Stephan Rabanser

Last update: February 6, 2023

EDUCATION

PhD in Computer Science

Toronto, Canada

University of Toronto, advised by Prof. Nicolas Papernot

September 2020 - May 2024 (exp.)

- Supervisory Committee: Prof. Nicolas Papernot, Prof. Rahul Krishnan, Prof. David Duvenaud, Prof. Roger Grosse, Prof. Zachary Lipton
- Research Interests: Machine Learning, Robustness, Safety, Reliability, Uncertainty, Causality, Generative Modeling, Representation Learning, Probabilistic Deep Learning, Anomaly Detection, Distribution Shifts, Interpretability, Out-of-Distribution Sample Detection, Healthcare Applications.
- TAing: CSC2541: Neural Network Training Dynamics (Winter 2022), CSC2515: Introduction to Machine Learning (Fall 2022), ECE1784: Trustworthy Machine Learning (Fall 2022)

M.Sc. in Computer Science

Munich, Germany

Technical University of Munich (TUM), advised by Prof. Stephan Günnemann

October 2015 - July 2019

Visiting Research Scholar

Pittsburgh, PA

Carnegie Mellon University (CMU), advised by Prof. Zachary Lipton

August 2018 - January 2019

Honours Degree in Technology Management

Munich, Germany

Center for Digital Technology and Management (CDTM)

August 2015 - June 2017

Visiting Research Student

Cambridge, MA

Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), advised by Prof. Thomas Malone

February 2016 - June 2016

B.Sc. in Computer Science, Minor in Economic Sciences

Munich, Germany

Technical University of Munich (TUM)

October 2012 - October 2015

EXPERIENCE

Machine Learning Researcher

Toronto, CA

Vector Institute for Artificial Intelligence

September 2020 - Present

Intern Applied Scientist

Munich, Germany

Amazon, AWS AI Labs

June 2021 - October 2021

• Designed context-invariant time series representations using contrastive and domain-adversarial learning.

Intern Applied Scientist

Munich, Germany

Amazon, AWS AI Labs

September 2019 - July 2020

• Systematically assessed the impact of I/O representations for deep-learning-based time-series forecasting.

Intern Applied Scientist

Munich, Germany

Amazon, AWS AI Labs

May 2018 - August 2018

- Evaluated existing and developed new ML-based algorithms for large-scale lossless data compression.
- Implemented autoencoder-based probability distribution estimation for arithmetic coding on tabular data.

Intern Software Development Engineer

Berlin, Germany

Amazon, Core Machine Learning

August 2017 - October 2017

- Received an overview of standard time series analysis / forecasting techniques.
- Implemented Bayes by Backprop (weight uncertainty quantification) for plain MLPs & RNNs in MXNet.

Intern Software Development Engineer

Berlin, Germany

Amazon, AWS OpsWorks

July 2016 - October 2016

• Developed internal business intelligence tool (business metrics reporting and automated dashboard generation) for new OpsWorks service offering (OpsWorks for Chef Automate).

- Adam Dziedzic, Stephan Rabanser, Mohammad Yaghini, and Nicolas Papernot. p-DkNN:
 Out-of-Distribution Detection through Statistical Testing of Deep Representations. arXiv preprint arXiv:2207.12545, 2022 [paper]
- Stephan Rabanser, Tim Januschowski, Kashif Rasul, Oliver Borchert, Richard Kurle, Jan Gasthaus, Michael Bohlke-Schneider, Nicolas Papernot, and Valentin Flunkert. **Intrinsic Anomaly Detection in Multi-Variate Time Series**. arXiv preprint arXiv:2206.14342, 2022 [paper]
- Stephan Rabanser, Anvith Thudi, Kimia Hamidieh, Adam Dziedzic, and Nicolas Papernot. **Selective**Classification Via Neural Network Training Dynamics. arXiv preprint arXiv:2205.13532, 2022 [paper]
- Stephan Rabanser, Tim Januschowski, Valentin Flunkert, David Salinas, and Jan Gasthaus. **The Effectiveness** of Discretization in Forecasting: An Empirical Study on Neural Time Series Models. In 7th KDD Workshop on Mining and Learning from Time Series (MiLeTS), 2020. Oral presentation. [paper, slides]
- Stephan Rabanser, Stephan Günnemann, and Zachary Lipton. Failing Loudly: An Empirical Study of Methods for Detecting Dataset Shift. In Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems, pages 1394–1406, 2019 [paper, poster, slides]

Stephan Rabanser, Oleksandr Shchur, and Stephan Günnemann. Introduction to Tensor Decompositions and their Applications in Machine Learning. arXiv preprint arXiv:1711.10781, 2017 [paper]

AWARDS & HONORS

• Member of the Elite Network of Bavaria

Since 2016

• Apple WWDC Student Scholarship

June 2013

COMMUNITY SERVICE

- Reviewing: NeurIPS (2022, 2021), ICML (2022, 2021), Distribution Shift Workshop @ ICML (2022), Distribution Shift Workshop @ NeurIPS (2021 outstanding reviewer, 2022), Human Evaluation of Generative Models Workshop @ NeurIPS (2022), Time Series Workshop @ ICML (2021), Time Series Workshop @ KDD (2022), AAAI (2020)
- Talks: MIT MIMO Student Research Forum (2022), Intel Private AI Institute Fall Workshop (2022), Microsoft Security Data Science Colloquium (2021)
- Volunteering: NeurIPS 2018, ICLR 2019

Selected Coursework

De-noising Spectral Clustering Through Latent Data Decomposition Guided Research Project @ TUM

Munich, Germany

October 2017 - March 2018

- Developed two new methods to make spectral clustering more robust (reduced sensitivity to noise).
- o Modeled problem as latent data decomposition instead of similarity graph decomposition.
- Initial results outperform similar techniques on many datasets.

Data Science in Astrophysics and Industry

Munich, Germany

Interdisciplinary Project @ Max Planck Institute for Astrophysics (MPA)

March 2017 - July 2017

- Transformed an existing Gaussian mixture model (GMM) into Google TensorFlow.
- Optimized the algorithmic implementation of the model (e.g. number of mixture components, hyper-parameters) and explored different training methods (stochastic vs. deterministic and expectation maximization (EM) vs. gradient descent vs. Newton).
- Researched, implemented, and improved online learning techniques for GMMs and compared them to standard EM and tensor decomposition approaches.

Programming Skills

• Languages: Python, Java, Swift, HTML/CSS/JS ML Frameworks: PyTorch, Tensorflow, JAX, MXNet