Brendon G. Anderson

bganderson@berkeley.edu

Education University of California, Berkeley

Aug. 2018 – Present

Ph.D. in Controls

Advisor: Somayeh Sojoudi

Research Areas: Optimization, Machine Learning, Control Theory

Minors: Optimization, Statistics

University of California, Berkeley

Aug. 2018 – May 2020

M.S. in Controls

Thesis: Towards Optimality and Robustness Guarantees for Data-Driven Learning and Decision Making

University of California, Los Angeles

Sep. 2015 – Mar. 2018

B.S. in Mechanical Engineering (summa cum laude)

Technical Breadth Area: Mathematics

Experience

Graduate Student Researcher — UC Berkeley

Aug. 2018 – Present

Advisor: Somayeh Sojoudi

 Conducted various research projects surrounding robustness and optimality guarantees for nonconvex optimization problems in machine learning.

${\bf Jr.\ Development\ Engineer-UCLA\ Engineering}$ Jan. 2018 – Jun. 2018 Advisor: Robert M'Closkey

• Designed, fabricated, and tested low-frequency folded pendulum accelerometer for use in UCLA's dynamic systems and control laboratories.

CVT Analysis, Design, Control — Baja SAE Sept. 2015 – Jun. 2018

- Developed electronic continuously variable transmission (CVT) and executed system identification and control.
- Modeled mechanical CVT and constructed flyweight optimization program.

Research Assistant — UCLA Mathematics

Jun. 2017 – Aug. 2017

Advisors: Matt Haberland, Olga Turanova, and Andrea L. Bertozzi

• Formulated performance quantification methods for swarm coverage control algorithms.

- Publications [1] B. G. Anderson, Z. Ma, J. Li, and S. Sojoudi, "Tightened convex relaxations for neural network robustness certification," 2020. Under review.
 - [2] B. G. Anderson and S. Sojoudi, "Global optimality guarantees for nonconvex unsupervised video segmentation," in Proceedings of the 57th Annual Allerton Conference on Communication, Control, and Computing, pp. 965–972, 2019.

- [3] B. G. Anderson, E. Loeser, M. Gee, F. Ren, S. Biswas, O. Turanova, M. Haberland, and A. L. Bertozzi, "Quantifying robotic swarm coverage," in Informatics in Control, Automation and Robotics: 15th International Conference, ICINCO 2018, Porto, Portugal, July 29–31, 2018, Revised Selected Papers, vol. 613 of Lecture Notes in Electrical Engineering, pp. 276–301, Springer, 2019.
- [4] B. G. Anderson, E. Loeser, M. Gee, F. Ren, S. Biswas, O. Turanova, M. Haberland, and A. L. Bertozzi, "Quantitative assessment of robotic swarm coverage," in *Proceedings of the 15th International Conference on Informatics in Control, Automation and Robotics (ICINCO)—Volume 2*, pp. 91–101, 2018.

Awards

- Graduate Division Block Grant Award, UC Berkeley
- Apr. 2019
- Harry M. Showman Prize (schoolwide research award), UCLA
- Jun. 2018
- Jonathan David Wolfe Memorial Scholarship, UCLA

Apr. 2018

Teaching

Supplemental Instructor — Palomar College

• Electromagnetism (PHYS 231)

Spring 2015

• General Chemistry (CHEM 115)

Fall 2014, Spring 2015

Professional Activities

- Peer Advisor for the Bay Area Graduate Pathways to Stem (GPS) program, hosted by UC Berkeley Engineering and Stanford Engineering, 2020.
- Grant proposal contributor; assisted with writing DARPA funding proposal, 2019.
- Chair of the session "Data Analytics", 57th Annual Allerton Conference on Communication, Control, and Computing, 2019.

Relevant

Optimization

Coursework

- Nonlinear Programming, Professor Javad Lavaei
- Convex Optimization, Professors Somayeh Sojoudi and Laurent El Ghaoui
- Optimization Models, Professors Laurent El Ghaoui and Alex Bayen

Machine Learning

- Statistical Learning Theory (audit), Professors Ben Recht and Moritz Hardt
- Learning and Optimization, Professor Anil Aswani
- Deep Learning (online), Professor Andrew Ng
- Machine Learning (online), Professor Andrew Ng

Control Theory

- Nonlinear Systems: Analysis, Stability, and Control, Professor Claire Tomlin
- Advanced Control Theory I, Professor Roberto Horowitz
- Advanced Control Theory II, Professor Masayoshi Tomizuka

- Linear Dynamic Systems, Professor Robert M'Closkey
- Digital Control, Professor Tsu-Chin Tsao

Mathematics and Statistics

- Theoretical Statistics (Classical), Professor Will Fithian
- Theoretical Statistics (High-dimensional), Professor Yan Shuo Tan
- Engineering Mathematics, Professors Andrew Packard, Somayeh Sojoudi, and Kameshwar Poolla
- Analysis (Real; Complex; Numerical)
- Differential Equations (Ordinary; Partial)

Skills Programming: MATLAB, Python, C++, CVX

Tools and Applications: LATEX, TikZ, LabView