

Van Son Nguyen

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CONTACT INFORMATION	Email: sonnv77@utexas.edu Homepage: https://sonpeter.github.io/	
EDUCATION	University of Texas at Austin, <i>Ph.D Student in Computer Science</i> <i>Graduate Research Assistant</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Advisor: Professor Qiang Liu, Professor Nhat Ho• GPA: 4.00/4.00	Austin, USA Aug 2022-Present
	Ha Noi University of Science and Technology (HUST) <i>Master of Science in Computer Science</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Advisor: Professor Khoat Than• Thesis: “Overcoming Limitations of Deep Neural Networks with Variational Methods using Gaussian Mixture Model and Dropout”• GPA: 3.84/4.00, Thesis: 4.00/4.00	Ha Noi, Vietnam Oct 2019 - Jul 2021
	<i>Engineer’s Degree in Information Technology (Talent Program)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Advisor: Professor Khoat Than• Thesis: “An Effective Bayesian Approach for Discovering Hidden Semantics from Data Streams”• GPA: 3.50/4.00 (rank 2/21 honored class), Thesis: 4.00/4.00 (Best Thesis Award)	Aug 2014 - Jun 2019
EXPERIENCE	VinAI Research [1] <i>AI Research Resident</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Main research topics: Bayesian Deep Learning, Deep Generative Models, Optimal Transport.• Advisor: Dr. Nhat Ho (Assistant Professor at UT, Austin) <i>Engineering Rotation Program</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Projects: Face Detection and Re-identification.	Ha Noi, Vietnam Jul 2020-Jul 2022 Sep 2021-Dec 2021
	Data Science Laboratory [2] <i>Research Assistant</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Main research topics: Probabilistic Graphical Model, Bayesian Inference, Online Learning.• Advisor: Dr. Khoat Than (Associate Professor at HUST)	Ha Noi, Vietnam Aug 2018 - Jul 2020
	Viettel Network Technology R&D Center [3] <i>Internship, Department of Data Science</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Projects: Data Analysis in Telecommunication, Recommendation Systems for Promotions	Ha Noi, Vietnam Jun 2018 - Jun 2019
RESEARCH INTERESTS	My research intersects probabilistic modeling, deep learning, and optimization, aiming to integrate the complementary advantages of these areas into foundation problems of modeling, inference, and learning. Currently, my work focuses on developing efficient and theoretically sound optimization algorithms for large-scale deep learning with non-conventional constraints. I am also particularly excited about scalable and robust probabilistic methods applied to complex settings across diverse domains, including Bayesian deep learning, deep generative models, hierarchical Bayesian models, and online/continual learning.	

PUBLICATIONS

- Son Nguyen, Bo Liu, Lizhang Chen, Qiang Liu, “[Improving Adaptive Moment Optimization via Preconditioner Diagonalization](#)”, *International Conference on Artificial Intelligence and Statistics (AISTATS)*, 2026
- Son Nguyen, Lizhang Chen, Bo Liu, Qiang Liu, “[Memory-Efficient Optimization with Factorized Hamiltonian Descent](#)”, *International Conference on Artificial Intelligence and Statistics (AISTATS)*, 2025
- Son Nguyen*, Ha Nguyen*, Hoang Pham*, Linh Ngo, Khoat Than, “[Adaptive Infinite Dropout for Noisy and Sparse Data Streams](#)”, *Machine Learning Journal*, 2022
- Son Nguyen*, Hoang Phan*, Anh Phan Tuan*, Ngo Van Linh, Khoat Than, “[Reducing Catastrophic Forgetting in Neural Networks via Gaussian Mixture Approximation](#)”, *Pacific-Asia Conference on Knowledge Discovery and Data Mining (PAKDD)*, 2022
- Son Nguyen, Duong Nguyen, Khai Nguyen, Khoat Than, Hung Bui*, Nhat Ho*, “[Structured Dropout Variational Inference for Bayesian Neural Networks](#)”, *Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS)*, 2021
- Khai Nguyen, Son Nguyen, Nhat Ho, Tung Pham, Hung Bui, “[Improving Relational Regularized Autoencoders with Spherical Sliced Fused Gromov Wasserstein](#)”, *International Conference on Learning Representations (ICLR)*, 2021
- Son Nguyen, Tung Nguyen, Linh Ngo, Khoat Than, “[Infinite Dropout for Training Bayesian Models from Data Streams](#)”, *IEEE International Conference on Big Data (Big Data)*, 2019

TECHNICAL TALKS

- Recent Advances in Deep Learning Uncertainty, *Data Science Lab - HUST* Nov, 2021
- Structured Dropout Variational Inference for Bayesian Neural Networks, *VinAI Workshop* Nov, 2021
- Uncertainty in Deep Learning and the case for Bayesian Deep Learning, *VinAI Research*, slide [here](#) Jun, 2021
- Optimal Transport for Generative Modelling, *VinAI Research*, slide [here](#) Oct, 2020

PROFESSIONAL Conference Reviewer

SERVICES

- Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS): 2025
- International Conference on Artificial Intelligence and Statistics (AISTATS): 2025, 2024, 2023
- The International Conference on Learning Representations (ICLR): 2024
- Symposium on Advances in Approximate Bayesian Inference (AABI): 2023

Teaching Assistant

- The Elements of Data Visualization (CS329), *UT Austin* Spring 2025, Fall 2025
- Principles of Machine Learning (CS363M), *UT Austin* Spring 2024, Fall 2024
- Algorithms and Complexity (CS331), *UT Austin* Fall 2023

Thesis mentor for undergraduate students

- Ha Nguyen, Hoang Pham: Project “[Online Bayesian Inference Methods for Noisy and Sparse Data Streams](#)”
- Hoang Phan, Anh Phan: Project “[Reducing Catastrophic Forgetting in Neural Networks via Gaussian Mixture Approximation](#)”

EDUCATION CONTRIBUTIONS

- **Book:** “[Olympiad Mathematical Topics](#)”, 2 volumes, *Vietnam National University Press, Ha Noi*. Authors: Nguyen Dinh Thanh Cong, Nguyen Van Huong, Nguyen Duy Hung, Tran Tri Kien, **Nguyen Van Son**, Le Nhat, Tran Bao Trung Jul 2017
- **Book:** “[Topics on Combinatorics and Complex Numbers](#)”, *Vietnam National University Press, Ha Noi*. Authors: Tran Tri Kien, **Nguyen Van Son**, Le Nhat Jul 2016
- Member of GSTT Group (a non-profit educational organization), lead refresher courses and consolidate the knowledge for high school students Oct 2014 - Oct 2016

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| HONORS AND AWARDS | • James C. Browne Graduate Fellowship, UT Computer Science | 2025 |
| | • Vingroup Innovation Foundation (VINIF) Research Scholarship | 2019, 2020 |
| | • Best Thesis Award, Best Presentation Award for Undergraduate Student | 2019 |
| | • Third Prize in the Scientific Research Student Conference, <i>HUST</i> | 2019 |
| | • Scholarship for Students with Excellent Academic Records, <i>HUST</i> | 2015, 2017 |
| | • Vietnam Mathematical Olympiad for University Students (VMS)
<i>(First Prize in Calculus, Second Prize in Algebra)</i> | 2015, 2016 |
| | • Scholarship of the National Program for the Development of Mathematics, <i>Vietnam Institute for Advanced Study in Mathematics (VIASM)</i> | 2014, 2015 |
| | • Second Prize in Vietnam Mathematical Olympiad (VMO) for High School Students | 2014 |

TECHNICAL SKILLS **Programming skills:**

- Proficient: Python
- Familiar: C, Java, MATLAB, LaTeX, SQL

LANGUAGES

- Vietnamese: Native.
- English: Proficient.