HANCHENG MIN

Postdoctoral Researcher ◇ *Center for Innovation in Data Engineering and Science (IDEAS)*
Electrical and Systems Engineering ◇ *University of Pennsylvania*
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EDUCATION

Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD — *September 2018 - July 2023*
Ph.D., Electrical and Computer Engineering

University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA — *September 2016 - May 2018*
Master of Science in Engineering, Electrical and Systems Engineering

Tongji University, Shanghai, China — *September 2012 - July 2016*
Bachelor of Engineering, Major: Automation

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Postdoctoral Researcher, Vidal-lab, University of Pennsylvania — *August 2023 - Present*
Advisor: René Vidal

Graduate Research Assistant, NetD-lab, Johns Hopkins University — *September 2018 - July 2023*
Primary Advisor: Enrique Mallada; *Co-advisor*: René Vidal

Graduate Research Assistant, Kod*lab, University of Pennsylvania — *June 2017 - May 2018*
Mentor: Ömür Arslan

PUBLICATIONS

Preprints

[P1] **H. Min** and E. Mallada, "Learning dynamic clusters in weakly-connected coherent network systems," 2023, in preparation.

[P2] **H. Min**, R. Pates, and E. Mallada, "A frequency domain analysis of slow coherency in networked systems," 2023, submitted to *Automatica*, under review, under revision.

[P3] **H. Min**, S. Tarmoun, R. Vidal, and E. Mallada, "Convergence and implicit bias of gradient flow on overparametrized linear networks," 2023, in preparation.

Journal

[J1] A. Castellano, **H. Min**, J. Bazerque, and E. Mallada, "Learning to act safely with limited exposure and almost sure certainty," *IEEE Transaction on Automatic Control (**TAC**)*, vol. 68, no. 5, pp. 2979–2994, May 2023.

[J2] **H. Min**, F. Paganini, and E. Mallada, "Accurate reduced order models for coherent heterogeneous generators," *IEEE Control Systems Letters (**L-CSS**)*, vol. 5, no. 5, pp. 1741–1746, Nov. 2021, also in ACC 2021.

Conference

[C1] Y. Jiang, **H. Min**, and B. Zhang, "Oscillations-aware frequency security assessment via efficient worst-case frequency nadir computation," in *Power Systems Computation Conference (**PSCC**)*, to appear, Jun. 2024.

[C2] **H. Min**, E. Mallada, and R. Vidal, "Early neuron alignment in two-layer relu networks with small initialization," in *International Conference on Learning Representations (**ICLR**)*, to appear, May 2024, pp. 1–8.

[C3] A. Castellano, **H. Min**, J. Bazerque, and E. Mallada, "Learning safety critics via a non-contractive binary bellman operator," 2023, to appear in *Asilomar Conference on Signals, Systems, and Computers*.

[C4] **H. Min** and E. Mallada, "Learning coherent clusters in weakly-connected network systems," in *Proceedings of The 5th Annual Learning for Dynamics and Control Conference (**L4DC**)*, vol. 211, PMLR, Jun. 2023, pp. 1167–1179.

[C5] **H. Min** and E. Mallada, "Spectral clustering and model reduction for weakly-connected coherent network systems," in *2023 American Control Conference (**ACC**)*, 2023, pp. 2957–2962.

[C6] **H. Min**, R. Vidal, and E. Mallada, "On the convergence of gradient flow on multi-layer linear models," in *Proceedings of the 40th International Conference on Machine Learning (**ICML**)*, vol. 202, PMLR, Jun. 2023, pp. 24 850–24 887.

[C7] Z. Xu, **H. Min**, S. Tarmoun, E. Mallada, and R. Vidal, "Linear convergence of gradient descent for finite width over-parametrized linear networks with general initialization," in *Proceedings of The 26th International Conference on Artificial Intelligence and Statistics (**AISTATS**)*, vol. 206, PMLR, Apr. 2023, pp. 2262–2284.

[C8] A. Castellano, **H. Min**, J. A. Bazerque, and E. Mallada, "Reinforcement learning with almost sure constraints," in *The 4th Annual Learning for Dynamics and Control Conference (**L4DC**)*, vol. 168, PMLR, Jun. 2022, pp. 559–570.

[C9] **H. Min**, S. Tarmoun, R. Vidal, and E. Mallada, "On the explicit role of initialization on the convergence and implicit bias of overparametrized linear networks," in *The 38th International Conference on Machine Learning (**ICML**)*, vol. 139, PMLR, Jul. 2021, pp. 7760–7768.

[C10] **H. Min** and E. Mallada, "Dynamics concentration of tightly-connected large-scale networks," in *58th IEEE Conference on Decision and Control (**CDC**)*, Dec. 2019, pp. 758–763.

[C11] O. Arslan, **H. Min**, and D. E. Koditschek, "Voronoi-based coverage control of pan/tilt/zoom camera networks," in *2018 IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation (**ICRA**)*, May 2018, pp. 5062–5069.

Thesis

[T1] **H. Min**, "Exploiting structural properties in the analysis of high-dimensional dynamical systems," Ph.D. Thesis, M.S. thesis, Johns Hopkins University, 2023.

[T2] **H. Min**, "On balancing event and area coverage in mobile sensor networks," Master's Thesis, M.S. thesis, University of Pennsylvania, 2018.

SEMINARS, TALKS, AND POSTER PRESENTATIONS

DeepMath 2023, Johns Hopkins University	*Nov. 2023*
40th International Conference on Machine Learning, Honolulu, HI	*Aug. 2023*
5th Annual Learning for Dynamics & Control Conference, Philadephia, PA	*Jul. 2023*
American Control Conference 2023, San Diego, CA	*Jun. 2023*
University of Michigan. Host: Necmiye Ozay	*Jan. 2023*
ROSEI Summit, Johns Hopkins University	*Jan. 2023*
RSRG Seminar, California Institute of Technology. Hosts: Adam Wierman, Steven Low	*Jun. 2022*
Semiautonomous seminar, UCBerkeley. Hosts: Chinmay Maheshwari, Shankar Sastry	*Jun. 2022*
MINDS Retreat, Johns Hopkins University	*Mar. 2022*
2022 TRIPODS Winter School on Interplay between AI and Dyn. Sys., virtual	*Jan. 2022*
2021 THEORINET Retreat, virtual	*Sep. 2021*
38th International Conference on Machine Learning, virtual	*Jul. 2021*

American Control Conference 2021, virtual *May. 2021*
58th Conference on Decision and Control, Nice, France *Dec. 2019*

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Technical Reviewer

- *Journals*: Transaction on Automatic Control (TAC); Automatica; Control System Letter (L-CSS); Transaction on Machine Learning Research (TMLR)
- *Conferences*: International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML); Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition Conference (CVPR); Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS); International Conference on Learning Representations (ICLR); Conference on Decision and Control (CDC); American Control Conference (ACC); Conference on Information Sciences and Systems (CISS)

University Service

- Pre-evaluation Admission Committee Member: UPenn ESE PhD Student Search *Dec. 2023*

AWARDS AND HONORS

MINDS Data Science Spring Fellowship 2021 *Jan. 2021*
MINDS Data Science Fellowship 2019/2020 *Nov. 2019*
ICRA 2018 Best Paper in Multirobot Nominee *Mar. 2018*
Tongji Scholarship of Excellence *2013-2015*
Chinese Mathematics Competition (Shanghai Preliminary) *Nov. 2013*

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teaching Assistant

- *Foundations of Reinforcement Learning* (Fall 2020, Fall 2021, Fall 2022), Johns Hopkins University
- *Control Systems*, (Spring 2022), Johns Hopkins University
- *Networked Dynamical Systems*, (Fall 2019), Johns Hopkins University
- *edX Course: Robotics: Locomotion and Engineering* (Spring 2018), Penn Engineering Online Learning

ADVISING AND MENTORING

Mentoring

Vijay Giri *Ph.D. Student, University of Pennsylvania*
Department of Computer and Information Science. Advisor: René Vidal
Research Project: Learning Boolean functions with multi-head transformer

Nghia Nguyen *Ph.D. Student, University of Pennsylvania*
Department of Computer and Information Science. Advisor: René Vidal
Research Project: Implicit bias of masked autoencoder

Dimitris Dimos *Ph.D. Student, University of Pennsylvania*
Department of Computer and Information Science. Advisor: René Vidal
Research Project: Generative model for videos

Kyle Poe *Ph.D. Student, University of Pennsylvania*
Department of Mathematics. Advisor: René Vidal
Research Project: Sparse inputs recovery for LTI systems

Ziqing Xu *Ph.D. Student, University of Pennsylvania*
Wharton Statistics and Data Science. Advisor: René Vidal
Research Project: Convergence of gradient descent on linear networks

Agustin Castellano *Ph.D. Student, Johns Hopkins University*
Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering. Advisor: Enrique Mallada
Research Project: Reinforcement learning with almost sure safety

REFERENCES

Enrique Mallada *Ph.D. Advisor*
Associate Professor, Electrical and Computer Engineering
Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD

René Vidal *Postdoc Advisor*
Rachleff University Professor, Electrical and Systems Engineering
University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA

Fernando Paganini
Professor, Electrical and Telecommunications Engineering
Universidad ORT Uruguay, Montevideo, Uruguay

Juan Bazerque
Assistant Professor
University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA