

# Aditya Modi

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## Overview

My core area of research is reinforcement learning with focus on sample complexity analyses. Broadly, I'm interested in developing methods with provable guarantees for sequential decision making frameworks like reinforcement learning, (contextual) bandits and general online learning.

## Education

Sept '16-Present **PhD, Computer Science**, *University of Michigan*, Ann Arbor.  
Advisors: Satinder Singh and Ambuj Tewari

Aug '12- May '16 **Bachelor of Technology**, *Indian Institute of Technology*, Kanpur, GPA – 9.4/10.0.  
Major: Computer Science

## Publications/Preprints

In preparation **Model-Free Representation Learning and Exploration in Low-rank MDPs.**  
Alekh Agarwal, Jinglin Chen, Nan Jiang, Akshay Krishnamurthy, **Aditya Modi**  
\*Alphabetical order.

ICML 2020 **Clinician-in-the-Loop Decision Making: Reinforcement Learning with Near-Optimal Set-Valued Policies.**  
Shengpu Tang, **Aditya Modi**, Michael Sjoding, Jenna Wiens [link]  
*International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML), 2020.*

UAI 2020 **No-regret Exploration in Contextual Reinforcement Learning.**  
**Aditya Modi** and Ambuj Tewari [link]  
*Conference on Uncertainty in Artificial Intelligence (UAI), 2020*  
*Abridged version accepted to ICML 2019 wkshp on RL for Real Life and RLDM 2019.*

AISTATS 2020 **Sample Complexity of Learning with Linearly Combined Model Ensembles.**  
**Aditya Modi**, Nan Jiang, Ambuj Tewari, Satinder Singh [link]  
*International Conference on Artificial Intelligence and Statistics (AISTATS), 2020.*

AAAI 2020 **Meta-Reasoning in Modular Software Systems via Reinforcement Learning.**  
**A. Modi**, D. Dey, A. Agarwal, A. Swaminathan, B. Nushi, S. Andrist, E. Horvitz [link]  
*AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence (AAAI), 2020*  
Invited poster at *ICML 2019 Workshop on Reinforcement Learning for Real Life*

ALT 2018 **Markov Decision Processes with Continuous Side Information.**  
**Aditya Modi**, Nan Jiang, Satinder Singh, Ambuj Tewari [link]  
*International Conference on Algorithmic Learning Theory (ALT) 2018*

## Research Experience

July-Oct 2018 **Research Intern**, *Microsoft Research*, Redmond.  
**Optimizing modular software pipelines via Reinforcement Learning**  
Mentors: Debadeepta Dey, Adith Swaminathan, Alekh Agarwal, Eric Horvitz

Worked on the application of contextual bandit, learning to search and policy search methods for input-adaptive parameter/algorithm selection across components in any modular software pipeline.

Sept-Dec 2016 **Research Assistant**, *University of Michigan*, Ann Arbor.

**Data-dependent Importance weighted Active Learning**

Advisors: Ambuj Tewari and Barzan Mozafari

Studied the sample complexity of importance-weighted active learning (IWAL) algorithms based on data-dependent complexity measures for bounded loss functions.

May-July 2015 **Research Intern**, *Microsoft Research*, Bangalore, India.

**Active Semi-supervised Performance Evaluation**

Advisor: Sundararajan Sellamanickam, Principal Applied Scientist.

[Report]

Proposed an estimation method for performance measures of black-box classifiers using scarcely labelled datasets for various non-decomposable performance measures (ROC curve, PR curve, F-measure).

## Scholastic Achievements

2019 AAAI 2020 travel scholarship.

2019 NeurIPS 2019, 2020 and ICML 2020 best reviewer award.

2013, 2015 Academic Excellence Award, IIT Kanpur.

2014 Ram Parkash Chopra Memorial Scholarship, given for academic excellence, IIT Kanpur.

2013 O.P. Jindal Engineering and Management scholarship (awarded to select few candidates from top eng. and management institutes in India)

2012 Secured All India Rank 132 in IIT-JEE 2012 out of 0.5 million candidates.

2012 Secured All India Rank 150 in AIEEE 2012 out of 1.2 million candidates.

## Talks

March 2019 **Contextual Decision Processes using Generalized Linear Models.**

Speed Oral and poster, MSSISS 2019

March 2018 **Markov Decision Processes with Continuous Side Information.**

Oral presentation, MSSISS 2018

## Teaching experience

Winter 2017 **Graduate Student Instructor**, EECS 445 - Machine Learning, Univ. of Michigan.

Winter 2016 **Student Mentor**, CS 771 - Machine Learning Techniques, IIT Kanpur.

Fall 2015 **Teaching Assistant**, ESO 207 - Data Structures and Algorithms, IIT Kanpur.

## Professional Services and Participation

Program Committee/reviewer AAAI 2019, AISTATS 2019-21, ALT 2020, ICML 2019-21, NeurIPS 2019-20

Fall '20 Long term participant in Simons Institute' (UC Berkeley) program on Theory of Reinforcement Learning

2017, 2018 Co-organizer, Statistical Machine Learning Reading group, Univ. of Michigan.

## Relevant Coursework

Theory Advanced Algorithms, Computational Complexity, Algorithmic Game Theory, Approximation Algorithms

Statistics Statistical Inference, Probability Theory, Large Sample Theory, Applied Probability and Stochastic Modeling.

Machine Learning/AI Machine Learning Techniques, Learning with Kernels, Online Learning and Optimization, Probabilistic Machine Learning, Optimization Methods in Statistics, Advanced Artificial Intelligence, Applied Game Theory.