

Tiago da Silva

tdsh97@gmail.com | github.com/tiagodsilva | tiagodsilva.github.io | linkedin.com/in/tiagodasilvah

Education

MSc and PhD in Applied Mathematics 2024/03 – 2024/12

School of Applied Mathematics, Brazil. Advisor: [Prof. Diego Mesquita](#).

- Thesis title: Streaming, Distributed, and Asynchronous Amortized Inference.
- Eligible for fast-track graduation due to recognized academic excellence and scientific productivity.

BSc in Data Science 2020/03 – 2023/12

School of Applied Mathematics, Brazil

- GPA: 9.9/10.0¹. 1st in class and 1st in the entrance exam. Received a fully-funded scholarship.

Selected Publications

- Streaming Bayes GFlowNets** NeurIPS 2024
 - [da Silva, T.](#), Souza, D., and Mesquita, D.
 - TL;DR: We design a method to update GFlowNets trained on a streaming Bayesian posterior. Experiments show a drastic reduction in training time when compared against learning from scratch a model based on the entire dataset.
- On Divergence Measures for Training GFlowNets** NeurIPS 2024
 - [da Silva, T.](#), Silva, E., and Mesquita, D.
 - TL;DR: We empirically show that the inefficacy of divergence-based objectives for GFlowNets is due to their large gradient variance. We then develop variance reduction techniques that significantly accelerate training convergence.
- Embarrassingly Parallel GFlowNets** ICML 2024
 - [da Silva, T.](#), Souza, A., Carvalho, L., Kaski, S., and Mesquita, D.
 - TL;DR: We propose a divide-and-conquer approach to train a log-pool of GFlowNets in an embarrassingly parallel fashion. Results show a significant speed up in learning when the unnormalized target is expensive to evaluate.
- Exploring scientific literature by textual and image content using DRIFT** Computer & Graphics 2022
 - Pocco, X., [da Silva, T.](#), Poco, J., Nonato, L. G., Gomez-Nieto, E.
 - TL;DR: We developed a text- and image-driven visualization-based search engine for scientific literature.

Preprints & Workshops

- Analyzing GFlowNets: Stability, Expressiveness, and Assessment** SPIGM @ ICML 2024
 - [da Silva, T.](#), Silva, E., Alves, R., Souza, A., Carvalho, L., Kaski, S., Garg, V., Mesquita, D.
 - TL;DR: We demonstrate that there are problems that a GNN-based GFlowNet cannot solve. By showing that conventional metrics fail at detecting this limitation, we also present a novel and sound metric for assessing GFlowNets.
- Human-aided Causal Discovery of Ancestral Graphs** LatinX @ NeurIPS 2024
 - [da Silva, T.](#), Silva, E., Góis, A., Heider, D., Kaski, S., Mesquita, D., Ribeiro, A.
 - TL;DR: We devise a Bayesian human-in-the-loop algorithm for causal discovery under latent confounding.

Research Experience

Green AI Lab, Brazil 2022/08 – ongoing

Working with probabilistic ML. My recent efforts were mostly directed towards leveraging GFlowNets for asynchronous and approximate Bayesian inference. I have also worked on geometric deep learning, learning theory, variational autoencoders, diffusion probabilistic models, and PINNs. Our current research led to publications at [ICML](#) and [NeurIPS](#).

Aalto University, Finland 2024/07 – 2024/10

I was a visiting scholar on the Probabilistic Machine Learning group under the supervision of Prof. Vikas Garg and Prof. Sami Kaski. I worked on developing (non-vacuous) statistical guarantees for GFlowNets and on geometric deep learning.

Visual Data Science Lab, Brazil 2020/08 – 2023/01

Research assistant supervised by Prof. Jorge Poco. I assisted the development of a framework for reverse engineering of visualizations (see the open-source library [REV](#)) and of a platform for image-based literature search (see our [C&G paper](#)).

¹Lowest-passing grade of 6.0.

Honors & Awards

Award for Academic Excellence , Brazilian Society of Applied and Computational Mathematics.	2023
First place , School of Applied Mathematics entrance exam.	2020
I was awarded <u>19 prizes in scientific competitions</u> during high school, including:	
William Glenn Whitley Prize for achieving the highest score on the State Mathematical Olympiad.	2019
Top score in the country , Brazilian Mathematical Olympiad of Public Schools.	2019
Top score in the country , Brazilian Mathematical Olympiad of Public Schools.	2018
Gold medal , Brazilian Chemistry Olympiad.	2018
Gold medal , Brazilian Mathematical Olympiad of Public Schools.	2017
Gold medals , State Chemistry Olympiad. Highest score in 2019.	2016-2019

Employment

Rei do Pitaco (largest fantasy sports company in Brazil)	2023/01 – 2023/07
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Data Science intern.<ul style="list-style-type: none">▸ Designed predictive models to define the opening lines of bets on the outcomes of sport events (bookmaking).▸ Deployed and upheld the created models within applications serving thousands of concurrent users.	

Teaching

I have worked as a teaching assistant (TA) for over three years in the School of Applied Mathematics. I was a TA in the courses of Exploratory Data Analysis (2021.1), Linear Algebra (2021.2), Probability (2022.1), Statistical Inference (2022.2), Machine Learning (2023.1), Time Series (2023.2, 2024.2), and in the graduate-level course of Machine Learning (2024.1). I assisted the professors with preparing and grading both homework and exams, and held office hours to support students.

Languages

Portuguese (Native), English

Skills

Computer languages: Proficient with Python and SQL. Competent with R and Stan. Familiar with C++ and JavaScript.

Scientific computing frameworks: PyTorch, PyTorch Geometric, GPyTorch, NumPy, SciPy.

Technologies: Git, Linux.

Data visualization: Matplotlib, Altair, Vega-lite, D3.

Computer vision libraries: OpenCV, YOLOv5, SAM.

References

Diego Mesquita	diego.mesquita@fgv.br
Amauri Souza	amauri.souza@aalto.fi