# Trang Nguyen

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#### **SUMMARY**

Ph.D. in Computer Science student with a research interest in Explainable AI (XAI), Time Series Analysis, and Sequential Learning.

#### **EDUCATION**

University College Dublin, Ireland

09/2019 - Present

Ph.D. Candidate, Computer Science (Machine Learning)

Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ

08/2016 - 05/2018

M.Sc., Business Analytics

M.B.A., Operational Management & Strategy

Nanyang Technological University, Singapore

08/2008 - 06/2012

B.Sc., Maritime Studies

#### **TECHNICAL SKILLS**

**Programming** Python, R Big Data PySpark 2.1

DatabaseMySQL, PostgreSQLSoftwareTableau, Redash, LATEX

Libraries Python: TensorFlow, PyTorch, Pandas, Numpy, Matplotlib, Scikit-learn

R: caret, dplyr, ggplot2

### **RESEARCH EXPERIENCES**

#### **Time Series Classification with Explanation**

11/2019 - Present

Ph.D. Candidate, University College Dublin

- · Advisor: Dr. Georgiana Ifrim, University College Dublin
- Themes: Explainable AI (XAI), Time Series Classification, Sequence Learning
- Research on methods and framework to evaluate both intrinsic and post-hoc XAI Methods
- Investigate Reliability and Robustness of post-hoc Deep Learning based XAI methods in Time Series Classification tasks
- Devise model-agnostic evaluation metrics to evaluate, measure, and compare quality of explanation across different algorithms
- Published and presented papers at ECML Workshop 2020, 2021

#### **Purchased Transportation Rate Prediction Model**

09/2017 - 05/2018

Data Analytics Consultant (Operations Research), FedEx Corporation & Arizona State University

- Proposed the idea of combining machine learning techniques and time series analysis to make prediction
- Gathered, cleaned, analyzed, engineered features from multiple sources to build predictive model that saved time and human efforts of doing manual budgeting
- Delivered a prediction model using Random Forest and Time Series Analysis that achieved Mean Absolute Percent Error (MAPE) of under 5% on 3-month data test data
- Created an interactive web-based application of the prediction model; Presented the result at FedEx Head Quarter; Published an internal white paper on the research

## **Behavioral Patterns Driving Success of Virtual Education**

08/2016 - 05/2018

Graduate Research Assistant (UX Research), EDPlus at Arizona State University

- Performed large-scale data pre-processing and visualization on edX database with Python and R
- · Explored behavior-based patterns driving metrics using principal component analysis and factor analysis
- Conducted feature importance analysis with Random Forest and Logistics Regression based on success metrics such as course completion and student retention

 Recommended a data-driven user-experience (UX) and course design for ASU's M.Sc. Computer Science, contributing to the launch of the program on Coursera in Fall 2018

#### **PUBLICATIONS**

**Nguyen T.T.**, Le Nguyen T., Ifrim G. (2020) *A Model-Agnostic Approach to Quantifying the Informativeness of Explanation Methods for Time Series Classification*. In: ECML Workshop 2020. Published in conference proceedings and part of Lecture Notes in Computer Science, vol 12588 (Springer, Cham). https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-65742-0\_6

Agarwal S.\*, Nguyen T.T.\*, Le Nguyen T., Ifrim G. (2021) Ranking by Aggregating Referees: Evaluating the Informativeness of Explanation Methods for Time Series Classification. In: ECML Workshop 2021

#### **TEACHING EXPERIENCES**

I am a Teaching Assistant for the following modules at University College Dublin:

Fall 2022	COMP47490	Machine Learning
Spring 2022	COMP47350	Data Analytics
Spring 2021	COMP47350	Data Analytics
Fall 2020	COMP47490	Machine Learning
	COMP20240	Relational Databases and Information Systems
Spring 2020	COMP47350	Data Analytics
	COMP40725	Introduction to Relational Databases and SQL Programming

#### **INDUSTRY EXPERIENCES**

## Trusting Social Ltd., Vietnam

08/2018 - 07/2019

Data Analyst

Trusting Social is a fin-tech startup reinventing credit scoring by combining Big Data technology with social, web, and mobile data. At Trusting Social, I worked directly with Chief Scientist and Lead Data Scientist on Credit Score and Income Score Modeling projects. My tasks include:

- Researched and enhanced accuracy of Credit Score V2 model, achieving Gini coefficient of 0.65-0.95 on backtesting datasets
- Conducted data preparation, data quality monitoring, feature engineering, and hyper parameters tuning on 100TB+ dataset using PySpark
- Participated in the experimental development of Income Score Model; Delivered Income Score V1 model for production after 8 months
- Evaluated, back-tested the Credit Scoring model; Advised optimal use of credit score for different products based on model back-test result

#### Shun Shing Group International, Singapore

09/2012 - 06/2016

Forward Freight Analyst (2014/16) & Market Research Analyst (2012/14)

Shun Shing Group is a trading, manufacturing, and shipping company. At Shun Shing Group, I worked in shipping department, specializing in providing both in-house and third-parties commodities traders with future ocean-shipping freight for dry-bulk commodities. My tasks include:

- Designed experiments to diagnose features driving contract pricing
- Performed hypothesis testing of the independent variables to confirm statistical significance
- · Led a market research analyst team to analyze, predict, and offer future prices to commodity traders
- Proposed, researched, and implemented use of Monte Carlo simulation and Stochastic process in price modeling and scenario analysis using @RISK

#### **SERVICES**

Peer Reviewer, European Conference on Machine Learning (ECML)

07/2022

Peer Reviewer, International Workshop on Advanced Analytics & Learning on Temporal Data (AALTD) 07/2022

## **AWARDS & HONORS**

Science Foudation Ireland Scholarship, University College Dublin	09/2019 - present
Forward Focus Scholarship, Arizona State University	08/2016 - 05/2018
Winner of Donald J. Bowersox Graduate Case Competition, Arizona State University	10/2017
CERTIFICATIONS	
Natural Language Processing Specialization, DeepLearning.Al	08/2020
Database Systems Concepts and Design, Georgia Institute of Technology	12/2018
10-Course Data Science Specialization, Johns Hopkins University	12/2017
Machine Learning, Stanford University	07/2017
LANGUAGES	

Vietnamese Native English Fluent