Special Issue

Transfer Learning: Techniques and Applications

Message from the Guest Editors

This Special Issue aims to compile recent advances in transfer learning, including novel methods, theoretical foundations, and practical applications. Topics of interest include, but are not limited to, the following:

-
- Novel methods and theoretical frameworks for transfer learning and domain adaptation.
- Novel pre-training strategies (e.g., self-supervised, supervised, domain-specific) and their impact on downstream tasks.
- Novel methods for cross-domain, cross-task and cross-modal transfer learning.
- Techniques for dealing with domain shift, catastrophic forgetting, and negative transfer.
- Transfer learning across different data modalities (e.g., vision, text, speech, graphs, time series) or structures.
- Applications of transfer learning to solve real-world challenges (e.g., simulation to reality, medical image analysis, robotics, autonomous systems, computer vision, engineering and Industry 4.0).
- Empirical investigations and benchmarks comparing different transfer learning approaches.
- Investigations into the robustness, fairness, and limitations of transfer learning methods.
- Efficient adaptation methods for large foundation models and LLMs.

Guest Editors

Dr. Hasan Tercan
Institute for Technologies and Management of Digital Transformation, Lise-Meitner-Strasse 27, 42119 Wuppertal, Germany

Dr. Yang Li
Tsinghua Shenzhen International Graduate School, Tsinghua University, Shenzhen 518055, China

Deadline for manuscript submissions

20 July 2026

Applied Sciences

an Open Access Journal by MDPI

Impact Factor 2.5
CiteScore 5.5

mdpi.com/si/239498

Applied Sciences
Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
applsci@mdpi.com

mdpi.com/journal/applsci

Applied Sciences

an Open Access Journal by MDPI

Impact Factor 2.5
CiteScore 5.5

mdpi.com/journal/applsci

About the Journal

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

As the world of science becomes ever more specialized, researchers may lose themselves in the deep forest of the ever increasing number of subfields being created. This open access journal *Applied Sciences* has been started to link these subfields, so researchers can cut through the forest and see the surrounding, or quite distant fields and subfields to help develop his/her own research even further with the aid of this multi-dimensional network.

Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Giulio Nicola Cerullo
Dipartimento di Fisica, Politecnico di Milano, Piazza L. da Vinci 32, 20133 Milano, Italy

Author Benefits

Open Access:

free for readers, with article processing charges (APC) paid by authors or their institutions.

High Visibility:

indexed within Scopus, SCIE (Web of Science), Ei Compendex, Inspec, CAPlus / SciFinder, and other databases.

Journal Rank:

JCR - Q2 (Engineering, Multidisciplinary) / CiteScore - Q1 (General Engineering)

MDPI