# Forough Arabshahi

## Position

July 2018 - Present

Post-Doctoral Associate, Machine Learning Department, School of Computer Science (SCS), Carnegie Mellon University (CMU), Pittsburgh, PA.

Advisor: Prof. Tom Mitchell

**Research:** Commonsense Reasoning, Deep Learning, Probabilistic Learning, Learning by Instruction, Natural Language Processing, Automated Reasoning

#### Education

Spring 2018 PhD in Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, University of California Irvine (UCI), Irvine, CA.

Thesis: Learning Latent Hierarchical Structures via Probabilistic Models and Deep Learning

Advisor: Prof. Animashree Anandkumar

Co-Advisor: Prof. Sameer Singh

Fall 2012 M.Sc in Electrical Engineering, Communication Systems, School of Electrical Engineering, Amirkabir University of Technology, Tehran, Iran, .

**Thesis:** Microwave Imaging of the Breast Tissue for Breast Cancer Detection

Advisor: Prof. Hamid Sheikhzadeh-Nadjar

Summer 2010 B.Sc in Electrical Engineering, Communications, School of Electrical and Computer Engineering, Shiraz University, Shiraz, Iran.

**Thesis:** A MAC Layer Protocol for Underwater Wireless Acoustic Sensor Networks

Advisor: Prof. Alireza Keshavarz-Haddad

#### **Publications**

- F. Arabshahi, B. Liu, T. Mitchell, "End-To-End Differentiable Context Aware Coreference Resolution", In Preparation.
- F. Arabshahi, K. Rivard, T. Li, B. Myers, T. Mitchell, "Conversational Learning", Under Review (2019).
- F. Arabshahi\*, Z. Lu\*, S. Singh, A. Anandkumar, "Memory-Augmented Recursive Neural Networks", arXiv preprint arXiv:1911.01545, 2019 (Under Review), \* Equal Contribution.
- F. Arabshahi, M. Gawarecki, K. Rivard, A. Azaria, T. Mitchell, "CORGI: Commonsense Reasoning by Instruction", Under Review (2019).
- Z. Lu\*, F. Arabshahi\*, I. Labutov, T. Mitchell, "Look-up and Adapt: A One-shot Semantic Parser:", Appearing as a long paper in the 2019 Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP), \* Equal Contribution.
- F. Arabshahi, S. Singh, A. Anandkumar, "Towards Solving Differential Equations through Neural Programming", ICML workshop Neural Abstract Machines & Program Induction v2 (NAMPI), Stockholm, Sweden, 2018.
- F. Arabshahi, S. Singh, A. Anandkumar, "Combining Symbolic Expressions and Black-box Function Evaluations in Neural Programs", Proceedings of the International Conference on Learning Representations (ICLR), 2018. Also appeared in NeurIPS 2017 highlights, Learn How to Code a Paper with State of the Art Frameworks, NeurIPS 2017 MLtrain workshop.

- F. Arabshahi, A. Anandkumar, "Spectral Methods for Correlated Topic Models", Proceedings of the International Conference on Artificial Intelligence and Statistics (AISTATS), 2017, PMLR 54:1439-1447.
- F. Arabshahi, R. Weiss, A. Anandkumar, "Beyond LDA: Spectral Methods for Topic Modeling Based on Exchangeable Partitions", NeurIPS workshop on Bayesian Nonparametrics: The Next Generation, 2015.
- F. Arabshahi, F. Huang, A. Anandkumar, C. T. Butts, S. M. Fitzhugh, "Are you going to the party: depends, who else is coming? [Learning hidden group dynamics via conditional latent tree models]", Data Mining (ICDM), 2015 IEEE International Conference on, Atlantic City, NJ, 2015.
- F. Arabshahi, F. Huang, A. Anandkumar, C. Butts, "Modeling and Predicting Dynamic Social Interactions Using Conditional Latent Random Fields", Statistical Inference for Network Models, NetSci Satellite Symposium 2014.
- F. Arabshahi, S. Monajemi, H. Sheikhzadeh, K. Raahemifar, R. Faraji-Dana, "A Frequency Domain MVDR Beamformer for UWB Microwave Breast Cancer Imaging in Dispersive Mediums", 13th IEEE International Symposium on Signal Processing and Information Technology (ISSPIT) 2013.

### Honors

- Fall 2019 **Rising Stars in EECS 2019**, Selected to participate in Rising Stars 2019, an academic career workshop for women in EECS hosted by the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.
- Spring 2017 Phi Betta Kappa Alumni International Scholarship, Recipient of \$2000.
  - Fall 2015 **GHC scholarship**, Grace Hopper Celebration of Women in Computing.
- Summer 2015 UCI data science initiative summer fellowship, University of California Irvine, \$6,039 stipend, Acceptance rate: 15/115.

**Travel Grants:**, ICLR 2018 travel award (\$500), ICDM 2015 student award (\$550), Bren School of ICS Grace Hopper grant 2014, Machine Learning Summer School student grant, 2014.

## Internships

- Summer 2017 **Software Engineer Intern**, Pepperdata Inc., Applying machine learning and data analysis tools to the time-series data available in Pepperdata.
- Summer 2016 **Research Intern**, Yahoo! Labs, Link industries: Advertisement clustering using spectral methods, Proposed a joint matrix and tensor factorization algorithm for clustering Yahoo's advertisements for recommendation purposes.

## Teaching Experience

- Spring 2018 "Spectral Methods: Latent Variable Models", Invited lecture in Probabilistic Graphical Models, Department of Machine Learning, Carnegie Mellon University.
  - Fall 2013 Computational methods in EECS (EECS 10), Teaching Assistant, Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, University of California Irvine.
- Spring 2010 **Communications I**, *Teaching Assistant*, School of Electrical and Computer Engineering, Shiraz University.

## Student Advising

Fall 18-present Zhichu (Brian) Lu, Bachelor's Thesis, continuing Master's Thesis, SCS, CMU.

Fall 19-present Nghia (Max) Le, Master's Thesis, SCS, CMU.

Fall 19-present **Jennifer Lee**, Bachelor's Thesis, SCS, CMU.

- Summer 19 Mikayla Gawarecki, Summer Research Intern, SCS, CMU.
  - Spring 19 Eric Nie, Research course 15-400, SCS, CMU.

- Spring, Summer 19 **Bifei Liu**, Student project course "context-aware coreference resolution" designed by Forough Arabshahi, ECE, CMU.
  - Spring 19 **Sourabh Girish Karandikar**, Student project course "context-aware coreference resolution" designed by Forough Arabshahi, ECE, CMU.

## References

## Tom Mitchell

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