Zhewei Yao | Curriculum Vitae

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I am a Ph.D. student in the RISELab (former AMPLab), BDD and Math Department at University of California at Berkeley. I am advised by Michael Mahoney. My research interest lies in computing statistics, optimization and machine learning. Currently, I am interested in leveraging tools from randomized linear algebra to provide efficient and scalable solutions for large-scale optimization and learning problems. I am also working on the theory and application of deep learning.

Education

- **University of California at Berkeley** — **CA, USA**
  Ph.D. in Applied Mathematics, Department of Mathematics — *Sep. 2016–Present*

- **Shanghai Jiao Tong University** — **Shanghai China**
  B.S. in Applied Mathematics, Zhiyuan Honor College — *Sep. 2012–Jun. 2016*

Publications

- **JumpReLU: A Retrofit Defense Strategy for Adversarial Attacks**
  B Erichson, **Z Yao***, MW Mahoney*
  Under review

- **Trust Region Based Adversarial Attack on Neural Networks**
  ***Z Yao**, A Gholami, P Xu, K Keutzer, MW Mahoney*
  Under review

- **Parameter Re-Initialization through Cyclical Batch Scheduling**
  N Mu, **Z Yao***, A Gholami, K Keutzer, MW Mahoney*
  arxiv preprint 1812.01216
  Proc. MLSYS Workshop at NeurIPS 2018.

- **On the Computational Inefficiency of Large Batch Sizes for Stochastic Gradient Descent**
  *N Golmant, N Vemuri, **Z Yao**, V Feinberg, A Gholami, K Rothauge, MW Mahoney, J Gonzalez*
  arxiv preprint 1811.12941
  Under Review

- **Large batch size training of neural networks with adversarial training and second-order information**
  Z Yao, A Gholami*, K Keutzer, MW Mahoney*
  arxiv preprint 1810.01021
  Under Review

- **Hessian-based Analysis of Large Batch Training and Robustness to Adversaries**
  Z Yao, A Gholami*, Q Lei K Keutzer, MW Mahoney*
  arxiv preprint 1802.08241
  Proc. NeurIPS 2018

- **Inexact non-convex Newton-type methods**
  ***Z Yao**, P Xu, F Roosta-Khorasani, MW Mahoney*
  arxiv preprint 1802.06925
  Under review

- **A hybrid adaptive MCMC algorithm in function spaces**
  *Q Zhou, Z Hu, **Z Yao**, J Li*
  arxiv preprint 1607.01458
  SIAM/ASA Journal on Uncertainty Quantification 5 (1), 621-639

- **On an adaptive preconditioned Crank–Nicolson MCMC algorithm for infinite dimensional Bayesian inference**
  Z Hu, **Z Yao***, J Li*
  arxiv preprint 1511.05838
  Journal of Computational Physics 332, 492-503

- **A TV-Gaussian prior for infinite-dimensional Bayesian inverse problems and its numerical implementation**
  Z Yao, Z Hu*, J Li*
  arxiv preprint 1510.05239
  Inverse Problems 32 (7), 075006 (*Highlight Paper*)

Research Experiences

- **University of California at Berkeley** **CA, USA**
  Ph.D. Reesearcher at RiseLab and BDD *Sep. 2016–Present*
  - Use Hessian information to train neural networks for large batch training
  - Investigate the scaling behavior of stochastic gradient descent with large batch sizes for neural networks
  - Propose stochastic variants of 2nd-order methods for non-convex optimization problem and establish theories
  - Apply deep learning to other fields, e.g. scientific datasets and fluid dynamics
  - Analyzed large batch training and robustness of neural networks with Hessian information

- **Lawrence Berkeley Notional Laboratory** **CA, USA**
  Researcher intern at NERSC *May. 2018–Aug. 2018*
  - Implemented CPU Parallelization of PyTorch to train large climate dataset (over 400 Gb)
  - Tested robustness on models trained with scientific datasets

- **Undergraduate Researcher at Zhiyuan College** **Shanghai, China**
  Researcher intern at NERSC *Sep. 2014–Jun. 2016*
  - Considered MCMC algorithm in infinite-dimensional space
  - Designed a TG-prior with better edge-preserving property and two new adaptive algorithms

Others

- **Programming Languages:** C++, Matlab, Python, Pytorch, Tensorflow
- **Conference Reviewer:** NeurIPS 2018, ICLR 2019
- **Teaching:**
  - **Stat 89A: Linear Algebra for Data Science** — **UC Berkeley**
    Graduate Student Instructor — *Spring 2018*
  - **Math 16A: Analytic Geometry and Calculus** — **UC Berkeley**
    Graduate Student Instructor — *Spring 2017 & Fall 2016*