

# Trung Dao

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## EDUCATION

### University of Wisconsin-Madison

*Ph.D. in Computer Science*

USA

Jan 2026 – Expected 2030

### Thang Long University

*Bachelor of Computer Science; GPA: 9.0/10.0 (Valedictorian)*

Vietnam

Aug 2016 - April 2021

## EXPERIENCE

### Qualcomm AI Research

*Staff Machine Learning Engineer*

Vietnam

Nov 2025 - Jan 2026

- **On-Device Agentic AI:** Led the end-to-end quantization pipeline for InternVL3.5-VL for ambient mobile screen understanding, optimizing the model for ultra-low power, “always-on” capabilities on edge devices. Designed and delivered a performant on-device inference flow example. Contributed to model fine-tuning and deployment efforts.
- **Advanced Quantization:** Overcame critical W4A16 sensitivity in lightweight VLMs by implementing advanced techniques to stabilize weights and activations, ensuring high performance on Snapdragon devices.
- **Edge-First Multimodal AI:** Developing and optimizing cutting-edge multimodal models specifically tailored for resource-constrained edge devices.

### Qualcomm AI Research

*Senior Machine Learning Engineer*

Vietnam

Nov 2024 - Nov 2025

- Fast-tracked promotion to **Staff Engineer** after achieving a “Far Exceeds Expectations” (5/5) performance rating in the 2025 annual review.
- **Efficient diffusion models:**
  - Introduced a block-based distillation technique for the flux.1 model, reducing its size by 40% while maintaining over 95% performance integrity (only a 5% drop) on HPSv2 for internal benchmarks.
  - Developed an attention-based distillation method to compress text encoders for DiT-based models, enabling a seamless transition from T5-XXL to T5-base in PixArt-alpha with < 2% performance drop on HPSv2.
- **Cutting-edge models on edge devices quantization and deployment:** Developed the W4A16 quantization and deployment of LFM-2, the first hybrid transformer model successfully running on the Snapdragon Gen 5 chip. Achieved high-performance throughputs of **9000 tok/s** (prefilling) and **90 tok/s** (decoding).
- Role commenced with MovianAI, transitioning to a full Qualcomm position after the acquisition and integration in April.

### VinAI Research

*Research Resident*

Vietnam

March 2023 - Oct 2024

- **Advisor:** Dr. Anh Tran, Dr. Cuong Pham.
- **Research Focus:** Generative vision models, emphasizing GANs and diffusion models.
- **Past works:**
  - Improved quality of one-step and few-step text-to-image diffusion models [P2, P4, P5].
  - Introduced a novel diffusion model architecture integrating Mamba for enhanced efficiency and scalability [P3].
  - Developed a large-scale extreme-view face dataset to enhance synthesis quality and benchmark face recognition [P1].
- **Managing HPC cluster:** Managed and optimized a high-performance computing (HPC) cluster with 48 A100 GPUs, increasing real-time GPU utilization by **30x** through a novel queuing strategy.

### VinAI Research

*AI Engineer*

Vietnam

December 2020 - March 2023

- **Advisor:** Dr. Dzung Nguyen, Dr. Anh Tran, Prof. Minh Hoai Nguyen.
- **Face Recognition Module** (Role: Module Owner)
  - Multi-node model training on large-scale datasets (up to 60M images).
  - Created a framework for profiling, parameter tuning, and optimizing the training process on SLURM.
  - Developed Face Recognition Models for diverse applications, including masked face access control and surveillance CCTV, deployed at scale with **50K daily active identities**.
  - Achieved **8th** place overall (**2nd** on Masked Dataset) in ICCV21-MFR Competition, July 2022.

- Built multiple supporting apps for Face Recognition: Model Visualization, Video Inference, Data Labeling Tool (support semi-automated interclass/ intraclass cleaning).
- Quantized and deployed a module of 3 models on Qualcomm's AIC100 (up to 30 concurrent streams), also deployed to NVIDIA's device using TensorRT and to Android using multiple inference engines (ONNX, MNN, and NCNN).
- **Face Detection Module** (Role: Module Co-owner)
  - Trained multi-task masked-face detector for surveillance cameras, handling tiny faces, blocking artifacts and occlusions.
  - Participated in building the AI SDK. Optimized and deployed various models to run on Xilinx devices. Involved in building an asynchronous inference flow for multi-stream (using DeepStream), the final SDK can run up to **60 streams** simultaneously on Xilinx ZCU104.
  - Built an object detection visualization tool based on an open-source project to analyze data and model output.
  - Developed a framework to generate pseudo-masks for training datasets using 2D and 3D methods.
- **Traffic Sign/Light Recognition Module for Autonomous Driving** (Role: Module Co-owner)
  - Designed a novel data pipeline based on CVAT to accelerate video dataset labeling, achieving a dataset with *six superclasses and 317 child classes*.
  - Co-managed labeling team to guarantee the data's quality.
  - Developed a hierarchical multi-task model, achieving an F1-score of **98.3** on a private long-tailed dataset of **171 classes**.
  - Addressed varying lighting conditions and implemented a ReID model to enhance traffic sign tracking accuracy.
  - Quantized and deployed models using TensorRT for NVIDIA's device.
- **Other projects**
  - **Noise Cancelling on Smartphone** Responsible for converting models across various frameworks (PyTorch, TensorFlow, ONNX) into TFLite, followed by quantization and smartphone deployment. Optimized existing algorithm with FFT, achieving a **40%** runtime reduction.
  - **SmartData** Redesigned the data labeling pipeline of the backend system built with Flask. Introduced a new end-to-end multi-step labeling feature, improving labeling efficiency by **30%**.

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

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**Reviewer:** ICCV(2025), ICLR(2025), WACV(2025), NeurIPS(2024), CVPR(2023, 2024, 2025), ECCV(2024), ACCV(2022, 2024).

## CERTIFICATES, HONORS AND AWARDS

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### Top 5 Exceptional Vietnamese AI Talents

*VNExpress AI Awards* 2025

### Rank 2nd (Masked Dataset); 8th (Overall)

*ICCV21-MFR Competition* 2021

### Academic Excellence Scholarship

*Thang Long University* 2016-2021

### First Runner-up

*VietAI Machine Learning Foundation Hanoi* 2020

### First Runner-up

*Fintech Track, Junction X Hanoi* 2018

### Rank 76th

*ICPC Asia Hanoi Regional Contest* 2018

## SKILLS SUMMARY

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**Languages:** C++, Python, Unix scripting, SQL

**Tools:** PyTorch, TensorFlow, TensorRT, AIMET, ONNX, NCNN, MNN, OpenCV, Docker, Git, Jira

## REFERENCES

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**Dr. Dzung Nguyen:** Director, Engineering, Qualcomm AI Research, Vietnam: [dungnt@qti.qualcomm.com](mailto:dungnt@qti.qualcomm.com)

**Dr. Anh Tran:** Principal Engineer, Qualcomm AI Research, Vietnam: [anhtra@qti.qualcomm.com](mailto:anhtra@qti.qualcomm.com)

**Prof. Minh Hoai Nguyen:** Deputy Director of AIML, University of Adelaide, Australia: [mh.nguyen@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:mh.nguyen@adelaide.edu.au)

## PUBLICATIONS

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(\*) denotes equal contribution.

- [P1] **Trung Dao\***, Duc Hong Vu\*, Cuong Pham and Anh Tran. "EFHQ: Multi-purpose ExtremePose-Face-HQ dataset." CVPR, 2024.
- [P2] **Trung Dao**, Thuan Nguyen, Thanh Le, Duc Vu, Khoi Nguyen, Cuong Pham, Anh Tran.  
"SwiftBrushV2: Make Your One-step Diffusion Model Better Than Its Teacher." ECCV, 2025.
- [P3] Hao Phung\*, Quan Dao\*, **Trung Dao**, Hoang Phan, Dimitris N. Metaxas, Anh Tran.  
"DiMSUM: Diffusion Mamba - A Scalable and Unified Spatial-Frequency Method For Image Generation." NeurIPS, 2024.
- [P4] Quan Dao\*, Hao Phung\*, **Trung Dao**, Dimitris N. Metaxas, Anh Tran.  
"Self-Corrected Flow Distillation for Consistent One-Step and Few-Step Image Generation." AAAI, 2025.
- [P5] Viet Nguyen\*, Viet Nguyen\*, **Trung Dao**, Toan Tran, Anh Tran.  
"SNOOPI: Supercharged One-step Diffusion Distillation with Proper Guidance." ICCV, 2025.
- [P6] Anh Nguyen\*, Viet Nguyen\*, Duc Vu, **Trung Dao**, Chi Tran, Toan Tran, Anh Tran.  
"Improved Training Technique for Shortcut Models." NeurIPS, 2025.