

# Brandon Amos

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## Education

- **Ph.D. in Computer Science** (0.00/0.00) Aug 2014 – May 2019  
Carnegie Mellon University | Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania  
- Thesis: [Differentiable Optimization-Based Modeling for Machine Learning](#)  
- Advisors: [J. Zico Kolter](#) (2016 – 2019), [Mahadev Satyanarayanan](#) (2014 – 2016)
- **B.S. in Computer Science, Honors** (3.99/4.00) Aug 2011 – May 2014  
Virginia Tech | Blacksburg, Virginia  
- Advisors: [Layne Watson](#), [Jules White](#), [Binoy Ravindran](#)
- Northside High School | Roanoke, Virginia Aug 2007 – May 2011

## Experience

- **Research Scientist** | Facebook AI | New York, New York May 2019 – Present
- **Research Intern** | Intel Labs | Santa Clara, California June 2018 – Sept 2018  
- Host: [Vladlen Koltun](#)
- **Research Intern** | Google DeepMind | London, UK May 2017 – Oct 2017  
- Hosts: [Misha Denil](#) and [Nando de Freitas](#)
- **Data Scientist Intern** | Adobe Research | San Jose, California May 2014 – Aug 2014
- **Software Intern** | Snowplow | London, UK (Remote) Dec 2013 – Jan 2014
- **Software Intern** | Qualcomm | San Diego, California May 2013 – Aug 2013
- **Software Intern** | Phoenix Integration | Blacksburg, Virginia May 2012 – Aug 2012
- **Network Administrator Intern** | Sunapsys | Vinton, Virginia Jan 2011 – Aug 2011

## Honors & Awards

- NSF Graduate Research Fellowship 2016 – 2019
- Nine undergraduate scholarships 2011 – 2014  
Benjamin F. Bock, Intelligence Community Center of Academic Excellence, Roanoke County Public Schools Engineering, Papa John's, Gay B. Shober Memorial, Pamplin Leader, I. Luck Gravett Memorial, Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, Salem–Roanoke County Chamber of Commerce

## Service

Reviewing AAAI, ICML, NeurIPS, ICLR\*, ICCV, CVPR, ICRA \*Outstanding reviewer  
Admissions CMU CSD MS 2014-2015

## Skills

Languages C, C++, Fortran, Haskell, Java, Lua, Make, Mathematica, Python, R, Scala  
Frameworks JAX, NumPy, Pandas, PyTorch, SciPy, TensorFlow, Torch7  
Tools Linux, emacs, vim, evil, org, mu4e, xmonad, i3, git, tmux, zsh

## Teaching

- Graduate AI (CMU 15-780), TA S2017
- Distributed Systems (CMU 15-440/640), TA S2016
- Software Design and Data Structures (VT CS2114), TA S2013

- 2021a** R. T. Q. Chen, **B. Amos**, M. Nickel. "Learning Neural Event Functions for Ordinary Differential Equations". In: *ICLR*. URL: <https://arxiv.org/abs/2011.03902>.
- 2021b** R. T. Q. Chen, **B. Amos**, M. Nickel. "Neural Spatio-Temporal Point Processes". In: *ICLR*. URL: <https://arxiv.org/abs/2011.04583>.
- 2021c** S. Cohen, G. Luise, A. Terenin, **B. Amos**, M. P. Deisenroth. "Aligning Time Series on Incomparable Spaces". In: *AISTATS*. URL: <https://arxiv.org/abs/2006.12648>.
- 2021d** D. Yarats, A. Zhang, I. Kostrikov, **B. Amos**, J. Pineau, R. Fergus. "Improving Sample Efficiency in Model-Free Reinforcement Learning from Images". In: *AAAI*. URL: <https://arxiv.org/abs/1910.01741>.
- 2020a** **B. Amos**, D. Easterling, L. Watson, W. Thacker, B. Castle, M. Trosset. "QNSTOP: Quasi-Newton Algorithm for Stochastic Optimization". In: URL: <https://vtechworks.lib.vt.edu/bitstream/handle/10919/49672/qnTOMS14.pdf>.
- 2020b** **B. Amos**, S. Stanton, D. Yarats, A. G. Wilson. *On the model-based stochastic value gradient for continuous reinforcement learning*. URL: <https://arxiv.org/abs/2008.12775>.
- 2020c** **B. Amos** and D. Yarats. "The Differentiable Cross-Entropy Method". In: *ICML*. URL: <https://arxiv.org/abs/1909.12830>.
- 2020d** N. Lambert, **B. Amos**, O. Yadan, R. Calandra. "Objective Mismatch in Model-based Reinforcement Learning". In: *L4DC*. URL: <https://arxiv.org/abs/2002.04523>.
- 2019a** A. Agrawal\*, **B. Amos\***, S. Barratt\*, S. Boyd\*, S. Diamond\*, J. Z. Kolter\*. "Differentiable Convex Optimization Layers". In: *NeurIPS*. URL: [http://web.stanford.edu/~boyd/papers/pdf/diff\\_cvxpy.pdf](http://web.stanford.edu/~boyd/papers/pdf/diff_cvxpy.pdf).
- 2019b** **B. Amos**. "Differentiable Optimization-Based Modeling for Machine Learning". PhD thesis. Carnegie Mellon University. URL: [https://github.com/bamos/thesis/raw/master/bamos\\_thesis.pdf](https://github.com/bamos/thesis/raw/master/bamos_thesis.pdf).
- 2019c** **B. Amos**, V. Koltun, J. Z. Kolter. "The Limited Multi-Label Projection Layer". In: *arXiv preprint arXiv:1906.08707*. URL: <https://arxiv.org/abs/1906.08707>.
- 2019d** E. Grefenstette, **B. Amos**, D. Yarats, P. M. Htut, A. Molchanov, F. Meier, D. Kiela, K. Cho, S. Chintala. "Generalized Inner Loop Meta-Learning". In: *arXiv preprint arXiv:1910.01727*. URL: <https://arxiv.org/abs/1910.01727>.
- 2018a** **B. Amos**, L. Dinh, S. Cabi, T. Rothörl, S. G. Colmenarejo, A. Muldal, T. Erez, Y. Tassa, N. Freitas, M. Denil. "Learning Awareness Models". In: *International Conference on Learning Representations*. URL: <https://openreview.net/forum?id=r1HhRfWRZ>.
- 2018b** **B. Amos**, I. D. J. Rodriguez, J. Sacks, B. Boots, J. Z. Kolter. "Differentiable MPC for End-to-end Planning and Control". In: *NeurIPS*. URL: <https://arxiv.org/abs/1810.13400>.
- 2018c** N. Brown, T. Sandholm, **B. Amos**. "Depth-Limited Solving for Imperfect-Information Games". In: *NeurIPS*. URL: <http://arxiv.org/abs/1805.08195>.
- 2018d** J. Wang, **B. Amos**, A. Das, P. Pillai, N. Sadeh, M. Satyanarayanan. "Enabling Live Video Analytics with a Scalable and Privacy-Aware Framework". In: *ACM Transactions on Multimedia Computing, Communications, and Applications (TOMM)* 14.3s, p. 64. URL: <https://dl.acm.org/citation.cfm?id=3209659>.
- 2017a** **B. Amos** and J. Z. Kolter. "OptNet: Differentiable Optimization as a Layer in Neural Networks". In: *ICML*. URL: <http://arxiv.org/abs/1703.00443>.
- 2017b** **B. Amos**, L. Xu, J. Z. Kolter. "Input Convex Neural Networks". In: *ICML*. URL: <http://arxiv.org/abs/1609.07152>.
- 2017c** M. Chen, **B. Amos**, L. T. Watson, J. Tyson, Y. Cao, C. Shaffer, M. Trosset, C. Oguz, G. Kakoti. "Quasi-Newton Stochastic Optimization Algorithm for Parameter Estimation of a Stochastic Model of the Budding Yeast Cell Cycle". In: *IEEE/ACM Transactions on Computational Biology and Bioinformatics*. URL: <https://par.nsf.gov/servlets/purl/10111392>.
- 2017d** Z. Chen. "An Empirical Study of Latency in an Emerging Class of Edge Computing Applications for Wearable Cognitive Assistance". In: *Proceedings of the Second ACM/IEEE Symposium on Edge Computing*. ACM, p. 12. URL: <https://www.cs.cmu.edu/~zhuoc/papers/latency2017.pdf>.
- 2017e** P. L. Donti, **B. Amos**, J. Z. Kolter. "Task-based End-to-end Model Learning". In: *NeurIPS*. URL: <http://arxiv.org/abs/1703.04529>.
- 2017f** K. Ha, Y. Abe, T. Eiszler, Z. Chen, W. Hu, **B. Amos**, R. Upadhyaya, P. Pillai, M. Satyanarayanan. "You can teach elephants to dance: agile VM handoff for edge computing". In: *Proceedings of the Second ACM/IEEE Symposium on Edge Computing*. ACM, p. 12. URL: <https://www.cs.cmu.edu/~15-821/READINGS/PAPERS/ha2017.pdf>.

- 2017g** J. Wang, **B. Amos**, A. Das, P. Pillai, N. Sadeh, M. Satyanarayanan. "A Scalable and Privacy-Aware IoT Service for Live Video Analytics". In: *Proceedings of the 8th ACM on Multimedia Systems Conference*. ACM, pp. 38–49. URL: <http://elijah.cs.cmu.edu/DOCS/wang-mmsys2017.pdf>.
- 2016a** **B. Amos**, B. Ludwiczuk, M. Satyanarayanan. *OpenFace: A general-purpose face recognition library with mobile applications*. Tech. rep. Technical Report CMU-CS-16-118, CMU School of Computer Science. URL: <http://reports-archive.adm.cs.cmu.edu/anon/anon/2016/CMU-CS-16-118.pdf>.
- 2016b** N. A. J. Davies, N. Taft, M. Satyanarayanan, S. Clinch, **B. Amos**. "Privacy mediators: helping IoT cross the chasm". In: *HotMobile*. URL: <http://eprints.lancs.ac.uk/78255/1/44691.pdf>.
- 2016c** W. Hu, Y. Gao, K. Ha, J. Wang, **B. Amos**, Z. Chen, P. Pillai, M. Satyanarayanan. "Quantifying the impact of edge computing on mobile applications". In: *Proceedings of the 7th ACM SIGOPS Asia-Pacific Workshop on Systems*. ACM, p. 5. URL: <https://dl.acm.org/doi/10.1145/2967360.2967369>.
- 2016d** H. Zhao, T. Adel, G. Gordon, **B. Amos**. "Collapsed Variational Inference for Sum-Product Networks". In: *ICML*. URL: <http://proceedings.mlr.press/v48/zhaoa16.html>.
- 2015a** Z. Chen, L. Jiang, W. Hu, K. Ha, **B. Amos**, P. Pillai, A. Hauptmann, M. Satyanarayanan. "Early Implementation Experience with Wearable Cognitive Assistance Applications". In: *WearSys*. URL: <http://www.cs.cmu.edu/~satya/docdir/chen-wearsys2015.pdf>.
- 2015b** Y. Gao, W. Hu, K. Ha, **B. Amos**, P. Pillai, M. Satyanarayanan. *Are Cloudlets Necessary?* Tech. rep. Technical Report CMU-CS-15-139, CMU School of Computer Science. URL: <http://reports-archive.adm.cs.cmu.edu/anon/anon/2015/CMU-CS-15-139.pdf>.
- 2015c** K. Ha, Y. Abe, Z. Chen, W. Hu, **B. Amos**, P. Pillai, M. Satyanarayanan. *Adaptive VM handoff across cloudlets*. Tech. rep. Technical Report CMU-CS-15-113, CMU School of Computer Science. URL: <http://ra.adm.cs.cmu.edu/anon/2015/CMU-CS-15-113.pdf>.
- 2015d** W. Hu, **B. Amos**, Z. Chen, K. Ha, W. Richter, P. Pillai, B. Gilbert, J. Harkes, M. Satyanarayanan. "The Case for Offload Shaping". In: *HotMobile*. URL: <http://www.cs.cmu.edu/~satya/docdir/hu-hotmobile2015.pdf>.
- 2015e** M. Satyanarayanan, P. Simoens, Y. Xiao, P. Pillai, Z. Chen, K. Ha, W. Hu, **B. Amos**. "Edge Analytics in the Internet of Things". In: *IEEE Pervasive Computing* 2, pp. 24–31. URL: <https://www.cs.cmu.edu/~satya/docdir/satya-edge2015.pdf>.
- 2015f** H. Turner, J. White, J. A. Camelio, C. Williams, **B. Amos**, R. Parker. "Bad Parts: Are Our Manufacturing Systems at Risk of Silent Cyberattacks?" In: *Security & Privacy, IEEE* 13.3, pp. 40–47. URL: <http://ieeexplore.ieee.org/xpl/articleDetails.jsp?arnumber=7118094>.
- 2014** T. Andrew, **B. Amos**, D. Easterling, C. Oguz, W. Baumann, J. Tyson, L. Watson. "Global Parameter Estimation for a Eukaryotic Cell Cycle Model in Systems Biology". In: *Summer Simulation Multiconference, Society for Modeling and Simulation International*. URL: <http://dl.acm.org/citation.cfm?id=2685662>.
- 2013** **B. Amos**, H. Turner, J. White. "Applying machine learning classifiers to dynamic Android malware detection at scale". In: *IWCMC Security, Trust and Privacy Symposium*. URL: <http://bamos.github.io/data/papers/amos-iwcmc2013.pdf>.