

Diala Lteif

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Research Interests

Efficient Machine Learning, Deep Learning, Computer Vision, Explainable AI.

Education

Boston University

Ph.D. in Computer Science, GPA: 3.80/4.00

Boston, Massachusetts, USA

Sept 2019 – Present

American University of Beirut

BSc in Computer Science with distinction, major GPA: 4.00/4.00

Beirut, Lebanon

May 2019

Honors and Awards

Grace Hopper Celebration Conference Award, Boston University

2020

Dean's Honor List, American University of Beirut

2016-2019

First Place Winning Team in the ACM Lebanese Collegiate Programming Contest 2017, Beirut, Lebanon

2017

Fifth place winning team over Lebanon in the IEEEExtreme Programming Competition

2017

Research Experience

Boston University

Research fellow, with Profs. Bryan Plummer, Sarah Adel Bargal, and Vijaya Kolachalama

Boston, Massachusetts, USA

Summer 2021 – Present

Working on explainability for tackling bias in medical imaging

Boston University

Research fellow, with Prof. Bryan Plummer

Boston, Massachusetts, USA

2020 – Present

Working on cross-layer parameter sharing for knowledge transfer and resource-efficient on-device machine learning

Boston University

Research fellow, with Prof. Sarah Adel Bargal

Boston, Massachusetts, USA

2020 – Present

Working on spatiotemporal visualizations for explaining deep video classification models.

Industry Experience

PinPay SAL, Beirut Digital District

Intern

Beirut, Lebanon

Aug 2018 – Sept 2018

Worked on Amazon Alexa, Google Assistant services and front-end web development

Teaching Experience

Boston University

Teaching fellow

Boston, Massachusetts, USA

AY 2019-2020, 2021-2022

○ CS542: Machine Learning (Fall 2021)

○ CS330: Introduction to Algorithms (Spring 2020)

○ CS103: Introduction to Internet Technologies and Web Programming (Fall 2019)

Future Developer Summer Camp, American University of Beirut

Instructor

Beirut, Lebanon

July 2018

Taught Unity and iOS development to students between the ages 12 and 18

S.A.S Tutoring Center

Instructor

Beirut, Lebanon

Feb 2017 – May 2017

Taught high-school level Biology, Chemistry, and Physics classes

Selected Graduate Coursework

CS585: Image and Video Computing

CS542: Machine Learning

CS640: Artificial Intelligence

CS535: Complexity Theory

CS552: Operating Systems

CS511: Formal Methods

Projects

Boston University

CS585 Final Project: Image Deblurring Applied to Recycling Data 2021

Applied and evaluated existing classical and deep learning deblurring methods to a video of recycling trash moving on a conveyer belt.

Boston University

CS542 Final Project: Image Classification on Covid-19 X-rays 2020

Implemented binary and multi-class classification using VGG and ResNet backbone architectures in Keras on a Covid-19 X-ray dataset.

Boston University

CS640 Final Project: Facial Expression Analysis Based on Videos of Presidential Candidates 2019

Worked with classmates to extend existing state-of-the-art deep convolutional neural networks for sentiment analysis on video clips of the 2020 Democratic Presidential candidates.

American University of Beirut

Undergraduate Final Year Project: Emotion Recognition in an Uncontrolled Environment 2019

Created an Android Application that predicted users' emotional state based on collected readings from ShimmerV3 Biophysical sensors and user self-assessment (in collaboration with the Psychiatry Department at AUBMC)

Skills

Languages

Python, Java, C#, C/ C++, Matlab, Javascript, SQL

Relevant Tools

Tensorflow, Keras, PyTorch, tensorboard, wandb.ai

Professional Activities

BU AI4ALL Program

Boston, Massachusetts, USA

Guest Speaker

August 2021

Gave a talk to high school students about Deep Learning and Explainable AI

BU ACM-W student chapter, Boston University

Boston, Massachusetts, USA

Graduate Student Advisor

FY 2020-21

coordinate the mentorship program and advocate for full engagement of women in computing and technology

Club of Artificial Intelligence, American University of Beirut

Beirut, Lebanon

Treasurer

Nov 2017 – May 2018

a club that revolves around Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning, and Data Mining

ACM Arab Collegiate Programming Competition 2017

Egypt

Contestant

Nov 2017

Competed and teamed with fellow AUB students in the 9th Arab Collegiate Programming Competition and ended up in the 31st place in the MENA region out of 104 participating teams

References

Available upon request.