Techniques

| Experience Replay with reservoir sampling.

Skills (continued)

Networking TCP/IP, libpacp, Wireshark.

OS Linux, FreeBSD, MacOS.

Coding Java, C, Python, Shell scripting, CUDA Programing

Languages | English and Sinhalese.

Misc. Academic research, Academic writing, Tutoring.

Tutorials, Workshops, Talks, Program Committees

Tutorials Machine Learning Streaming Data. Volvo, Sweden, 2025.

Machine Learning on the Fly: A Hands-On Tutorial for Streaming Data.

ICDE, Hong Kong, 2025.

Data stream learning with CapyMOA. IJCAI, Jeju, South Korea, 2024.

Workshops 📕 Time-Evolving Data Science / Artificial Intelligence for Advanced

Open Environmental Science (TAIAO), Hosted by AI Institute, University of Waikato [2021 2022]

sity of Waikato, [2021, 2022]

Talks Online Hyperparameter Optimization for Streaming Neural Net-

works", Cardiff University - Machine Learning Seminar, 2022

Guest Lecture Advanced Topics in Stream Learning, University of Waikato, - Data Stream Mining (COMPX523 Masters Course), 2023

Program Committee Member | Invited as a PC Member for the IJCAI Survey Track, 2024/2025

Honors & Awards

Awards and Achievements

2020

Research & Enterprise Study Award, AI Institute, University of Waikato.

Three and half year scholarship is funded by the "Entrepreneurial Universities - Real time analytics for Big Data" project at AI Institute, University of Waikato.

References

Professor Albert Bifet

Director

AI Institute, University of Waikato.

abifet@waikato.ac.nz

+64 27 216 8779

Professor Bernhard Pfahringer

Co-Director

AI Institute, University of Waikato.

bernhard@waikato.ac.nz

Dr. Heitor Murilo Gomes

Assistant Professor/Lecturer in Artificial Intelligence School of Engineering and Computer Science,

Victoria University of Wellington.

heitor.gomes@vuw.ac.nz

+6421 026 01285

Dr. Sepideh Pashami

Associate Professor in Machine Learning, Halmstad University

Senior Researcher, RISE Swedish Research Institute. sepideh.pashami@hh.se

+4673 755 2016