Brendon G. Anderson

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Education University of California, Berkeley

Aug. 2018 – Present

Ph.D. in Control Theory Advisor: Somayeh Sojoudi

Research Areas: Optimization, Machine Learning, Control Theory

Minors: Mathematics, Optimization

University of California, Berkeley

Aug. 2018 – May 2020

M.S. in Control Theory

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

Research Experience

Graduate Student Researcher — UC Berkeley

Aug. 2018 – Present

Advisor: Somayeh Sojoudi

Jr. Development Engineer — UCLA Engineering

Jan. 2018 – Jun. 2018

Advisor: Robert M'Closkey

Research Assistant — UCLA Mathematics

Jun. 2017 – Aug. 2017

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

- Publications [1] B. G. Anderson and S. Sojoudi, "Data-driven certification of neural networks with random input noise," preprint, 2021.
 - [2] B. G. Anderson, Z. Ma, J. Li, and S. Sojoudi, "Partition-based convex relaxations for certifying the robustness of ReLU neural networks," arXiv preprint arXiv:2101.09306, 2021.
 - [3] F. Gama, B. G. Anderson, and S. Sojoudi, "Node-Variant Graph Filters in Graph Neural Networks," arXiv preprint arXiv:2106.00089, 2021.
 - [4] B. G. Anderson, Z. Ma, J. Li, and S. Sojoudi, "Tightened convex relaxations for neural network robustness certification," in Proceedings of the 59th IEEE Conference on Decision and Control, 2020.
 - [5] 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, 2019.
 - [6] 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.

[7] 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), 2018.

- Invited Talks 1. INFORMS Annual Meeting, Anaheim, CA Oct. 2021 "Data-driven certification of neural networks with random inputs." Research presentation.
 - 2. Tsinghua-Berkeley Shenzhen Institute, Berkeley, CA May 2021 "Robust neural networks." Guest lecture for Optimization Theory and Machine Learning.
 - 3. University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI Apr. 2021 "Robust neural networks." Guest lecture for Advanced Topics in Applied Data Analytics (IOE 491).
 - 4. INFORMS Annual Meeting, National Harbor, MD Nov. 2020 "Partition-based convex relaxations for robustness certification of ReLU neural networks." Research presentation.
 - 5. Conference on Control Technology and Applications, Montréal Aug. 2020 "Robustness analysis of neural networks." Tutorial session.
 - 6. Institute for Pure and Applied Mathematics, Los Angeles, CA Aug. 2017 "Robotic swarm analysis." Research presentation.

Awards

- 1. John and Janet McMurtry Fellowship, UC Berkeley Dec. 2020 Departmental award for academic excellence, sole recipient.
- Dec. 2020 2. Travel Support Award, Conference on Decision and Control
- 3. Graduate Assembly Professional Development Award, UC Berkeley Aug. 2020
- 4. Graduate Division Block Grant Award, UC Berkeley Apr. 2019
- 5. Harry M. Showman Prize, UCLA Jun. 2018 Schoolwide research award, sole undergraduate recipient.
- 6. Jonathan David Wolfe Memorial Scholarship, UCLA Apr. 2018 Departmental award for academic excellence, one of two recipients.

Teaching

Graduate Student Instructor — UC Berkeley

1. Nonlinear and Discrete Optimization (IEOR 160)

Fall 2021

2. Nonlinear and Discrete Optimization (IEOR 160) Fall 2020 Student ratings (0-5): Mean 4.54, Median 5, Standard deviation 0.76.

Supplemental Instructor — Palomar College

1. Electromagnetism (PHYS 231)

Spring 2015

2. General Chemistry (CHEM 115)

Fall 2014, Spring 2015

Professional Activities

- 1. Organizer and co-chair of the session "Robustness of Neural Networks," IN-FORMS Annual Meeting, 2021.
- 2. Graduate Student Mentor for incoming students, hosted by UC Berkeley Mechanical Engineering Graduate Student Council, 2021.
- 3. Reviewer for Conference on Decision and Control (CDC), 2021.
- 4. Reviewer for Transactions on Automatic Control, 2021.
- 5. Reviewer for Artificial Intelligence and Statistics Conference (AISTATS), 2020.
- 6. Reviewer for American Control Conference (ACC), 2020.
- 7. Peer Advisor for the Bay Area Graduate Pathways to Stem (GPS) program, hosted by UC Berkeley Engineering and Stanford Engineering, 2020.
- 8. Grant proposal contributor; assisted with writing DARPA funding proposal, 2019.
- 9. Chair of the session "Data Analytics," 57th Annual Allerton Conference on Communication, Control, and Computing, 2019.