

PASCALE GOURDEAU

DPhil (PhD) student at the University of Oxford

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RESEARCH INTERESTS

Learning theory, adversarially robust machine learning, automata theory

EDUCATION

DPhil (PhD) in Computer Science

2017 – Present

University of Oxford

Supervisors: James Worrell, Varun Kanade and Marta Kwiatkowska

Research themes: learning theory, adversarially robust machine learning

Medical leaves: October 2019 – April 2020; October 2020 – April 2021

M.Sc. in Computer Science

2017

McGill University, Montreal

Supervisors: Prakash Panangaden and Doina Precup

Thesis Title: *Bisimulation Pseudometrics for Weighted Finite Automata*

Overall GPA: 4/4

B.Sc. in Computer Science (Honours)

2012 – 2016

McGill University, Montreal

Minor in Mathematics

Overall GPA: 3.94/4

EMPLOYMENT AND TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Department of Computer Science, University of Oxford

2018 – Present

Course Teacher and Marker

Oxford, UK

- Computational Learning Theory: Fall 2021
- Machine Learning: Fall 2018

Department of Computer Science, McGill University

2016 – 2017

Teaching Assistant

Montreal, Canada

- Programming Languages and Paradigms: Winter 2017
- Logic and Computation: Fall 2016
- Foundations of Programming: Summer 2016

Reasoning and Learning Lab, McGill University

Summers 2014 and 2015

Research Assistant

Montreal, Canada

- Summer 2015: automata theory research. Themes: minimization and approximation algorithms for automata, bisimulation metrics.
- Summer 2014: medical application of machine learning. Project: using machine learning classification algorithms to predict extubation readiness in extreme preterm infants.

DISTINCTIONS AND AWARDS

Graduate Scholarship

2019

Awarded by Trinity College, Oxford for outstanding graduate research

Clarendon Scholarship

2017

Three and a half years of funding (tuition fees and living expenses) for the DPhil in Computer Science at the University of Oxford

Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC) Postgraduate Doctoral Scholarship

2017

Three years of funding for the DPhil in Computer Science at the University of Oxford

Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC) Graduate Scholarship

2016

Funding for the M.Sc in Computer Science at McGill University

Anita Borg Memorial Scholarship

2015

Scholarship from Google recognizing women's contribution and leadership in Computer Science

Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC) Undergraduate Student Research Award

2015

Summer research funding in the Reasoning and Learning Lab at McGill University

Science Undergraduate Research Award

2014

Summer research funding in the Reasoning and Learning Lab at McGill University

Full scholarship to attend Lester B. Pearson UWC

2010

International boarding school network (United World Colleges) working towards peace and a sustainable future. Programme: International Baccalaureate (2 years)

PUBLICATIONS

Journal Publications

1. **P. Gourdeau**, V. Kanade, M. Kwiatkowska, and J. Worrell, "On the hardness of robust classification," in *Journal of Machine Learning Research*, 2021.
2. B. Balle, **P. Gourdeau**, and P. Panangaden, "Bisimulation metrics and norms for real-weighted automata," in *Information and Computation*, 2020.

Conference Publications and Preprints

1. **P. Gourdeau**, V. Kanade, M. Kwiatkowska, and J. Worrell, "When are local queries useful for robust learning?," under submission, 2022.
2. **P. Gourdeau**, V. Kanade, M. Kwiatkowska, and J. Worrell, "Sample complexity bounds for robustly learning decision lists against evasion attacks," in *International Joint Conference on Artificial Intelligence (IJCAI)*, 2022.
3. **P. Gourdeau**, V. Kanade, M. Kwiatkowska, and J. Worrell, "On the hardness of robust classification," in *33rd Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS)*, 2019. [spotlight]
4. B. Balle, **P. Gourdeau**, and P. Panangaden, "Bisimulation metrics for weighted automata," in *44th International Colloquium on Automata, Languages, and Programming (ICALP)*, Schloss Dagstuhl-Leibniz-Zentrum fuer Informatik, 2017.
5. **P. Gourdeau**, L. Kanbar, W. Shalish, G. Sant'Anna, R. Kearney, and D. Precup, "Feature selection and oversampling in analysis of clinical data for extubation readiness in extreme preterm infants," in *2015 37th Annual International Conference of the IEEE Engineering in Medicine and Biology Society (EMBC)*, pp. 4427–4430, IEEE, 2015.

INVITED TALKS

Sample Complexity Bounds for Robust Classification

- University of Princeton
- Laval University, Quebec City

On the Hardness of Robust Classification

- Mila, McGill/University of Montreal
- IRIF, Paris
- Bordeaux

Bisimulation Metrics for Weighted Finite Automata

- University of Warwick
- University College London
- University of Oxford