

Mahdi Gilany

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EDUCATION

Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT)

Ph.D. in Computer Science
Golisano College of Computing and Information Sciences
GPA: 4.0/4.0, Advisor: Dr. Rui Li

Rochester, New York
Fall 2019–Current

University of Tehran

B.S. in Electrical Engineering (Communication)
School of Electrical and Computer Engineering
GPA: 3.73/4.00, Advisor: Dr. Mohammad Ali Akhvae

Tehran, Iran
2014–2018

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Bayesian Deep Learning
- Continual Learning
- Deep Generative Modeling and Inference
- Machine Learning
- Statistical Inference
- Computer Vision

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant

PhD research, *Lab of Use-inspired Computational Intelligence*

RIT
Fall 2019–Current

- **Neural Architecture Inference using Beta-Bernoulli Processes:** Inferring the posterior distribution over architectural hyper-parameters (number of layers and neurons) using stochastic variational inference methods.
- **Variational Continual Learning with a dynamic network:** Dynamically growing a neural network architecture in VCL setting to overcome neural capacity problem.

Research Assistant

Undergraduate Thesis, *Secure Communication Lab*

University of Tehran
Spring and Summer 2018

- **Hand Gesture Detection:** Developing a CNN for recognizing different hand gestures by Keras and extracted skin pixels as features

WORK EXPERIENCE

Research Scientist

Habibi Crypto-currency Trading Group

Tehran, Iran
Fall 2018–Spring 2019

- **Crypto-currency Price Forecasting:** Predicting different crypto-coins' prices using time series analysis and RNNs

Electrical Engineering Intern

Mataab Company

Tehran, Iran
Spring and Summer 2016

- **Wind Speedometer:** Designing a wind speedometer by ultrasonic transceiver sensors and microcontrollers.

SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS

- RIT Ph.D. Merit Full Scholarship. 2019–Current
- Exempted from M.Sc. entrance exam in University of Tehran as an exceptional talented student. 2017
- Ranked among top 0.1% in Iran's National University Entrance Exam with more than 220,000 participants. 2013
- Passed in the first-round of both 26th Iranain National Mathematics and Informatics Olympiads. 2013

RELEVANT COURSES

Graduate courses are indicated by † and audited are indicated by *

- **Machine Learning Courses:** Statistical Machine Learning[†], Deep Learning[†], Quantitative Foundation[†], Pattern recognition^{†*} | UCB Deep Learning (online)^{†*}, Deep Learning Summer School at University of Tehran.
- **Math, Probability, and Statistics Courses:** Stochastic Processes^{†*}, Statistical Inference^{†*}, Linear Algebra*, Engineering Probabilities and Statistics, Calculus I-II, Engineering Mathematics.
- **Programming and Software Engineering Courses:** Software Engineering[†], Cyberinfrastructure Foundations[†], Advanced Programming (C++)*, Introduction to Computer and Programming (C) | Python Programming (SoloLearn).
- **Others:** Computer Networks, Digital Signal Processing, System Analysis.

SELECTED PROJECTS

- Implementing **Bayesian neural networks** for both classification and regression using PyTorch.
- Implementing a **Convolutional neural network with various regularization techniques, e.g. Dropout and L2-norm**, for MNIST and FashionMNIST Classification using PyTorch.
- Implementing **Gradient Descent, Newton, and Quasi-Newton optimizers** using backtracking linesearch with MATLAB.
- Implementing dimensionality reduction algorithms such as **Neural Autoencoder, PCA, LDA, and Forward Feature construction** using PyTorch and Numpy.
- Implementing **Expectation-Maximization (EM)** algorithm for Gaussian Mixture Model using Numpy.
- Implementing various clustering algorithms such as **Agglomerative Hierarchical and k-means** using NumPy.
- Implementing various classifiers such as **SVM, KNN, and Linear with Basis Expansion** using NumPy.
- Implementing various pdf estimators such as **K-means, Parzen Window, and Histogram** using NumPy.
- **Multi-thread programming** for displaying Mandelbrot function with manual load balancing.
- Running a 3D Random Walk in multi-processing setting using **Master-Worker with Message Passing Interface (MPI)**.
- Designing and Implementing an hand-held remote controller with a screen for Persian Ghazal solar car using DRF wireless transceiver modules.
- Implementing a multi-functional module for text sending and receiving via sim card, GPS location finding, and server communication using microcontrollers and Sim808 module.
- FPGA implementation of a digital oscilloscope and a signal generator.
- FPGA implementation of analog signals' envelope detector using FIR/IIR filters and MATLAB Simulink.

SKILLS

- **Programming:** Python, MATLAB, R, C/C++ | Verilog, VHDL | \LaTeX
- **Deep Learning Frameworks:** Pytorch, Tensorflow, Keras
- **Data Science Libraries/Packages:** NumPy, Pandas, SciPy, Scikit-learn, Matplotlib, IPython, GPyTorch
- **Operating Systems:** Linux, Windows
- **Applications/Programs:** Pycharm, Visual Studio, R studio | Code Vision, Xilinx ISE, Quartus, Multisim, Modelsim
- **Others:** Cuda, GitHub, Conda, Microsoft Office, Trello, Slack

TEACHING ASSISTANT

- **University of Tehran:** Engineering Probability and Statistics, Linear Control Systems.
- **Amir High School:** Discrete Mathematics, Analytic Geometry for National University Entrance exam.

LANGUAGES

- **Farsi:** Native
- **English:** Fluent
- **TOEFL iBT:** (Nov. 2018): 81/120 (Reading: 25/30, Listening: 18/30, Speaking: 18/30, Writing: 20/30)
- **GRE:** (Nov. 2018): Quantitative Reasoning: 162/170, Verbal Reasoning: 142/170, Analytical Writing: 3/6

PUBLICATIONS

- [1] K. KC*, M. **Gilany***, and R. Li, “Scalable neural architecture inference with bayesian nonparametrics”, *Under review in Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems*, 2020.

Equal contribution is indicated by *.

PDF file will be provided upon request.

REFERENCES

Dr. Rui Li

Assistant professor, Golisano College of Computing and Information Sciences at RIT

Dr. Linwei Wang

Professor, Golisano College of Computing and Information Sciences at RIT