

Thanh Tang NGUYEN

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Deakin University
[Applied Artificial Intelligence Institute \(A²I²\)](#)
75 Pigdons Rd, Highton VIC 3216, Australia

EDUCATION

- **Deakin University**, Geelong, Australia (expected) 2021
PhD candidate in Machine Learning and Statistics
 - Thesis: On Practical Considerations of (Deep) Reinforcement Learning: Theory and Algorithms
 - Advisors: Sunil Gupta & Svetha Venkatesh
- **Ulsan National Institute of Science and Technology (UNIST)**, South Korea 2018
M.S. in Computer Science & Engineering (GPA: 4.3/4.0, Top-1 graduate)
 - Thesis: Parametric information bottleneck to optimize stochastic neural networks
 - Advisor: Jaesik Choi
- **Da Nang University of Science and Technology**, Vietnam 2015
B.Eng. in Electronic and Communication Engineering (advanced program, valedictorian)
- **Da Nang Le Quy Don high school for gifted students**, Vietnam 2010
High School Diploma in Mathematics.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Machine Learning, Reinforcement Learning, Statistics, Computational Information Geometry, Deep Learning.

EXPERIENCE

- **Researcher** Mar. 2018 - Dec. 2018
Ulsan National Institute of Science and Technology (South Korea), School of Computer Science & Engineering, Statistical Artificial Intelligent Lab (SAIL);
- **Research & Teaching Assistant** Mar. 2016 - Mar. 2018
Ulsan National Institute of Science and Technology (South Korea), School of Computer Science & Engineering, Statistical Artificial Intelligent Lab (SAIL);
- **Mobile Network Intern & Engineer** Jan. 2015 - Aug. 2015
Viettel Network Corporation (Vietnam);
- **Teaching Assistant & Research Assistant** 2011 - Jan. 2015 & Aug. 2015 - Mar. 2016
Da Nang University of Science and Technology (Vietnam), Center of Excellence, Electronic and Communication Engineering.

PUBLICATIONS

- TT Nguyen, S. Gupta, and S. Venkatesh. [Distributional Reinforcement Learning via Moment Matching](#). Proceedings of the 35th AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence (**AAAI**), Vancouver, Canada, Feb. 2-9, 2021.
- TT Nguyen, S. Gupta, H. Ha, S. Rana, and S. Venkatesh. [Distributionally Robust Bayesian Quadrature Optimization](#). Proceedings of the 23rd International Conference on Artificial Intelligence and Statistics (**AISTATS**), Palermo, Italy, 2020.
- TT Nguyen, and J. Choi. [Markov Information Bottleneck to Improve Information Flow in Stochastic Neural Networks](#). **Entropy**, 21(10), 976, 2019.

- H. Ha, S. Rana, S. Gupta, TT Nguyen, H. Tran-The, and S. Venkatesh. [Bayesian Optimization with Unknown Search Space](#). Proceedings of the Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems (**NeurIPS**) 32, Vancouver, BC, Canada, 8–14 December, 2019.
- TT Nguyen, and J. Choi. [Parametric Information Bottleneck to Optimize Stochastic Neural Networks](#). Proceedings of the International Symposium on Perception, Action and Cognitive Systems (**PACS**), p. 23-30, Seoul, Korea, 2017. (Best Poster Award)

PREPRINTS

- TT Nguyen, S. Gupta, H. Tran-The, and S. Venkatesh. [On Finite-Sample Analysis of Batch Reinforcement Learning with Deep ReLU Networks](#). Under review. 2021.

PROFESSIONAL/COMMUNITY SERVING

- PC member: AAAI (2021);
- Invited reviewer: ICML (2021), AISTATS (2021), ICLR (2021), NeurIPS (2020), IJCNN (2020);
- Technical consultant: [EM&AI Joint-Stock Company](#);
- Mentoring: University of Toronto (Canada), Ho Chi Minh University of Technology (Vietnam), Sharif University of Technology (Iran).

SELECTED AWARDS

- Machine Learning Summer School (MLSS) 2020 at the Max Planck Institute for Intelligent Systems, Tübingen, Germany (acceptance rate: 13.84%).
- Australian Research Council (ARC) and PRaDA Postgraduate Research Scholarship 2019-2023;
- Best Poster Award, the International Symposium on Perception, Action and Cognitive Systems, 2017;
- Ulsan National Institute of Science and Technology Postgraduate Scholarship, 2016-2018;
- Valedictorian and the sole First-Class Graduate in the Electronic and Communication Engineering Program at the Center of Excellence (an advanced engineering program), Da Nang University of Science and Technology, 2015;
- Scholarships for Outstanding Academic Excellence from Da Nang University of Science and Technology in 2010 - 2015;
- JENESYS 2.0 Exchange student by Japan International Cooperation Center 2015;
- Sunflower Mission Engineering & Technology Scholarship by eSilicon and Texas Instrument, 2014;
- Third and Second Prize in Mathematics Competition of Da Nang University in 2012 and 2013 resp.;
- Takemoto Denki scholarship in 2012; Lawrence S.Ting scholarship per academic year from 2013 to 2015; Nguyen Thai-Binh Scholarship in 2013; Thanh-Nhan Scholarship in 2013;
- First Prize in the National Competition of Solving Mathematical Problems by the Journal of Mathematics and Youth, 2010;
- Silver Medal in Southern Vietnam Mathematics Olympiad, 2008;
- First Prizes in Da Nang Mathematics Competition for high school students in 2008, 2009, and 2010.

SKILLS

- Programming: Python, Tensorflow, MATLAB, Pytorch, C++;
- Languages: Vietnamese (native), English (proficient, TOEFL iBT of 96).

REFERENCES

- Alfred Deakin Prof. Svetha Venkatesh
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- Assoc. Prof. Sunil Gupta
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- Assoc. Prof. Jaesik Choi
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- Dr. Thai-Son Nguyen-Duy
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