

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Robotics, Reinforcement Learning, Imitation Learning, Representation Learning, Computer Vision

EDUCATION

University of Southern California · Los Angeles, United States **10/2019 ~ Present**

- Visiting scholar at Cognitive Learning for Vision and Robotics lab (Advisor: Joseph J. Lim)

University College London · London, United Kingdom **09/2018 ~ 09/2019**

- MSc in Data Science and Machine Learning (Advisor: Zafeirios Fountas and John Shawe-Taylor)
- Distinction Honor

Keio University · Tokyo, Japan **04/2014 – 03/2018**

- B.Eng. in Administration Engineering (Advisor: Akito Sakurai)
- Studies include courses in computer science, applied mathematics, and statistics
- As member of department's machine learning research group, conducted research at Sakurai Lab on object detection

KTH Royal Institute of Technology · Stockholm, Sweden **08/2016 – 07/2017**

- Exchange student, School of Computer Science (Master level courses during my bachelor study)

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

University of Southern California · , United States **10/2019 – Present**

- Worked on “Motion Planner Augmented Reinforcement Learning for Robot Manipulation in Obstructed Environments” as one of the first co-authors under the supervision of Professor Joseph J. Lim.
- Researching on representation learning to accelerate reinforcement learning in visually complex environments.

SE4, Inc. · Tokyo, Japan **09/2019 – 10/2019**

- Attempted to develop a learning algorithm to infer 3D shapes solely with 2D supervision by leveraging differentiable rendering techniques and geometric constraints under supervision of Dr. Shunsuke Saito and Dr. Hirokatsu Kataoka.

University College London · , United Kingdom **03/2019 – 09/2019**

- Worked on “Evolution of a complex predator-prey ecosystem based on deep reinforcement learning” for the MSc thesis under the supervision of Dr. Zafeirios Fountas and Prof. John Shawe-Taylor.
- Researched on “Using Graph Convolutional Networks for Abstractive Text Summarization” as a project in the lecture “Statistical Natural Language Processing”.

Sakurai Lab, Keio University · Tokyo, Japan **07/2017 – 03/2018**

- Worked on multi-modal Single Shot MultiBox Detector for RGB-D images.
- Attempted to subject RGB-D images to Single Shot MultiBox Detector to improve the accuracy of object detection.

KTH Royal Institute of Technology · Stockholm, Sweden **03/2017 – 07/2017**

- As a volunteer researcher, undertook computer vision research on an image registration method called ‘Sum of Conditional Variance Differences’ under the supervision of Associate Professor Atsuto Maki.

PUBLICATIONS

- **J Yamada***, Y Lee*, G Salhotra, K Pertsch, M Pflueger, GS Sukhatme, JJ Lim, P Englert “Motion Planner Augmented Reinforcement Learning for Robot Manipulation in Obstructed Environments”, in *Conference on Robot Learning (CoRL)*, 2020.
- **J Yamada***, Y Lee*, G Salhotra, K Pertsch, M Pflueger, GS Sukhatme, JJ Lim, P Englert “Motion Planner Augmented Reinforcement Learning for Robot Manipulation in Obstructed Environments”, in *Deep Reinforcement Learning Workshop / Robot Learning Workshop at NeurIPS*, 2020.
- **J Yamada**, G Salhotra, Y Lee, M Pflueger, K Pertsch, P Englert, GS Sukhatme, JJ Lim “Motion Planner Augmented Action Space for Reinforcement Learning”, in *Action Representations for Learning in Continuous Control Workshop at RSS*, 2020.
- **J Yamada**, J Shawe-Taylor, Z Fountas, “Evolution of a Complex Predator-Prey Ecosystem on Large-Scale Multi-Agent Deep Reinforcement Learning”, in *International Joint Conference on Neural Network (IJCNN)*, 2020.

INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE

- Research Intern, SE4, Inc.** · Tokyo, Japan **09/2019 – 10/2019**
- Researching computer vision, inspired by Canonical Space Mapping and Learning Category-Specific Mesh Reconstruction, supervised by Dr. Hirokatsu Kataoka and Dr. Shunsuke Saito.
 - Collaborated with National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology.
- Machine Learning Engineer, Grid, Inc.** · Tokyo, Japan **08/2017 – 08/2018**
- Developed deep learning models such as DenseNet semantic segmentation, Faster-RCNN, and Single Shot Multibox Detector using an in-house deep learning module called ReNom.
- Software Engineer Intern, KitchHike, Inc.** · Tokyo, Japan **04/2016 – 08/2016**
- Implemented a web application as the chief backend developer, using Ruby.
- Software Engineer Intern, WealthNavi, Inc.** · Tokyo, Japan **04/2015 – 08/2015**
- Developed the software for the company’s automatic investment system, especially to display the investment model and predicted results on the company’s website.
- Software Engineer Intern, Div, Inc.** · Tokyo, Japan **09/2014 – 04/2016**
- Engineered the company’s applications using Ruby, and improved various in-house systems, including the company’s customer management system.

AWARDS

- Kaggle Silver Medal – Home Credit Default Risk** **09/2018**
- Kaggle Bronze Medal – Elo Merchant Category Recommendation** **03/2019**
- Kaggle Bronze Medal – Humpback Whale Identification** **03/2019**
- MS Distinction Award at University College London** **09/2019**

PROJECTS

Using Graph Convolutional Network for Abstractive Text Summarization

- Abstractive text summarization with graph convolutional networks for a final project in “Statistical Natural Language Processing” course at University College London

SKILLS

Language / Skills: Python, C++, Pytorch, Tensorflow, Chainer, Javascript, Django, Flask, Ruby, Ruby on Rails, ReactJS, AngularJS, C#, C,

Miscellaneous: MuJoCo, OMPL, CUDA Programming