Saeid Hajizadeh

CONTACT INFORMATION 851 S. Morgan St.

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University of Illinois at Chicago

Chicago, IL 60607

Google Scholar: Google Scholar

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Nonconvex Minimax Optimization, Nonsmooth Optimization, Large-Scale Optimization, Machine Learning, and Application of Variational Analysis in Optimization

EDUCATION

The University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago, IL

PhD, Mathematical Computer Science

2017-2023

Advised by: Haihao (Sean) Lu and Lev Reyzin The University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago, IL

Masters of Science, Electrical and Computer Engineering,

2016

Ferdowsi University of Mashhad, Mashhad, Iran

B.Sc., Electrical Engineering,

2011

• Thesis Topic: Broadcast Channels in Network Information Theory

• Advisor: Ghosheh Abed Hodtani

RESEARCH

The University of Chicago, Chicago, IL

Large-scale minimax optimization,

2020-Present

This is a multi-folded project with my advisor, Haihao Lu, in which we try to understand the reach of first-order methods in solving smooth nonconvex-nonconcave minimax problems. In the most recent result¹, we proved the convergence of Extra-Gradient Method to a stationary point of nonconvex-nonconcave objective function when there is strong interaction between the two adversaries, i.e. the two variables the objective is being minimaxed upon.

In the project I very recently started, we are looking at the question of how one can use first-order methods to efficiently solve linear programming when the scale is huge. In these problems, simplex and interior point method, which are considered in the class of second-order methods, will admit storage and computational issues in very large scale. First order primal-dual methods, for instance, only admit matrix-vector product which is efficient even in huge scales. On the other hand, first-order methods are easily distributed across various machines while classical LP methods solve linear systems of equations which are challenging to distribute across various systems and GPUs.

The University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago, IL

Information Theoretical limits of Communication on two-way channels,

2013-2015

Ferdowsi University of Mashhad, Mashhad, Iran

Undergraduate Research Student, Information Theory,

2010-2012

¹This draft will be available on ArXiv very soon.

Coursework

- Fundamentals of Deep Learning
- Numerical Optimization
- Convex and Variational Analysis (self-taught; here are my notes)
- Real Analysis
- Probability Theory
- Point-set Topology
- · Market Microstructure and Electronic Trading
- · Quantitative Methods in Finance
- Ordinary Differential Equations
- · Advanced Statistical Theory
- · Network Information Theory
- Stochastic Process
- Digital Signal Processing II
- Advanced Digital Communications
- Detection and Estimation Theory

SELF-STUDY COURSEWORK

- Statistical Learning
 - Linear Regression Models with Some Examples in Finance
 - Logistic Regression, Linear Discriminant Analysis (LDA), Quadratic Discriminant Analysis (QDA), and *K*-Nearest Neighbor (KNN)
 - Non-linear Learning Methods
- · Advanced Linear Algebra
 - Linear Algebra brain-teasers I solved

HONORS AND AWARDS

Exceptional Undergraduate researcher, Ferdowsi University of Mashhad

PUBLICATIONS

- S. Hajizadeh, Haihao Lu, and Benjamin Grimmer, On the Convergence a Variant of Extra-Gradient Method for Nonconvex-Nonconcave Minimax Problems, In preparation
- S. Berenjian, S. Hajizadeh, R. Ebrahimi, *An Incentive Security Model to Provide Fairness for Peer-to-Peer Networks*, *IEEE Conference on Applications, Information and Network Security*, 19-21 Nov. 2019, Penang, Malaysia.
- M. Monemizadeh, H. Fehri, G. Abed Hodtani, S. Hajizadeh *Capacity Bounds and High-SNR Capacity of the Additive Exponential Noise Channel With Additive Exponential Interference*, *Iranian Journal of Electrical and Electronic Engineering*, Aug. 2019.
- S. Hajizadeh, N. Devroye *Dependence Balance Outer Bounds for the Discrete Memoryless Two-way Multiple Access Broadcast Channel*, 52^{nd} Annual Allerton Conference on Communication, Control, and Computing, Monticello, IL, Oct. 2014.
- S. Hajizadeh, M. Monemizadeh, and E. Bahmani *State-dependent Z Channels*, 48^{th} *Annual Conference on Information Sciences and Systems (CISS)*, Princeton University, March 19-21, 2014. More complete version available at ArXiv.
- S. Hajizadeh, G. A. Hodtani *Three-receiver Broadcast Channels with Side Information*, *IEEE Int. Symp. on Inf. Theory*, Boston, MA, July 2012.
- S. Hajizadeh, G. A. Hodtani Asymmetric Broadcast Channels, 50th annual Allerton Conference on Communications, Control, and Computing, Monticello, IL, Oct. 2012.

- S. Hajizadeh, M. Monemizadeh, G. A. Hodtani A Coding Theorem for the Discrete Mem-oryless Compound Multiple Access Channels with Common Message and Generalized Feedback, 50th annual Allerton Conference on Communications, Control, and Computing, Monticello, IL, Oct. 2012.
- M. Momenizadeh, S. Hajizadeh, G. A. Hodtani S. A. Seyedin Compound Multiple Access channel with Common Message and Intersymbol Interference, International Symposium on Telecommunications (IST), Tehran, Iran, 2012.
- M. Momenizadeh, S. Hajizadeh, G. A. Hodtani Capacity Bounds for Exponentially Dirty Paper, submitted to IEEE Wireless Communications Letters, available online at ArXiv.
- S. Hajizadeh Broadcast Channels, B.Sc. Thesis, September 2011, Ferdowsi University of Mashhad, Mashhad, Iran.

COMPUTER SKILLS • Julia

- Python
- Matlab
- R
- C++ (less proficient)

HOBBIES AND **PASTIME**

- Listening to the U.S. Supreme Court Oral Arguments
- Reading about Antitrust Law
- Reading History (of U.S. Supreme Court and Japan, in particular)
- Listening to Podcasts ("The Zach Lowe" and "We The People" are my favorites)
- Watching Basketball
- Camping
- Cooking