MINGZE WANG

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SHORT BIO

I am a fourth-year Ph.D candidate in Computational Mathematics, Peking University. I am very fortunate to be advised by Prof. Weinan E. Prior to that, I received my B.S. degree in Pure and Applied Mathematics (ranking 1/111 for the first three years during my undergraduate study) from Zhejiang University in 2021. My homepage is https://wmz9.github.io/.

EDUCATION

Peking University

Beijing, China

Ph.D Candidate, Computational Mathematics

2021.09 - Present

School of Mathematical Sciences

Advisor: Prof. Weinan E.

Zhejiang University

Hangzhou, China 2017.09 - 2021.06

Bachelor of Science, Pure and Applied Mathematics

School of Mathematical Sciences

Academic ranking: 1/111, Comprehensive ranking: 1/111, Major GPA: 4.84/5 (95.5/100).

RESEARCH INTERESTS

I am broadly interested in theory, algorithm and application of machine learning. I am also interested in non-convex and convex optimization. Recently, I am also dedicated to use theory to design algorithms elegantly. Specifically, my recent research topics are

- Deep learning theory: theory and theory-inspired algorithm [1][2][3][4][5][6][8][9][10][11][12][13][15][16][17][18][19]
 - Expressivity: Explore the expressive power of Transformers through the lens of approximation theory [8][12]; the expressivity of mixture-of-experts (MoE) [16].
 - Optimization: Why can optimization algorithms converge to global minima when training neural networks [2][4][12]?
 - Implicit Bias: Why can optimization algorithms converge to global minima with favorable generalization ability when training neural networks? Flat-minima-bias [3][5][9][10][11]; max-margin-bias aspects [4][6].
 - Generalization: How to measure the generalization ability of neural networks [1].
 - Algorithm Design: For machine learning problems, design new provable optimization algorithms which can (i) converge faster / more stably [10][13][17][18][19]; (ii) generalize better [6][10].
- Transformer and LLMs: theory and algorithm, especially in LLM pre-training. [8][10][12][13][15][16][17][18][19]
 - **Expressivity**: The expressive power and mechanisms of Transformer [8][12]; the expressivity of Mixture-of-experts (MoE) [16]; the mechanisms of in-context learning [12].
 - Algorithm Design: Design provable faster/stabler optimizers for training LLMs [10][13][17][18][19]; design more efficient model architectures;
- Non-convex and Convex Optimization: theory and algorithm. [2][4][6][10][11][12][13][14][17][18][19]
 - Convex Optimization in ML. [6]
 - Non-convex Optimization in ML. [2][4][10][11][12][13][14][17][18][19]
 - Algorithm Design: Design provable faster / more stable optimizers for training neural networks [10][13][17][18][1 accelerate the convergence for the problems with specific structure [6].

Now, I am supported by the Young Scientists (Ph.D) Fund of the National Natural Science Foundation of China (¥300,000) ("Analyzing and Improving the Adam Optimizer for Foundation Model Training").

	Expressivity	Optimization	Generalization
	& approximation power	& training dynamics	& implicit bias
Theory	• transformer models	• fully-connected networks	• flatness bias
	work [8][12]	work [2][4]	work [3][5][9][10][11]
	• mixture-of-experts models	• transformer models	• margin bias
	work [16]	work [12]	work [4][6]
Algorithm	• more efficient models	• faster / stable convergence	• better generalization
	work [20]	work [10][13][17][18] [19]	work [6][10]

- Works [1]~[18] have been published, preprinted, or submitted.
- Works [19][20] is in preparation.

PUBLICATIONS & PREPRINTS

- * indicates equal contribution; † means project lead.
- 19. Mingze Wang[†] et al., Conserved Quantities in Language Model Pre-Training: Theory and Applications. (In preparation)
- 18. Mingze Wang[†], Jinbo Wang, Jiaqi Zhang, Peng Pei, Wei Wang, Xunliang Cai, Weinan E, Lei Wu, Grad-Power: Powering Gradients for Faster Language Model Pre-Training. arXiv preprint: 2505.24275, 1-22. (submitted to NeurIPS 2025). 2025.
- 17. Shengtao Guo*, Mingze Wang*, Jinbo Wang, Lei Wu. A Mechanistic Study of Transformer Training Instability under Mixed Precision. (submitted to NeurIPS 2025). 2025.
- 16. Mingze Wang[†], Weinan E. On the Expressive Power of Mixture-of-Experts for Structured Complex Tasks. arXiv preprint: 2505.24205, 1-18. (submitted to NeurIPS 2025). 2025.
- 15. Tongcheng Zhang, Zhanpeng Zhou, Mingze Wang, Andi Han, Wei Huang, Taiji Suzuki, Junchi Yan. On the Learning Dynamics of Two-layer ReLU Networks with Label Noise SGD.

 ICML 2025 Workshop on High-dimensional Learning Dynamics (ICML 2025 Workshop HiLD), 2025.
- 14. Tongtian Zhu, Tianyu Zhang, Mingze Wang, Zhanpeng Zhou, Can Wang. A Single Global Merging Suffices: Recovering Centralized Learning Performance in Decentralized Learning.

 ICLR 2025 Workshop on Weight Space Learning (ICLR 2025 Workshop WSL). 2025.
- 13. Jinbo Wang*, Mingze Wang*,†, Zhanpeng Zhou*, Junchi Yan, Weinan E, Lei Wu. The Sharpness Disparity Principle in Transformers for Accelerating Language Model Pre-Training.

 International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML 2025), 1-23. 2025.
- Mingze Wang[†], Ruoxi Yu, Weinan E, Lei Wu. How Transformers Get Rich: Approximation and Dynamics Analysis. arXiv preprint: 2410.11474, 1-47.
 ICML 2025 Workshop on High-dimensional Learning Dynamics (ICML 2025 Workshop HiLD), 2024.
- 11. Zhanpeng Zhou*, Mingze Wang*, Yuchen Mao, Bingrui Li, Junchi Yan. Sharpness-Aware Minimization Efficiently Selects Flatter Minima Late in Training.

 International Conference on Learning Representations (ICLR 2025, Spotlight (Top 5.1%)), 1-31. 2024.
- 10. Mingze Wang[†], Jinbo Wang, Haotian He, Zilin Wang, Guanhua Huang, Feiyu Xiong, Zhiyu Li, Weinan E, Lei Wu. Improving Generalization and Convergence by Enhancing Implicit Regularization. Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS 2024), 1-44. 2024.
- 9. Liu Ziyin, Mingze Wang, Hongchao Li, Lei Wu. Loss Symmetry and Noise Equilibrium of Stochastic Gradient Descent.
 - Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS 2024), 1-26. 2024.

- 8. Mingze Wang, Weinan E. Understanding the Expressive Power and Mechanisms of Transformer for Sequence Modeling.
 - Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS 2024), 1-76. 2024.
- 7. Guanhua Huang, Yuchen Zhang, Zhe Li, Yongjian You, **Mingze Wang**, Zhouwang Yang. **Are AI-Generated Text Detectors Robust to Adversarial Perturbations?**
 - Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL 2024), 1-20. 2024.
- 6. Mingze Wang[†], Zeping Min, Lei Wu. Achieving Margin Maximization Exponentially Fast via Progressive Norm Rescaling.
 - International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML 2024), 1-38. 2023.
- 5. Mingze Wang, Lei Wu. A Theoretical Analysis of Noise Geometry in Stochastic Gradient Descent.

 NeurIPS 2023 Workshop on Mathematics of Modern Machine Learning (NeurIPS 2023 Workshop M3L).

 arXiv preprint: 2310.00692, 1-30. 2023.
- 4. Mingze Wang[†], Chao Ma. Understanding Multi-phase Optimization Dynamics and Rich Nonlinear Behaviors of ReLU Networks.
 - Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS 2023, Spotlight (Top 3.5%)), 1-94. 2023.
- 3. Lei Wu, Mingze Wang, Weijie J. Su. The alignment property of SGD noise and how it helps select flat minima: A stability analysis.
 - Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS 2022), 1-25. 2022.
- 2. Mingze Wang[†], Chao Ma. Early Stage Convergence and Global Convergence of Training Mildly Parameterized Neural Networks.
 - Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS 2022), 1-73. 2022.
- 1. Mingze Wang[†], Chao Ma. Generalization Error Bounds for Deep Neural Networks Trained by SGD. Under review. arXiv preprint: 2206.03299, 1-32. 2022.

SERVICE

Conference: Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems (**NeurIPS**); International Conference on Machine Learning (**ICML**); International Conference on Learning Representations (**ICLR**); Artificial Intelligence and Statistics (**AISTATS**).

Journal: Journal of Machine Learning Research (**JMLR**); Transactions on Pattern Analysis and Machine Intelligence (**TPAMI**); Pattern Recognition (**PR**); Transactions on Machine Learning Research (**TMLR**); Journal of Machine Learning (**JML**); Communications in Mathematical Sciences (**CMS**).

SELECTED AWARDS & HONOURS

Young Scientists (Ph.D) Fund of the National Natural Science Foundation of China (300,000 RMB). 2024.12			
National Scholarship (top 0.2% in the nation; 30,000 RMB), The Ministry of Education.	2024.09		
Principal Scholarship (70,000 RMB), Peking University.	2024, 2025.05		
BICMR Mathematical Award for Graduate Students (top 1%; 110,000 RMB), Peking University.	2023.11		
Schlumberge Scholarship (30,000 RMB), Peking University.	2022.10		
PKU Academic Innovation Award (top 1%), Peking University.	2022.10		
Outstanding Graduate of Zhejiang Province (top 5%); Outstanding Graduate of ZJU	2021.05		
National Scholarship (top 0.2% in the nation)	2019.10		
First Class Scholarship of ZJU (top 3%)	2019, 2020.10		
Zhejiang Provincial Government Scholarship	2018.10		
First Prize of Mathematical Contest in Modeling of ZJU (top 1%)	2020.06		
Meritourious Award in The Mathematical Contest in Modeling	2020.02		
National Second Prize of Chinese Undergraduate Mathematical Contest in Modeling (top 2.5%)	2019.10		

TEACHING

Peking University

Beijing, China

Teaching assistant: Deep Learning Theory, taught by Prof. Zhiyuan Li (TTIC)

Summer School 2023.

Teaching assistant: Calculus (A)

Fall 2021

Teaching assistant: Calculus (B) Fall 2022, 2023, 2024; Spring 2022, 2023, 2024

EXPERIENCE

LLM pre-training:

• Meituan, LLM pretraining group

Beijing, China

Algorithm Intern 2025.01 - 2025.05

Work on designing stable and faster optimization algorithms for LLM pretraining [18][19].

• Institute for Advanced Algorithms Research, LLM group

Shanghai, China

Algorithm Intern

2023.12 - 2024.08

Work on designing faster optimizers for LLM pretraining [10][13].

• Xiaohongshu, LLM group (Excepted)

Beijing, China Expected (2025)

Algorithm Intern (Redstar top intern program)

Will work on exploring better scaling laws for LLM pretraining.

LLM post-training:

• Tencent, LLM group (Expected)

Beijing, China Expected (2025)

Algorithm Intern (Qingyun top intern program)

Will work on designing better RLHF algorithms.

Quantitative trading:

• Wizard Quant (Expected)

Shanghai, China

Algorithm Intern (top intern program)

Expected (2025)

Will work on designer better machine learning models in quantitative trading.

Others:

• Moqi Technology

Beijing, China

Algorithm Intern

2021.09 - 2022.06

Work on privacy-preserving computer vision.