

Hao-Lun Hsu

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Education

Duke University

Ph.D. Computer Science in Reinforcement Learning (RL)

Medical Robotics Certificate

Durham, NC, USA

Aug. 2022 – Present

Georgia Institute of Technology

M.S. Biomedical Engineering

Atlanta, GA, USA

Aug. 2019 – May 2021

National Taiwan University

B.S. Mechanical Engineering

Taipei, Taiwan

Sep. 2014 – Jun. 2018

Publications

Conference and Journal

- J1. P Sarikhani, **HL Hsu**, M Zeydabadinezhad, Y Yao, M Kothare, and B Mahmoudi, “Reinforcement Learning for Closed-loop Regulation of Cardiovascular System with Vagus Nerve Stimulation: A Computational Study”, in *Journal of Neural Engineering*, Apr. 2024
- C1. **HL Hsu**, and M Pajic, “Robust Exploration with Adversary via Langevin Monte Carlo”, in *Learning for Dynamics and Control Conference (L4DC)*, 2024
- C2. **HL Hsu**, H Meng, S Luo, J Dong, V Tarokh, and M Pajic, “REFORMA: Robust REinFORceMent Learning via Adaptive Adversary for Drones Flying under Disturbances”, in *IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation (ICRA)*, 2024
- C3. T Jin, **HL Hsu**, W Chang, and P Xu, “Finite-Time Frequentist Regret Bounds of Multi-Agent Thompson Sampling on Sparse Hypergraphs”, in *38th AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence (AAAI)*, 2024 (**Oral with acceptance rate 2.3 %**)
- C4. **HL Hsu**, Q Gao, and M Pajic, “ ϵ -Neural Thompson Sampling of Deep Brain Stimulation for Parkinson Disease Treatment”, in *International Conference on Cyber-Physical Systems (ICCPS)*, 2024
- C5. P Sarikhani, **HL Hsu**, and B Mahmoudi, “Automated Tuning of Closed-loop Neuromodulation Control Systems using Bayesian Optimization”, in *44rd Annual International Conference of the IEEE Engineering in Medicine & Biology Society (EMBC)*, 2022
- C6. **HL Hsu**, Q Huang, and S Ha, “Improving Safety in Deep Reinforcement Learning Using Unsupervised Action Planning”, in *IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation (ICRA)*, 2022
- C7. JH Chen, **HL Hsu**, WH Yang, YC Chen, and HM Hsiao, “New Spherical Stent Concept for Occlusion”, in *Annual Scientific Meeting of Taiwanese Society of Biomechanics*, 2017

Workshop Papers

- W1. P Sarikhani, **HL Hsu**, JK Kim, S Kinzer, E Mascarenhas, H Esmailzadeh, and B Mahmoudi, “Neuroweaver: Towards a Platform for Designing Translatable Intelligent Closed-loop Neuromodulation Systems”, in *NeurIPS Research2Clinics Workshop*, 2021
- W2. **HL Hsu**, Q Huang, and S Ha, “Safe Exploration for Reinforcement Learning Using Unsupervised Action Planning”, in *RSS Workshop on Integrating Planning and Learning*, 2021

Abstract

- A1. P Sarikhani, H Xu, ST Wang, S Kinzer, **HL Hsu**, Y Zhu, J Krasney, J Manns, H Esmaeilzadeh, B Mahmoudi, “Neuroweaver: a translational platform for embedding artificial intelligent in closed-loop neuromodulation systems”, in *Neuroscience 2023, 52nd Annual Meeting*, 2023
- A2. P Sarikhani, **HL Hsu**, M Zeydabadinezhad, Y Yao, M Kothare, and B Mahmoudi, “Sparc: Adaptive Closed-loop Control of Vagal Nerve Stimulation for Regulating Cardiovascular Function Using Deep Reinforcement Learning: A Computational Study”, in *Neuroscience 2021, 50th Annual Meeting*, 2021
- A3. P Sarikhani, **HL Hsu**, O Kara, JK Kim, H Esmaeilzadeh, and B Mahmoudi, “Neuroweaver: A Platform for Designing Intelligent Closed-loop Neuromodulation Systems”, in *4th International Brain Stimulation Conference*, 2021
- A4. **HL Hsu**, “Functional Connectivity Correlates to Individual Difference in Human Brains during Working Memory Task and Resting State”, in *IEEE EMBS North American Virtual International Student Conference*, 2021

Honors & Awards

AAAI 2024 Oral , acceptance rate 2.3 %	Feb. 2024
NSF TAST-NRT Fellowship , 1 of 6 awardees	Aug. 2022 - Jul. 2023
Ph.D. Departmental Fellowship , Computer Science, Duke University	Aug. 2022 - Jul. 2024
Thank a Teacher Award , Center of Teaching and Learning, Georgia Tech	Apr. 2021
Travel Grants for Ph.D. Fellowship workshop , Hong Kong government	Jul. 2018
Material Innovation Award , Material Research Society Taiwan	Oct. 2016
Third Prize , Manufacturing Practice Competition, Mechanical Engineering, NTU	Jan. 2015

Research Experience

Duke University <i>Cyber-Physical Systems Lab</i> Advisor: Prof. Miroslav Pajic	Durham, NC, USA Aug. 2022 – Present
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Robust RL with (1) adversarial herding and (2) adaptive adversary• Pulse frequency prediction of deep brain stimulation with (1) less exploration via ϵ-Neural Thompson Sampling and (2) robust exploration• Offline RL (1) via transformer-based supervised learning with guidance via temporal difference (2) for selecting frames with ORB features in SLAM	
Duke University <i>Theoretical RL group</i> Advisor: Prof. Pan Xu	Durham, NC, USA Feb. 2023 – Present
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cooperative framework with randomized exploration for multi-Agent RL via Thompson sampling and Langevin Monte Carlo• Multi-agent Thompson sampling on sparse hypergraphs with frequentist regret bounds	
Duke University <i>Topological Learning Lab</i> Mentor: Prof. Tananun Songdechakraiwt	Durham, NC, USA Dec. 2023 – Present
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fast topological learning with RL for clustering functional brain networks with unknown cluster number	

Duke University*Duke Quantum Center*

Collaborator: Omid Khosravani

Durham, NC, USA

Nov. 2023 – Present

- Developing Reinforced-Equivariant Neural Decoder with the integration of \mathcal{G} -equivariant neural network and RL for surface code under realistic noise

Emory University*Neuroinformatics & Intelligent System Lab*

Advisor: Prof. Babak Mahmoudi

Atlanta, GA, USA

Jan. 2021 – Jul. 2022

- Deep brain stimulation improvement in (1) computation cost reduction via quantization RL, (2) automated PI controller via Bayesian optimization, and (3) safe RL with penalty for neuron suppression in Parkinson's diseases
- Vagus nerve stimulation with (1) set-point control based RL and (2) Few-shot adaption from healthy to hypertension cardiac model via transfer learning

Georgia Institute of Technology*Robotics & Computer Animation Lab*

Advisor: Prof. Sehoon Ha

Atlanta, GA, USA

Jan. 2020 – Oct. 2021

- Integrated on-policy RL agent with unsupervised action planning for safe exploration
- RL transfer for power grid control via (1) Augmented Random Search to adapt to less controllable renewables and (2) domain randomization for different power load

Work Experience**Curai Health***Machine Learning Research Intern*

Mentors: Dr. Anitha Kannan and Dr. Ilya Valmianski

Palo Alto, CA, USA (Remote)

May 2022 – Sep. 2022

- Built Decision Transformer for sequence modeling in high dimensional medical history taking
- Interpreted connection between queries and diagnosis with scalability and generalization

Reazon Holdings, Inc.*Machine Learning Research Intern*

Mentors: Shubham Gupta MD. and Dr. Daijro Mori

Tokyo, Japan (Remote)

Oct. 2021 – Dec. 2021

- Built ShuffleNet and GhostNet for gaze estimation and eye moving tracking on mobile devices improving upon published accuracy
- Adapted a Capsule Network to gaze estimation problem including eyes, face, and gray frame models and incorporated reconstruction loss to the original objective function
- Abstracted original PyTorch implementation via PyTorch Lightning

Abbott Vascular Taiwan*Software Engineering Intern*

Taipei, Taiwan

Jun. 2018 – Jul. 2019

- Built an administrative system to share information among marketing, sales, and finance departments, and improved 75% of operation time in the sales database of vascular products, facilitating fast targeting
- Forecasted vascular product marketing trend by digitizing routine documents and incorporated the original database with Power BI to provide interactive visualizations and business intelligence capabilities for creating reports and dashboards

Academic Service

Paper Review: L4DC'24, ICRA'23-24, IROS'23, NeurIPS'23, ICLR'24, AISTATS'24, ICML'24, ICML'23 Frontiers4LCD, NeurIPS'23 AI4Science, NeurIPS'23 GenBio

Research Proposal Review: PURA (President's Undergraduate Research Award) Fall 2022

Teaching Assistant: Algorithmic Game Theory (Expected Spring 2024), Data Science (Spring 2023), Network Science (Spring, Summer, and Fall 2021), Clinical Application of Medical Electronic Device (Fall 2017), Clinical Observation & Demands Exploration (Summer 2017)

Research Mentoring (RL for Science):

- Yang Chen (UC Berkeley): safe surgical robotics (Fall'23)
- Alexander Wang (West Windsor Plainsboro High School North): fake news detection (Fall'23)
- Nirav Jaiswal (Foothill High School): cloud computing (Summer'23)
- Indu Arimilli (Redmond High School): diagnosis prediction (Summer'23)
- Ian Choe (St. Mark's School): deep brain stimulation (Summer'23)

Talks & Presentations

CS 370: Introduction To AI Spring'24 Course (Guest Lecture)	<i>Expected Apr. 2024</i>
<i>Robust Reinforcement Learning via Adversarial Training</i>	

Duke Capital Partner AI Mini-lecture (Invited Talk)	<i>Feb. 2024</i>
<i>Reinforcement Learning for Cyber-physical systems</i>	

AFOSR Center "Assured Autonomy in Contested Environments" (Poster)	<i>Dec. 2023</i>
<i>Robust Reinforcement Learning with Structured Adversarial Ensemble</i>	

NCTPASS 2022 Annual Symposium (Young Scholar Presentation)	<i>Nov. 2022</i>
<i>AI for Dynamical and Safety-critical Systems</i>	

Curai Health ML paper club (Invited Talk)	<i>Jul. 2022</i>
<i>Possible Reinforcement Learning Approaches to History Taking</i>	

Georgia Tech Robotics Research Showcase (Poster)	<i>Mar. 2022</i>
<i>Improving Safety in Deep Reinforcement Learning Using Unsupervised Action Planning</i>	

Artificial Intelligence Medicine Organization weekly webinar (Invited Talk)	<i>Mar. 2021</i>
<i>Applications of Reinforcement Learning in healthcare and power grid control</i>	

Prof. Constantine Dovrolis's research group (Invited Talk)	<i>Feb. 2021</i>
<i>Individual Difference in Humans' Brains from Functional Connectivity for Working Memory</i>	

Technical Skills

Programming: Python, MATLAB, C++, C#, Julia, VBA

Software: AutoCAD, SolidWorks, Creo Parametric, ABAQUS, Qblade

OS: Linux (Ubuntu), Microsoft Windows, iOS

ML: Tensorflow, PyTorch, Keras, Scikit-learn, PyTorch Lightning

Simulation Environment: OpenAI Gym, Mujoco