Brahma S. Payse

Contact

Email: pavse@wisc.edu

INFORMATION Webpage: brahmasp.github.io

GScholar: https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=2Dc_GnUAAAAJ&hl=en

EDUCATION

University of Wisconsin - Madison (Spring 2022 -)

• Ph.D. in Computer Science.

• Interests: Reinforcement learning, representation learning, continuing RL, off-policy evaluation.

• Advisor: Josiah P. Hanna.

The University of Texas at Austin (2015 - 2020)

• M.S. in Computer Science.

• B.S. in Computer Science.

• Advisor: Peter Stone.

Publications (*= contribution)

Peer-reviewed Conference Papers

- 5. **Brahma S. Pavse**, Matthew Zurek, Yudong Chen, Qiaomin Xie, and Josiah P. Hanna. Learning to Stabilize Online Reinforcement Learning in Unbounded State Spaces. International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML), July 2024. Acceptance rate: 27.5%.
- 4. **Brahma S. Pavse** and Josiah P. Hanna. State-Action Similarity-Based Representations for Off-Policy Evaluation. Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS), December 2023. Acceptance rate: 26.1%.
- 3. Brahma S. Pavse and Josiah P. Hanna. Scaling Marginalized Importance Sampling to High-Dimensional State-Spaces via State Abstraction. Association for the Advancement of Artificial Intelligence (AAAI), February 2023. Acceptance rate: 19.6%. Selected for oral presentation.
- Brahma S. Pavse*, Faraz Torabi*, Josiah P. Hanna, Garrett Warnell, Peter Stone. RIDM: Reinforced Inverse Dynamics Modeling for Learning From a Single Observed Demonstration. IEEE/RSJ International Conference on Intelligent Robots and Systems (IROS), October 2020. Acceptance rate: 47%. 2nd place in the RoboCup 3D Sim Scientific Challenge 2019.
- Brahma S. Pavse, Ishan Durugkar, Josiah P. Hanna, and Peter Stone. Reducing Sampling Error in Batch Temporal Difference Learning. International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML), July 2020. Acceptance rate: 21.8%.

Journal Articles

Brahma S. Pavse*, Faraz Torabi*, Josiah P. Hanna, Garrett Warnell, Peter Stone. RIDM: Reinforced Inverse Dynamics Modeling for Learning From a Single Observed Demonstration. IEEE Robotics and Automation Letters, July 2020.
2nd place in the RoboCup 3D Sim Scientific Challenge 2019.

Peer-reviewed Workshop Papers

2. **Brahma S. Pavse** and Josiah P. Hanna. Scaling Marginalized Importance Sampling to High-Dimensional State-Spaces via State Abstraction. Workshop on Of-

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fline Reinforcement Learning, Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS), December 2022.

 Brahma S. Pavse, Josiah P. Hanna, Ishan Durugkar, and Peter Stone. On Sampling Error in Batch Action-Value Prediction Algorithms. Workshop on Offline Reinforcement Learning, Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS), December 2020.

Book Chapters

- Patrick MacAlpine, Faraz Torabi, Brahma Pavse, and Peter Stone. UT Austin Villa: RoboCup 2019 3D Simulation League Competition and Technical Challenge Champions. In RoboCup 2019: Robot World Cup XXIII, Lecture Notes in Artificial Intelligence, Springer, 2019.
- Patrick MacAlpine, Faraz Torabi, Brahma Pavse, John Sigmon, and Peter Stone. UT Austin Villa: RoboCup 2018 3D Simulation League Champions. In RoboCup 2018: Robot Soccer World Cup XXII, Lecture Notes in Artificial Intelligence, Springer, 2019.

Professional Experience

UW-Madison, Madison, WI, USA

Graduate RA — Reinforcement learning

Jan. 2022 -

Sony AI America, Remote, USA

AI Research Intern — Reinforcement learning team

Summer 2023

• Mentor: Varun Kompella.

Salesforce.com, San Francisco, CA, USA

Software Engineer — Database Optimization team

Aug. 2020 - Jan. 2022

UT Austin and Bosch, Austin, TX, USA

Autonomous Driving Research Scientist Assistant

Summer 2020

Salesforce.com, San Francisco, CA, USA

Software Engineering Intern — Database Optimization team

Summer 2019, 2018, 2017

SAS Institute, Cary, NC, USA

Software Engineering Intern — Data Management team

Summer 2016

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX, USA

Teaching Assistant — Data Structures — Rating: 4.5/5.0

Fall 2016

AWARDS AND HONORS

- NeurIPS Top Reviewer Award (Top 10%) (2023).
- AAAI Student Scholarship (2023).
- UW Madison CS Summer Research Fellowship Award (2022).
- UW Madison CS Graduate Scholarship (2022).
- UT Austin CS Special Departmental Honors (Research) (2020).
- Eva Stevenson Woods Endowed Presidential Scholarship (2019).
- National Instruments Endowed Scholarship (2019).
- RoboCup 3D Simulation League World Champions (2019, 2018).

SERVICE

- Coordinator, UW-Madison Reinforcement Learning Reading Group (2022-).
- Graduate Student Mentor, Wisconsin Science and Computing Emerging Research Stars (WISCERS) (2022).
- Reviewer, UT Austin Computer Science Dept. MS Admissions Committee (2020).

REVIEWING

- Reinforcement Learning Conference (RLC) 2024.
- NeurIPS Goal-Conditioned Reinforcement Learning Workshop 2023.
- Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS) 2023, 2022.
- International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML) 2024, 2023.
- Association for the Advancement of Artificial Intelligence (AAAI) 2023.
- International Conference on Learning Representations (ICLR) 2023, 2022.
- International Conference on Robotics and Automation (ICRA) 2021.

Mentoring

UW Madison Undergraduates

- Lucas Poon (2024-)
- Adhit Sankaran (2022 2023). Next: Cornell MS in CS.

INVITED TALKS

- UT Austin Reinforcement Learning Reading Group. April 2024.
- EdIntelligence at The University of Edinburgh. July 2020.

Personal Details

• Citizenship: USA