# Ibrahim Akbar

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# Experience

#### Graduate Researcher, University of California, San Diego

June 2018 - Present

- •Existential Robotics Lab under Professor Nikolay Atanasov
- •Implementation of a model-based reinforcement learning algorithm, PILCO, in Python.
- •Researching modeling uncertainty through bayesian neural networks with dropout or probabilistic backpropagation.
- •Hardware development of Quadcopter for autonomous flight in ROS using a Pixhawk, Intel NUCi7, MatrixVision Cameras on a stereo rig, VectorNav IMU, and downward facing Lidar Lite.

#### Undergraduate Researcher, University of Rochester

June 2016 - December 2016

- •Wireless Communication and Network Group under Professor Wendi Heinzelman
- •Developed a mobility model in NS-3 using C++ that represented elephant movements from received data to test the performance of a delay tolerant network protocol called Epidemic.
- •Started the development of a learned probabilistic mobility model to extrapolate the elephant mobility model made.

#### Graduate Teaching Assistant, University of California, San Diego

January 2019 - Present

- •Course: ECE276A (Sensing & Estimation in Robotics), ECE276B (Planning & Learning in Robotics)
- •Duties: office hours, design of theoretical homework/final problems, and project/final grading.

## **Undergraduate Teaching Assistant**, *University of Rochester*

January 2014 - May 2017

- Courses: CSC160 (Engineering Computing), CSC172 (Data Structures & Algorithms), ECE242 (Communications Systems)
- Duties: laboratory hours, and graded assignments.

# **Projects**

## PILCO (Probabilistic Inference for Learning Control) Python

June 2018 - August 2018

- •A model-based reinforcement learning algorithm that uses Gaussian Processes to model continuous dynamics and a parameterized policy to perform policy searches.
- •Written in Python3 using Numpy, Scikit learn, and SciPy and tested on real space OpenAl Gym Environments.

## **Autonomous Quadcopter Hardware Design** C++, Python

June 2018 - August 2018

- Set up of hardware components: Intel NUCi7, PixHawk, VectorNav IMU, and MatrixVision Cameras individually and to be seen in ROS as ROS nodes.
- •Onboard Computing and Motor Analysis for desired computing capabilities and thrust to weight ratio.

## SLAM (Simultaneous Localization and Mapping) Python

December 2018

- University of California, San Diego ECE276A: Sensing and Estimation Course Project
- •A sensing and estimation algorithm that uses a Particle filter for state estimation and 2D occupany grid for mapping.
- •Implemented in Python with Numpy using IMU measurements and Lidar scans data.

# First Person View (FPV) Quadcopter, C, Javascript, ASP.NET

January 2017 - May 2017

- •Designed & developed a quadcopter, with a team of five, capable of flying through a 4G connection and live video streaming to a website.
- Developed a flight controller on the TI EK-TM4C123GXL board allowing for flight with a 2.5 GHz controller or gamepad controller connected to a laptop. Functionality for altitude holding using a lidar incorporated.
- •Assisted in the communication design between the gamepad and Raspberry PI 3 on the quadcopter which received and ported data through the 4G connection.

## Education

#### University of California, San Diego San Diego, CA

September 2017 - Expected June 2019

M.S. in Electrical Engineering

Focus: Intelligent Systems, Robotics, & Control

## University of Rochester Rochester, NY

B.S. in Electrical and Computer Engineering

**September 2013 - May 2017** 

## Leadership & Skills

Computer Languages: Python, C++, Matlab, C, Java, Bash

Computer Software Tools: Tensorflow, ROS, PyTorch, Linux, Git, Latex

Leadership Positions: Jacob's Engineering Undergraduate Mentor, UR IEEE Student Branch Secretary

Activities: IEEE, IEEE RAS, Tutoring, Research, Urban Exploring, Hiking,

Languages: English, German (Native Fluency)