PhD positions in Machine Learning Foundations at New Jersey Institute of Technology

Description. Thanh's ML research group (https://thanhnguyentang.github.io/) at the Ying Wu College of Computing, New Jersey Institute of Technology (NJIT), has an opening for two PhD positions, starting in Fall 2025 or Spring 2026. Our group is dedicated to study the theoretical and algorithmic foundations of machine learning, with the current research topics including sequential decision making (RL, MARL, game theory), responsible AI (differential privacy, machine unlearning, robustness), and LLMs (reasoning, training dynamics, generalization).

Competitive candidates are highly motivated and self-driven with a strong mathematical background in machine learning and good programming skills.

Instruction. Prospective students should email Thanh (thnguyentang@gmail.com) with your CV and transcript, and a brief paragraph describing research experience and areas of interest.

About NJIT. NJIT is a Carnegie R1 Doctoral University (the highest level of research activity) and one of the nation's leading public polytechnic universities. NJIT was ranked 56th in Machine Learning in 2024 by csrankings.org, and 42th and 84th in Top Public Schools and National Universities in 2024, respectively, by USNWR. New Jersey is referred to as the "Garden of Innovation State," in reference to its longstanding tradition as a hub for scientific and technological innovation, and was ranked the top #14 Best States in the US (top #4 in Education and #4 in Health Care) by USNWR. Located in Newark's University Heights, NJIT is part of a vibrant ecosystem of high technology players and is just a 30-minute train ride from New York City, known today as "Silicon Alley." These offer NJIT students and graduates ample opportunities for internships, entrepreneurship and employment.

Bio. Thanh Nguyen-Tang is an incoming Assistant Professor in the Department of Data Science, Ying Wu College of Computing at NJIT. He is currently a postdoc in the Department of Computer Science at Johns Hopkins University. Prior to that, he did his PhD in Computer Science at Deakin University, Australia, his M.Sc. in Computer Science and Engineering at Ulsan National Institute of Science and Technology, South Korea, his B.Eng. in Electronic and Communication Engineering at Danang University of Science and Technology, Vietnam. He works on the foundations of machine learning, at its intersection with optimization and theoretical computer science. His overarching goal is to enrich our understanding of the underlying algorithmic principles for learning and thereby design practical machine learning systems that are more efficient, robust and socially responsible. He has published numerous papers on top-tier ML/AI avenues, including NeurIPS/ICML/ICLR/AAAI/AISTATS. He was awarded the Alfred Deakin Medal for Doctoral Theses 2022.