

Trustworthy Machine Learning and Reasoning Group



Mr. Tianlong Chen

Forth-year Ph.D. Candidate
Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering,
University of Texas at Austin



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Finding Good, Cheap, and Transferrable Sparsity: From Fundamental to Advanced Models



ABSTRACT

Sparsity is commonly produced from the model compression (i.e., pruning), which eliminates unnecessary parameters. However, identifying high-quality sparse patterns without sacrificing performance is extremely expensive. Fortunately, to amortize the cost, our recent work demonstrates one kind of sparsity capable of universally transferring across diverse downstream tasks. It provides an efficient and effective "copy" of its dense counterpart especially valuable for enormous pre-trained models. Beyond this, sparsity also serves as an important tool for modeling the underlying low dimensionality of NNs, for understanding their generalization, implicit regularization, expressivity, and robustness. In this talk, I will first discuss, practically, why the sparsity is treasured and how to find it. Then I will present, theoretically, how to understand the universal transferability of our located sparse NNs. Finally, I will describe what is the prospect of exploiting sparsity in future and show some preliminary results on protein engineering and quantum circuits design.



BIOGRAPHY

Tianlong Chen is currently a forth-year Ph.D. candidate of Electrical and Computer Engineering at University of Texas at Austin, advised by Dr. Zhangyang (Atlas) Wang. Before coming to UT Asutin, Tianlong received his Bachelor's degree at Univeristy of Science and Technology of China. His research focuses on building efficient, accurate, robust, and automated machine learning systems. Recently, Tianlong is working on extreme sparse neural networks with undamaged trainability, expressivity, and transferability. Tianlong has published more than 60+ papers at top-tier venues (NeurIPS, ICML, ICLR, CVPR, ICCV, ECCV, etc.). Tianlong is a recipient of the 2021 IBM PhD Fellowship Award, 2021 Graduated Dean's Prestigious Fellowship, and 2022 Adobe PhD Fellowship Award. Tianlong has conducted research internships at Google, IBM Research, Facebook Research, Microsoft Research, and Walmart Technology.

ENQUIRY

Email: bhanml@comp.hkbu.edu.hk