

Raihan Seraj

DOCTORAL STUDENT · MCGILL UNIVERSITY

3622 Durocher, Apt 407, Montreal, QC, Canada

☎ (+1) 514 998 8234 | ✉ raihan.seraj@mail.mcgill.ca | 🏠 raihan-seraj.github.io | 📷 [Raihan-Seraj](#) | 🌐 [raihan-seraj](#)

Research Interest

Reinforcement learning, Deep learning, Multi-agent systems, Game theory

Education

McGill University

PHD, DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRICAL AND COMPUTER ENGINEERING

- Affiliation: Montreal Institute of Learning Algorithms (MILA).
- Research: Reinforcement learning for multi-agent systems.

Montreal, Canada

Jan. 2019 - Present

McGill University

MENG, DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRICAL AND COMPUTER ENGINEERING

- Thesis: Learning in the presence of partial observability and concept drifts.
- Graduate Courses: Machine Learning, Optimization and Optimal Control, Reinforcement Learning, Applied Machine Learning, Intelligent Robotics, Reinforcement Learning, Stochastic Control and Markov Decision Processes.

Montreal, Canada

Jan. 2017 - Jan. 2019

Islamic University of Technology (IUT)

BSC, DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC ENGINEERING

- Thesis: Classification of malignant and benign tissue using logistic regression with dynamic sigmoid function

Dhaka, Bangladesh

Dec. 2011 - Dec. 2015

Mastermind

GCE O AND A LEVEL

Dhaka, Bangladesh

Jan. 2009 - Jun. 2011

Honors & Awards

2019	GERAD co-supervised student award: Winner of the GERAD research grant competition for co supervised graduate students	Montreal, Canada
2019	McGill Engineering Doctoral Award (MEDA): Given to doctoral students based on the excellence of the student's academic and research record.	Montreal, Canada
2018	MITACS Accelerate Fellowship: Award given to students to carry extensive research in industries.	Montreal, Canada
2017,2018	Graduate Excellence fellowship: Award given to support outstanding Master's students.	Montreal, Canada
2016	Champion: Brac Manthan award for e-health category.	Dhaka, Bangladesh
2011	Entrance exam scholarship: Merit based scholarship for at IUT entrance exam.	Dhaka, Bangladesh
2009,2011	Daily Star Award: Given to outstanding performers in GCE O and A level examinations.	Dhaka, Bangladesh

Research Experience

Paladin AI

SCIENTIST IN RESIDENCE

- Worked on learning algorithms for automatic flight data segmentation through automatic feature learning.
- Devised suitable learning algorithms with the R&D team for handling time series data from aircraft simulators that can identify and segment pilot reactions to malfunctions and assign these reactions a proficiency metric.

Montreal, Canada

Mar. 2020- Oct. 2020

Aerial Technologies

RESEARCH SCIENTIST INTERN

- Worked on learning algorithms for passive wifi localization, using wifi Channel State Information (CSI) data.
- Worked on deep learning algorithms for time series to classify fall detection from wifi CSI data.
- Used time delayed embeddings to extract useful features necessary for activity recognition.
- Worked on transformer models for fall detection using CSI data.

Montreal, Canada

Mar. 2018- May. 2019

- Worked on learning algorithms to automatically classify QRS complexes to detect acceptable ECG traces.
- Developed a personal computer based telemedicine system with integrated diagnostic equipment like stethoscope, respiration monitor that use internet for live (real time) data transfer.
- Worked on software development for automatic frequency domain analysis to identify neurological disorder from evoked EMG responses.
- Developed software both in java and android platform for a 12 lead computerized ECG machine that allows near real time data transmission to and from remote areas.
- Developed software for Computerized Dynamic Pedograph System that carry out automatic analysis of pixel values using foot pressures and perform linear plot with pixel values against instant pressure values.

IUT Innovation lab*Dhaka, Bangladesh*

RESEARCH INTERN

Feb. 2014- Nov. 2015

- Worked towards developing an embedded security system using arduino and raspberry pi interfaced with sensors that was integrated in a concrete to build a smart concrete system for homes.
- Worked towards developing an android software using the concept of delay tolerant network capable of handling delayed request for online news paper during lack of network infrastructure.
- Developed a quad-copter with a team to work as an air borne extension providing bird's eye view of a wireless controlled rover capable of sending live video stream.
- Developed a device using twitter api, arduino and raspberry pi that is capable of remotely switching and regulating any 220V ac devices using tweets.

Publications

- **Raihan Seraj**, Jerome Le Ny and Aditya Mahajan. "Mean-field approximation of large-population beauty-contest games." (submitted)
- Jayakumar Subramanian, Amit Sinha, **Raihan Seraj** and Aditya Mahajan. "Approximate information state for approximate planning and reinforcement learning in partially observed systems". (submitted)
- Jayakumar Subramanian, **Raihan Seraj** and Aditya Mahajan "Reinforcement learning for mean-field teams" AAMAS Workshop on Adaptive and Learning Agents, Montreal, Canada, 13-17 May, 2019.
- Mohiuddin Ahmed, **Raihan Seraj**, Salimur Chowdhury and Syed Mohammed Samsul Islam. "The k-means Algorithm: A Comprehensive Survey and Performance Evaluation", Electronics 9.8 (2020): 1295.
- Riashat Islam, **Raihan Seraj**, Pierre-Luc Bacon, Doina Precup. "Entropy Regularization with Discounted Future State Distribution in Policy Gradient Methods", NeurIPS 2019 workshop on Optimization Foundations for Reinforcement Learning.
- Riashat Islam, **Raihan Seraj**, Samin Yeasar Arnob, Doina Precup. "Doubly Robust Off-Policy Actor Critic Algorithms for Reinforcement Learning", NeurIPS 2019 workshop on Safety and Robustness in Decision Making.
- Jayakumar Subramanian, **Raihan Seraj** and Aditya Mahajan "Reinforcement learning for mean-field teams" Reinforcement Learning and Decision Making (RLDM), Montreal, Canada, 7–10 July, 2019.
- Jayakumar Subramanian, **Raihan Seraj** and Aditya Mahajan "Decentralized actor decentralized critic for multiagent co-operative environments (under submission)
- **Raihan Seraj**, Mohiuddin Ahmed (2020) Concept Drift for Big Data. In: Fadlullah Z., Khan Pathan AS. (eds) Combating Security Challenges in the Age of Big Data. Advanced Sciences and Technologies for Security Applications. Springer, Cham
- **Patent Provisional** filed with Aerial Technologies on Handling Concept Drifts in Wi-Fi based Localization

Positions of Responsibility

2020	Teaching Assistant , COMP 360, Algorithm Design, McGill University.	<i>Montreal, Canada</i>
2019	Teaching Assistant , ECSE 324, Computer Organization, McGill University.	<i>Montreal, Canada</i>
2019	Teaching Assistant , COMP 760, Intelligent Robotics, McGill University.	<i>Montreal, Canada</i>
2018	Volunteer , Neural Information Processing Systems.	<i>Montreal, Canada</i>
2018	Reviewer , International Journal for Computers and Applications.	<i>Montreal, Canada</i>
2014	President , IEEE, IUT Student Branch.	<i>Dhaka, Bangladesh</i>

Projects

- **Learning in games:** Studied different learning frameworks in stochastic games since learning in game theoretic framework is interesting as it does not necessarily guarantee convergence to Nash equilibrium or any concepts of equilibria in general. The project focused on analyzing one of the simplest and earliest form of learning algorithm known as the fictitious play.
- **Soft Trust DDPG:** Worked on devising a trust region interpretation for Deep Deterministic Policy gradient algorithms. The proposed architecture allowed the use of regularization for deterministic policies in different continuous control tasks.
- **Reinforcement Learning in Multi-agent Swarms:** An adapted version of conventional single agent RL algorithm was applied for swarm robotics in the context of swarms adapting to different target distribution, the work was further extended to incorporate hierarchical reinforcement learning architecture.
- **ICLR Reproducibility Challenge:** Analyzed the reproducibility of deep reinforcement learning algorithms for ICLR 2017 Reproducibility challenge.
- **Unifying On-Policy and Off-Policy Learning in TD Learning and Actor Critic Methods:** Combined the stability of On-Policy TD learning with the efficiency of Off-Policy Learning and proposed a unified approach where the control algorithm either uses on-policy sampled action or off-policy samples depending on the amount of exploration. The idea has been further extended to Actor Critic methods and $Q(\sigma)$ algorithm with eligibility traces.

Programming Language and Skills

Languages: C, C++, Java, Python, Mathematica, Julia, R, Matlab

Frameworks: Numpy, Pandas, Scikit-learn, Pytorch, Tensorflow, Chainer, Mxnet, Scipy

Systems: Linux, OSX

References

Available upon request.