

# Shijian Xu

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## Education

- **Universität Basel** **Basel, Switzerland**  
Ph.D. student 04/2024 – 04/2028 (expected)  
Supervisor: Prof. Volker Roth
- **EPFL** **Lausanne, Switzerland**  
M.Sc. in Data Science 09/2020 – 02/2023  
Thesis: Weight Averaging for Out-of-Distribution Generalization and Few-Shot Domain Adaptation  
Supervisor: Prof. Grigorios Chrysos & Prof. Volkan Cevher
- **Nanjing University** **Nanjing, China**  
B.Sc. in Computer Science and Technology 09/2014 – 06/2018  
Thesis: Predicting Smartphone App Usage with Recurrent Neural Networks  
Supervisor: Prof. Wenzhong Li

## Publications & Preprints

- NIMO: a Nonlinear Interpretable Model  
**Shijian Xu**, Marcello Massimo Negri, Volker Roth  
ICLR 2026
- Simple Control Baselines for Evaluating Transfer Learning  
Andrei Atanov\*, **Shijian Xu\***, Onur Beker, Andrei Filatov, Amir Zamir  
arXiv, 2022
- Predicting Smartphone App Usage with Recurrent Neural Networks  
**S. Xu**, W. Li, X. Zhang, S. Gao, T. Zhan, Y. Zhao, W.-W. Zhu, T. Sun  
International Conference on Wireless Algorithms, Systems, and Applications (WASA), 2018

## Experience

- **University of Basel** **Basel, Switzerland**  
*Ph.D. research* 08/2024 – Current
  - First project: a nonlinear yet interpretable model that preserves the transparency of linear models while capturing the complex representations enabled by neural networks
  - Currently working on interpretability of Mixture-of-Experts models
- **Roche** **Basel, Switzerland**  
*PMDA Summer School 2024* 05/08/2024 – 09/08/2024
  - Predicting and understanding protein turnover in vitro and in vivo
- **LIONS Lab, EPFL** **Lausanne, Switzerland**  
*Master Thesis, supervisor: Dr. Grigorios Chrysos & Prof. Volkan Cevher* 09/2022 – 02/2023  
Out-of-Distribution Generalization
  - Improved weight averaging based method for OOD generalization and few-shot domain adaptation
- **DisneyResearch|Studios** **Zürich, Switzerland**  
*Research Intern, mentor: Dr. Christopher Schroers & Dr. Abdelaziz Djelouah* 02/2022 – 08/2022
  - Image super-resolution
- **VILAB, EPFL** **Lausanne, Switzerland**  
*Semester Project, supervisor: Prof. Amir Zamir* 03/2021 – 12/2021  
Evaluation of Self-Supervised Learning
  - Proposed an evaluation standard for measuring the effectiveness of pre-training methods

- **Tencent PCG** **Shanghai, China**  
*Research Intern*  
 - Transformer-based multi-label image classification 07/2021 – 09/2021
- **Tencent AI Lab** **Shenzhen, China**  
*Research Intern*  
 - Self-supervised multi-modal video classification 02/2020 – 08/2020
- **City University of Hong Kong** **Hong Kong**  
*Researcher*  
 - Deep learning for image specular highlight removal  
 - Semi-supervised single image heavy rain removal 09/2018 – 12/2019
- **Nanjing University** **Nanjing, China**  
*Project Student, supervisor: Prof. Wenzhong Li*  
 - LSTM based model for app usage prediction and recommendation 09/2015 – 06/2018

## Teaching

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Teaching assistant on the following courses:

- Scientific Computing (University of Basel) 2024, 2025

## Awards

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- Second Prize of Excellent Bachelor Thesis Award, Nanjing University 2018
- Third Prize of Elite Program Scholarship, Nanjing University 2017
- Honorable Mention for MCM 2017, Nanjing University 2017
- Third Prize of People's Scholarship, Nanjing University 2016
- Second Prize of People's Scholarship, Nanjing University 2015

## Languages

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- **English:** Advanced, TOEFL iBT 103 (2023)
- **German:** Beginner, A2
- **French:** Beginner, A1/A2
- **Chinese:** Native