

# Thanh Tang NGUYEN

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Deakin University  
[Applied Artificial Intelligence Institute \(A<sup>2</sup>I<sup>2</sup>\)](#)  
75 Pigdons Rd, Highton VIC 3216, Australia

## EDUCATION

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- **Deakin University**, Geelong, Australia (Expected) 2021  
PhD candidate in Machine Learning and Statistics  
Advisor: 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 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

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Machine Learning, Reinforcement Learning, Statistics, Information Bottleneck, Learning Theory, Optimization.

## EXPERIENCE

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- **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

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- 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 Non-Asymptotic Bounds for Off-Policy Evaluation with Deep ReLU Networks](#).  
Under review. 2020.

## PROFESSIONAL/COMMUNITY SERVING

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- Invited reviewer/PC member: AISTATS (2021), AAAI (2021), ICLR (2021), NeurIPS (2020), IJCNN (2020).
- Mentoring: [Machine Learning mentor program](#) (with 2 mentees so far)

## SELECTED AWARDS

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- 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

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**Programming:** python, MATLAB, C++; **Deep learning framework:** Tensorflow, Pytorch; **Parallel computing:** OpenMP, MPI, CUDA, pthreads.

## LANGUAGES

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Vietnamese : Native  
English : Proficient (TOEFL iBT score of 96)

## REFERENCES

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- Alfred Deakin Prof. Svetha Venkatesh  
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Applied Artificial Intelligence Institute  
[svetha.venkatesh@deakin.edu.au](mailto:svetha.venkatesh@deakin.edu.au)
- Assoc. Prof. Sunil Gupta  
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- Assoc. Prof. Jaesik Choi  
Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (KAIST)  
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- Assoc. Prof. Tuan V. PHAM  
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- Major Tra-My V. NGUYEN  
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Technical Center II - Viettel Networks Corporation  
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- Dr. Thai-Son Nguyen-Duy  
Department of Mathematics  
Da Nang University of Education  
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