

Experience

I am working towards completing my PhD thesis on semi-supervised learning for image classification tasks using deep learning. Before this, I involved in many projects including motion prediction (using LSTMs and reachability theory), motion planning (with RRTs), learning for optimal control problems (using RNNs) and deep reinforcement learning.

Publications

Safa Cicek, Stefano Soatto, Input and Weight Space Smoothing for Semi-supervised Learning, work under progress, preprint [arXiv:1805.09302](https://arxiv.org/abs/1805.09302).

Safa Cicek and Hussein Fawzi and Stefano Soatto, Saas: Speed as a Supervisor for Semi-Supervised Learning, ECCV (2018), <https://arxiv.org/abs/1805.00980>

Education

UCLA, Los Angeles, California — PhD, 2015-present

In UCLA Vision Lab under supervision of Professor Stefano Soatto. I passed EE preliminary exam in 2016. I passed EE Qualification exam and advanced to candidacy in 2018.

Thesis: Deep semi-supervised learning

Committee: Stefano Soatto (UCLA CS), Lieven Vandenberghe (UCLA EE), Paulo Tabuada (UCLA EE), Guy Van den Broeck (UCLA CS).

UCLA, Los Angeles, California — Masters, 2015-2017

EE, Electrical Engineering.

Bilkent University, Ankara, Turkey — BS, 2011-2015

EE, Electrical Engineering. Graduated within 3.5 years as a Valedictorian. 3.97 GPA out of 4.00.

Experience

Honda Research Institute, Mountain View, California — June 2018 - September 2018

I designed and implemented a novel state-of-the-art multi-agent deep reinforcement learning algorithm specifically for motion planning of driverless cars.

Skills

Deep learning libraries: Pytorch, TensorFlow, Keras

Programming languages: Python, Matlab, C++, Java.

Selected Courses in Graduate School

EE courses: Nonlinear Dynamical Systems, Channel and Source Coding, Matrix Analysis, Adaptation and Learning, Convex Optimization, Stochastic Processes in Dynamical Systems, Linear Dynamical Systems.

CS courses: Learning and Reasoning with Bayesian Networks, Machine Perception, Machine Learning Algorithms, Algorithms and Complexity.

MATH courses: Advanced Numerical Analysis (on ODEs), Probability Theory (Measure Theory).

Awards

The Intel International Science and Engineering Fair (Intel ISEF), 2010 May

Fourth Award in Mathematical Sciences. \$500 is given for the project “Barycentric Coordinates and Their Applications”.

The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TÜBİTAK), 2009 May, National Scientific Project Competition Among High School Students

Second Award in Mathematics. ~2000\$ is given for the project “Barycentric Coordinates and their Applications”.

Undergraduate Scholarship

Given college students who ranked in the top 100 in the national university entrance exam.

Bilkent University, 2011 September – 2015 June, Undergraduate Scholarship

Given based on the success performed in the university entrance exam.

Turkish Education Foundation (TEV), 2012 September – 2015 December, Undergraduate Scholarship

This scholarship is given to support the development of tomorrow's leaders. Students who rank within the first 2000 in the national university entrance exam are possible nominees.

University Entrance Exam, 2011 May/June

Ranked as 68 among 1.6 million examinees.