Nikan Doosti

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EDUCATION

Iran University of Science and Technology (IUST)

Tehran, Iran

Master of Science in Computer Engineering - Artificial Intelligence

Aug 2019 - Dec 2022

- o Thesis: High Resolution Neural Topology Optimization via Differentiable Physics Engine
- o Defense: Achieved maximum score during defense on Oct 22, 2022 with GPA of 17.17/20.00
- IUST: This university is one of the most prestigious in the country, being in top-4 consistently.

University of Guilan (UoG)

Rasht, Iran

Bachelor of Science in Computer Engineering

Aug 2015 - Aug 2019

- o Final Project: Descreening and Rescreening of Halftone Images via Data-Driven Deep Learning Methods
- o Class Rank: Graduated 3rd out of 55 with a GPA of 18.64/20.00

PUBLICATIONS

• Doosti, Nikan, Julian Panetta, and Vahid Babaei. "Topology Optimization via Frequency Tuning of Neural Design Representations." In Symposium on Computational Fabrication, pp. 1-9. 2021. (ACM)

Talks

• "Neural Design Representations." **Toronto Geometry Colloquium Advised by Alec Jacobson** - University of Toronto. March 4, 2022. toronto-geometry-colloquium.github.io. (Length: 10 mins., Video)

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Max Planck Institute for Informatics

Saarbrücken, Germany

Jul 2020 - Mar 2021

• Research Assistant (remote)

Artificial Intelligence aided Design and Manufacturing Group

- Project Overview: Novel self-supevised neural method for obtaining the optimum design showcased in Topology Optimization
- Supervisors: Supervised by **Dr. Vahid Babaei** and collaborated with **Prof. Julian Panetta** from the University of California, Davis, USA.
- o Interdisciplinary Work: Successfully navigated and mastered uncharted domains beyond my primary field.
- Experiment Management: Managed large-scale experiments by developing customized software solution to track and report results, particularly enabling easy follow-up near deadline.
- Group Collaboration: **Shared AI expertise** with group members, focusing on PyTorch model implementation and **optimizing workflows with Slurm clusters**.
- Manuscript Development: **Prepared all figures** and contributed approximately **65% to the manuscript**. Also, I oversaw all **administrative tasks** related to the paper's publication, including **handling revisions** and addressing **peer review feedback**.
- Outcome: Resulted in a master's thesis and a paper that was published and presented at the ACM Symposium on Computational Fabrication 2021 (see Publications)

WORK EXPERIENCE

Panafor

Full-time Machine Learning Specialist

Karaj, Iran

Apr 2022 - Jan 2024

Specializing in Data-driven Decision Making for Business Optimization

 The Problem: Developed and implemented a Data-driven AI solution that optimized resource allocation by prioritizing high-potential customer profiles, significantly reducing operational overhead and minimizing errors in processing critical applications.

- Impact: Decreased personnel error by 10%, mitigating potential losses equivalent to 5.5 times my annual salary. Also, awarded for dedication and leadership, leading to two promotions and a 70% salary increase within one year. Moreover, I established myself as the primary resource for onboarding and training new team members, receiving praise for my ability to simplify fundamental concepts.
- Developed a **comprehensive screening process automation** from customer communication to profiles prioritization, filtering calls based on the complexity of inquiries, **reducing manual workload by 40%**.
- Oversaw the development of a proprietary data extraction and preprocessing pipeline, resulting in a **35**% reduction in poor-quality data.
- Deployed **classical machine learning** models alongside **deep learning** methods, coupled with **explainable AI** techniques to prioritize profiles and provide transparent reasoning for each decision.
- Exhibited proactive problem-solving by manually preparing years of "analog data" within the first 2.5 months, a critical task which I prioritize over my role-specific duties to ensure project success.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Head Teaching Assistant - Advanced Programming

Supervisor: Dr. Ghasem Mirroshandel - University of Guilan

Aug 2018 - Feb 2019

Head Teaching Assistant - Algorithms Design

Supervisor: Dr. Mojtaba Shakeri - University of Guilan

Aug 2018 - Feb 2019

Head Teaching Assistant - Computational Intelligence

Supervisor: Dr. Mojtaba Shakeri - University of Guilan

Feb 2018 - Jul 2018

As a teaching assistant, I taught Java in the Advanced Programming course, designed and graded assignments, and evaluated the final project. For the Algorithm Design and Computational Intelligence courses, I held weekly Q&A sessions, graded assignments, and created pratical programming tasks for Computational Intelligence.

VOLUNTARY ACTIVITIES

Mentor, Lecturer, and Organizer

Rasht School of AI, IUST Projects, and PyTorch Forum

2018 - 2022

- Lecturing: Delivered talks on AI applications, focusing on digital image processing (Slides)
- Mentorship: Guided students in AI and M.Sc thesis processes, from ideation to publication
- o Organizing: Facilitated open discussions at IUST to promote collaboration and challenge the siloed culture
- Community Engagement: Active in the PyTorch Forum, ranking 15th with 183 solutions and 566 posts (summary); praised for insightful contributions by Thomas Viehmann

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Deeply Involved: Python, PyTorch, Tensorflow, Git, Windows, Linux/Debian, MLFlow, DVC,

ExplainableAI, Sphinx Doc, "why you should care"

Have Experience With: Docker, CI/CD, Slurm, PostgreSQL, FastAPI, Shell Scripting, HTML/CSS

Research Interests

- Deep Learning and Machine Learning
- Computer Graphics and Physics-based Simulation
- AI for Engineering and Science

AWARDS AND CERTIFICATES

• Awarded for dedication and leadership at Panafor	2023
• Completed training in Workplace Ethics and Professionalism, Organizational Behavior, etc.	2023
• Accepted in M.Sc program as a National Exceptional Talent, with Tuition Waiver at IUST	2019
• Ranked 3rd among B.Sc graduates in Computer Engineering, with Tuition Waiver at the UoG	2019
• Participated in the Deep Learning Summer School at Gdańsk University of Technology	2020

Referees

Dr. Vahid Babaei (Research Scientist)

• Role: Research project supervisor

Max Planck Institute for Informatics

Saarbrücken, Germany vbabaei@mpi-inf.mpg.de

Prof. Julian Panetta (Assistant Professor)

• Role: Research project supervisor University of California, Davis $\begin{array}{c} \text{Davis, USA} \\ \textit{jpanetta@ucdavis.edu} \end{array}$

Dr. Mojtaba Shakeri (Research Scientist)

• Role: Undergraduate mentor and instructor MercuryGate (prev. Assistant Professor at University of Guilan, Rasht, Iran) Los Angeles, USA mojtaba.shakeri@gmail.com