
PRIYA L. DONTI

pdonti@cmu.edu

EDUCATION

Carnegie Mellon University

Ph.D. student in Computer Science & Public Policy

Advisors: Zico Kolter and Inês Azevedo

Sept. 2016–Present

Pittsburgh, PA, USA

Harvey Mudd College

B.S. in Computer Science/Math, Emphasis in Environmental Analysis

Graduated with High Distinction, GPA: 3.93

Sept. 2011–May 2015

Claremont, CA, USA

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Carnegie Mellon University

Ph.D. Student

Sept. 2016–Present

Pittsburgh, PA, USA

- Researching the intersection of machine learning/deep learning and energy system analysis, e.g. evaluating the effects of power system interventions given different emissions prediction methods.
- Proposing a task-based machine learning method that optimizes predictions for performance on the ultimate task for which they will be used.

Thomas J. Watson Fellowship

Watson Research Fellow

July 2015–Aug. 2016

Worldwide

- Interviewed actors working on Smart Grids and related areas in five different countries (Germany, India, South Korea, Japan, and Chile), as part of a year-long travel fellowship.
- Kept a project blog at <https://priyaswatson.wordpress.com>.

The Productivity and Wellness Pal (PaWPal)

Undergraduate Researcher

Jan. 2014–July 2015

Claremont, CA, USA

- Led studies and research in artificial intelligence to help students maximize their productivity and wellness using individualized recommendations and data visualizations.
- Contributions: Developed project idea with advisor, conducted research studies, and led development of AI techniques and the Android application.

Harvey Mudd Games Team

Game Developer

July–Aug. 2012

Claremont, CA, USA

- Created educational games for elementary and middle school students based on user testing and interactions with students and classroom teachers.
- Contributions: Created an iOS physics game prototype, enhanced existing computer games based on user study feedback, and debugged computer games based on user testing.

PUBLICATIONS

Task-based End-to-end Model Learning

arXiv preprint arXiv:1703.04529, March 2017

Priya L. Donti, Brandon Amos, J. Zico Kolter (Carnegie Mellon University)

Link: <https://arxiv.org/abs/1703.04529>

Predicting the Quality of User Experiences to Improve Productivity and Wellness

Proceedings of the Twenty-Ninth AAAI Conference (Poster Abstract), January 2015

Priya L. Donti, Jacob Rosenbloom, Alex Gruver, James C. Boerkoel Jr. (Harvey Mudd College)

Link: <http://goo.gl/YAh3Cd>

Exploring Active and Passive Team-Based Coordination (Poster Abstract)

Proceedings of the AAAI 2014 Fall Symposium on AI for HRI, November 2014

Priya L. Donti, James C. Boerkoel Jr. (Harvey Mudd College)

Link: <http://goo.gl/kH2P9d>

RELEVANT COURSEWORK

Graduate (completed): Artificial Intelligence, Applied Data Analysis, Intermediate Statistics, Microeconomics, Theory & Practice in Policy Analysis, Quantitative Methods for Policy Analysis

Graduate (in progress): Adv. Intro. Machine Learning, Seminar in Electricity Market Restructuring

Undergraduate (summary): Technical and non-technical courses for major in Computer Science/Math and Emphasis in Environmental Analysis. A broad core curriculum covering all major technical fields, as well as an extensive non-technical breadth requirement. (Transcript available upon request.)

SKILLS

Programming Languages	<i>Proficient:</i> Python, Java, C++, Objective-C <i>Knowledgeable:</i> C, Haskell, MATLAB, Scheme, Prolog
Deep Learning Frameworks	PyTorch
Platforms	Android, iOS
Tools	Git, SVN, L ^A T _E X, Unix

OTHER WORK EXPERIENCE

PotaVida, Inc. <i>Global Clinic Team Member</i>	Sept. 2014–May 2015 <i>Claremont, CA, USA</i>
· Worked with three team members and the CEO of PotaVida, Inc. to enhance PotaVida’s solar water disinfection product as part of Clinic, Harvey Mudd’s year-long senior capstone project.	

Harvey Mudd College Computer Science Department <i>Grader & Tutor</i>	Sept. 2014–May 2015 <i>Claremont, CA, USA</i>
· Tutored students in Harvey Mudd’s Artificial Intelligence and Algorithms courses.	

Crowdy, Inc. <i>Lead Software Engineer</i>	Sept. 2013–Aug. 2014 <i>Claremont, CA, USA</i>
· Developed the iOS app for Crowdy, a social networking platform that seeks to connect users through shared experiences.	

Harvey Mudd College Writing Center <i>Writing Center Consultant</i>	Sept. 2012–May 2015 <i>Claremont, CA, USA</i>
· Consulted student papers/presentations and running writing workshops at HMC and other schools.	

Google <i>Engineering Intern</i>	May–Aug. 2013 <i>Mountain View, CA, USA</i>
· Designed and developed a revamped experiment creation process for PACO, an Android experiential sampling tool.	
· Set up PACO’s testing architecture and optimized communication between the app and web server.	

LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

CMU Tech4Society <i>Co-Founder and Project Leader</i>	Jan. 2017–Present <i>Pittsburgh, PA, USA</i>
· Founded organization to partner Carnegie Mellon Ph.D. students with local organizations working towards social causes (e.g. Pittsburgh DataRescue).	
· Leading the Cybersecurity Clinics for Activists project.	

Engineers for a Sustainable World USAJuly 2016–*Present**New Chapter Development Coordinator*

USA

- As part of the national leadership team, developing new student and professional chapters across the country to strengthen the ESW network.

Harvey Mudd Sustainability Committee

Oct. 2014–May 2015

*Student Representative from ESW/MOSS**Claremont, CA, USA*

- Worked with Harvey Mudd's administration to set goals for and provide oversight of Harvey Mudd College's sustainability program.

ESW/MOSS Environmental Club

Sept. 2011–May 2015

*Co-President, 5C Sustainability Liaison**Claremont, CA, USA*

- Led the formation of a Sustainability Committee and Green Fund, creation of a 5C sustainability website, an energy competition, and a presentation to the CPUC about SCE's rate restructuring.

Harvey Mudd College Honor Board

Sept. 2011–May 2015

*Honor Board Class Representative**Claremont, CA, USA*

- Participated in Honor Board hearings, training, and discussion sessions.

Science Bus

Sept. 2012–May 2013

*Co-President**Claremont, CA, USA*

- Worked with school administrators, teachers, and college students to create and teach weekly science lessons at 18 elementary school classrooms in Pomona, CA.

MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS AND AWARDS

DOE Computational Science Graduate Fellowship (National)

Sept. 2017–*Present*

National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship (National)

Sept. 2015–Aug. 2017

Thomas J. Watson Fellowship (National)

Jul. 2015–Aug. 2016

Don Chamberlain CS Research Award (HMC)

May 2015

Radley Prize in Humanities, Social Sciences, and the Arts (HMC)

May 2015

CRA Outstanding Undergraduate Finalist (National)

Dec. 2014

William and Wyllis Leonhard Merit Scholarship (HMC)

Oct. 2014

Udall Scholarship Honorable Mention (National)

Apr. 2014

Dean Chris Sundberg Leadership Prize (HMC)

May 2013

Jean and Joseph Platt Prize (HMC)

Sept. 2012

Harvey Mudd President's Scholarship (4 years)

Sept. 2011–May 2015

National Merit Scholarship Finalist (National)

Sept. 2011–May 2015