

Aditya Modi

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Overview

My core area of research is reinforcement learning with focus on sample efficient methods. 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

- 2016-Present **PhD, Computer Science**, *University of Michigan*, Ann Arbor.
Advisors: Satinder Singh and Ambuj Tewari
- 2012-2016 **Bachelor of Technology**, *Indian Institute of Technology*, Kanpur, *GPA – 9.4/10.0*.
Major: Computer Science

Publications/Preprints

- Arxiv **Meta-Reasoning in Modular Software Systems via Reinforcement Learning.**
A. Modi, D. Dey, A. Agarwal, A. Swaminathan, B. Nushi, S. Andrist, E. Horvitz
Invited poster at *ICML 2019 Workshop on Reinforcement Learning for Real Life* [\[link\]](#)
- Arxiv **Contextual Decision Processes using Generalized Linear Models.**
Aditya Modi and Ambuj Tewari
Preliminary version accepted to *RLDM 2019, Montreal, Canada* [\[link\]](#)
- ALT 2018 **Markov Decision Processes with Continuous Side Information.**
Aditya Modi, Nan Jiang, Satinder Singh, Ambuj Tewari
International Conference on Algorithmic Learning Theory (ALT) 2018 [\[link\]](#)

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

The project investigates 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

Explored the domain 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).

Awards and Achievements

- Feb 2018 Rackham Travel Grant (ALT/AISTATS 2018)
- May 2016 Travel Scholarship for MLSS Cadiz, 2016.
- 2013, 2015 Academic Excellence Award, IIT Kanpur.
- 2014 Ram Parkash Chopra Memorial Scholarship, given for academic excellence, IIT Kanpur.
- 2013 OP Jindal Engineering and Management Scholarship (OPJEMS)
- 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/Invited Posters

- June 2018 **Meta-Reasoning in Modular Software Systems via Reinforcement Learning.**
Invited poster, ICML 2019 Workshop on Reinforcement Learning for Real Life
- 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.

Activities

- Reviewer AAAI 2019, AISTATS 2019, ICML 2019, NeurIPS 2019
- 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.