Lihong Li

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RESEARCH INTERESTS

My core research interest is in **machine learning for interactive systems that maximizes a utility function by taking actions**, which is in contrast to *prediction*-oriented machine learning like supervised learning. My areas of focus are **reinforcement learning** and **multi-armed bandits**, although I am also interested in related areas such as large-scale online learning with big data, active learning, and planning. In the past, I have applied my work to several important applications, including recommendation, Web search, advertising, conversational systems, and spam detection.

EDUCATION

01/2005 – 05/2009	Ph.D.	Computer Science, Rutgers University, USA
09/2002 – 07/2004	M.Sc.	Computing Science, University of Alberta, Canada
09/1998 – 07/2002	B.Eng.	Computer Science and Technology, Tsinghua University, China

RESEARCH & INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE

10/2017 - present	Research Scientist at Google Inc.
03/2017 – 10/2017	Principal Researcher at Microsoft Research
02/2016 – 02/2017	Senior Researcher at Microsoft Research
06/2012 – 02/2016	Researcher at Microsoft Research
09/2010 – 06/2012	Research Scientist at Yahoo! Research
06/2009 – 08/2010	Postdoctoral Scientist at Yahoo! Research
06/2008 – 08/2008	Research Intern at AT&T Shannon Labs
05/2007 – 08/2007	Research Intern at Yahoo! Research NYC
05/2006 – 08/2006	Engineering Intern at Google NYC
01/2005 – 05/2009	Graduate Research Assistant at the Rutgers University
09/2002 – 07/2004	Research Assistant at the University of Alberta

SELECTED AWARDS

2011	USA	Yahoo! Super Star Team Award (highest team achievement award in the company)
2011	USA	Notable Paper Award, AISTATS
2011	USA	Best Paper Award, WSDM
2008	USA	Best Student Paper Award, ICML
2004	Canada	Teaching Assistant Award, University of Alberta

TEACHING/ADVISING EXPERIENCE

Summers since 2013	Supervised student interns at Microsoft Research and at Google Projects on reinforcement learning, multi-armed bandits, imitation learning and Web search
Summers 2010/2011	Supervised student interns at Yahoo! Labs Projects on anomaly detection in distributed file systems, large-scale prediction models in advertising, and news ranking
Spring 2009	Guest lecturer for a graduate-level course at the Rutgers University Taught the least-squares policy iteration (LSPI) algorithm in the course "Learning and Sequential Decision Making".
09/2007 – 12/2007	Co-organizer for a graduate seminar at the Rutgers University Compiled reading materials, arranged weekly meetings, and presented papers for "Planning in Learned Environments" (w/ Michael Littman).
05/2005 – 08/2005	Organizer for a graduate seminar at the Rutgers University Compiled reading materials, arranged weekly meetings, presented papers, and invited an external speaker for "Abstractions and Hierarchies for Learning and Planning".
09/2002 – 07/2004	Teaching Assistant at the University of Alberta Taught seminar sessions and graded homework for the undergraduate course on discrete mathematics: "Formal Systems and Logic in Computing Science".

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

- Conference Organization
  - Area Chair and/or Senior Program Committee Member
    - AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence (AAAI): 2017, 2018
    - International Conference on Artificial Intelligence and Statistic (AISTATS): 2017
    - International Conferences on Machine Learning (ICML): 2012–2017
    - International Joint Conferences on Artificial Intelligence (IJCAI): 2011, 2016, 2017
    - Annual Conferences on Neural Information Processing Systems (NIPS): 2014, 2017
  - Workshop Co-chairs/Organizers
    - Reinforcement Learning Competition (ICML/UAI/COLT'09 Workshop)
    - PASCAL2 Exploration & Exploitation Challenge (ICML'12 Workshop)
    - Large-Scale Online Learning and Decision-Making Workshop (Cumberland Lodge, 2012)
    - IEEE BigData Workshop (DC, USA, 2014)
    - WWW Workshop on Offline and Online Evaluation of Web-based Services (Florence, Italy, 2015)
    - SIAM Conference on Optimization — Algorithms for Reinforcement Learning Minisymposium (Vancouver, Canada, 2017)
    - AI Frontiers (San Jose, CA, USA, November 2017)
    - From "What If" to "What Next" (NIPS'17 Workshop)
  - Workshop program committee member
    - Planning and Learning in A Priori Unknown or Dynamic Domains, IJCAI 2005
    - Abstraction in Reinforcement Learning, ICML/UAI/COLT 2009
    - Bayesian Optimization, Experimental Design and Bandits, NIPS, 2011
    - AdML: Online Advertising Workshop, ICML 2012
    - Bayesian Optimization & Decision Making, NIPS 2012
- Tutorials
  - "Offline Evaluation and Optimization for Interactive Systems: A Practical Guide", at the *Eighth International Conference on Web Search and Data Mining (WSDM)*, Shanghai, China, February, 2015.
- Referee for funding agencies
  - Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC)
  - United States-Israel Binational Science Foundation (BFS)

- Referee for journals
  - ACM Transactions on Intelligent Systems and Technology
  - ACM Transactions on Knowledge Discovery from Data
  - Advances in Complex Systems
  - Artificial Intelligence
  - Artificial Intelligence Communications
  - Computer Speech and Language
  - Data Mining and Knowledge Discovery
  - IEEE Journal of Selected Topics in Signal Processing
  - IEEE Transactions on Automatic Control
  - IEEE Transactions on Knowledge and Data Engineering
  - IEEE Transactions on Neural Networks
  - IEEE Transactions on Wireless Communications
  - Journal of Artificial Intelligence Research
  - Journal of Computer Science and Technology
  - Journal of Machine Learning Research
  - Journal of Selected Topics in Signal Processing
  - Machine Learning
  - Mathematics of Operations Research
  - Neural Computation
  - Neurocomputing
- Referee for conferences (including services as area chair and senior program committee member):
  - AAAI (AAAI Conferences on Artificial Intelligence): 2006, 2008, 2010, 2016 (Demo), 2017 (SPC)
  - AISTATS (International Conferences on Artificial Intelligence and Statistics): 2011, 2017 (SPC)
  - ALT (International Conferences on Algorithmic Learning Theory): 2015
  - COLT (Annual Conferences on Learning Theory): 2010, 2011, 2012, 2015
  - ECML (European Conferences on Machine Learning): 2009
  - KDD (ACM SIGKDD Conferences on Knowledge Discovery and Data Mining): 2012
  - ICML (International Conferences on Machine Learning): 2009–2011, 2012–2015 (AC)
  - IJCAI (International Joint Conferences on Artificial Intelligence): 2007, 2011 (SPC), 2015, 2016 (SPC)
  - NIPS (Annual Meetings on Neural Information Processing Systems): 2008–2013, 2014 (AC)
  - STOC (ACM Symposium on Theory of Computing): 2014
  - UAI (Annual Conferences on Uncertainty in Artificial Intelligence): 2010, 2012, 2016
  - UbiComp (International Conferences on Ubiquitous Computing): 2011
  - WSDM (ACM International Conferences on Web Search and Data Mining): 2012, 2013
  - WWW (International Conferences on World Wide Web): 2012
- Open source and dataset contributions
  - Vowpal Wabbit: an open source project started with John Langford and Alexander L. Strehl for fast online learning in large-scale prediction problems. URL: http://www.hunch.net/~vw
  - Yahoo! Front Page Today Module User Click Log Dataset: the first large-scale real-life dataset that supports unbiased evaluation of multi-armed bandit algorithms (with help from Wei Chu).
    URL: http://webscope.sandbox.yahoo.com/catalog.php?datatype=r
  - Deep reinforcement learning package in Microsoft CNTK (with Yi Mao et al.)

INVITED TALKS

- Primal-dual Approaches to Reinforcement Learning
  - INFORMS, Taipei, Taiwan. June, 2018.
  - CISS, Princeton, NJ, USA. March, 2018.
  - Google Brain, Montreal, QC, Canada. September, 2017.
  - New York University, New York, NY, USA. May, 2017.

  - Simons Institute, Berkeley, CA, USA. February, 2017.
- Reinforcement Learning for Conversational Systems
  - Google Brain, Montreal, QC, Canada. September, 2017.
  - ICML Workshop on Interactive Machine Learning and Semantic Information Retrieval, Sydney, AU. August, 2017.
  - Multidisciplinary Conference on Reinforcement Learning and Decision Making (RLDM), Ann Arbor, MI, USA. June, 2017.
  - ACML Workshop on Reinforcement Learning, Hamilton, NZ. November, 2016.
  - Global AI Conference, Shanghai, China. November, 2016.
- Off-policy Learning and Off-line Evaluation
  - Graduate School of Business, Stanford University, CA, USA. May, 2017.
  - Oxford University, Oxford, UK. November, 2015.
  - Google DeepMind, London, UK. November, 2015.
  - AdTech LA Meetup, Santa Monica, CA, USA. October, 2015.
  - UW CSE MSR Summer Institute, Union, WA, USA. August, 2015.
  - INRIA SequeL, Lille, France. December, 2014.
  - Criteo, Paris, France. December, 2014.
  - Department of Computing Science, University of Alberta, Edmonton, AB, Canada. November, 2014.
  - KDD Workshop on User Engagement Optimization, New York, NY, USA. August, 2014.
  - AAAI Workshop on Sequential Decision-Making with Big Data, Quebéc City, QC, Canada. July, 2014.
  - Microsoft Research Latin American Faculty Summit, Viña del Mar, Chile. May, 2014.
  - IEEE Information Theory and Application (ITA) Workshop, San Diego, CA, USA. February, 2014.
  - Distinguished Faculty and Graduate Student Seminar, Department of Statistics, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI, USA. February, 2014.
- Machine Learning in the Bandit Setting: Algorithms, Evaluation, and Case Studies
  - Department of Computer Science, University of South California, Los Angeles, CA, USA. October, 2015.
  - Department of Computer Science, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN, USA. April, 2014.
  - Joint Statistical Meetings (Statistics in Marketing Track), Montreal, QC, Canada. August, 2013.
  - Tenth National Symposium of Search Engine and Web Mining, Beijing, China. May 2012.
  - Microsoft Research Asia, Beijing, China. May 2012.
  - Department of Machine Intelligence, Peking University, Beijing, China. May 2012.
  - Department of Computer Science and Technology, Tsinghua University, Beijing, China. May 2012.
  - Department of Computer Science and Engineering, University of California, Los Angeles, CA, USA. May 2012.
  - Department of Computer Science and Engineering, University of California, San Diego, CA, USA. May 2012.
  - Department of Computer Science, University of California, Irvine, CA, USA. May 2012.
  - Google Research, Mountain View, CA, USA. April 2012.
  - Microsoft Research, Redmond, WA, USA. April 2012.
  - Adobe Advanced Technology Labs, San Jose, CA, USA. April 2012.
  - Microsoft Research, Mountain View, CA, USA. April 2012.
  - Department of Computer Science, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA, USA. February 2012.
  - Department of Computer Science, Johns Hopkins University, MD, USA. February 2012.
  - Technicolor Research Center, Palo Alto, CA, USA. February 2012.
  - Department of Computing Science, University of Alberta, Edmonton, AB, Canada. June 2011.
  - Industrial Affiliates Annual Conference, Department of Statistics, Stanford University, USA. May 2011. With Deepak Agarwal and Bee-Chung Chen.
  - Microsoft Sillicon Valley Center, Mountain View, CA, USA. March 2011.
  - Artificial Intelligence Center, SRI International, Menlo Park, CA, USA. April 2010.
- "Vowpal Wabbit for Extremely Fast Machine Learning"
  - GraphLab Workshop on Big Learning, San Francisco, CA, USA. July, 2012.
  - First data mining meetup on large-scale ML algorithms, San Francisco, CA, USA. August 2011.

- "A Unifying Framework for Computational Reinforcement Learning Theory"
  - ICML Workshop on Planning and Acting with Uncertain Models, Bellevue, WA, USA. June 2011.
  - Department of Computing Science, University of Alberta, Edmonton, AB, Canada. June 2011.
  - Yahoo! Research, Sunnyvale, CA, USA. April 2009.
  - Google Research, New York, NY, USA. April 2009.
  - Yahoo! Research, New York, NY, USA. January 2009.
  - Reasoning and Learning Laboratory, McGill University, McGill, QC, Canada. May 2008.
  - AT&T Shannon Labs, Florham Park, NJ, USA. January 2008.
- "Sparse Online Learning via Truncated Gradient"
  - Asilomar Conference on Signals, Systems, and Computers, Pacific Grove, CA, USA. November 2009.
  - eBay Research Labs, San Jose, CA, USA. April 2009.
  - Department of Information Analysis & Management, NEC Laboratories America, Cupertino, CA, USA. April 2009.
  - Text Analysis and Machine Learning Group, University of Ottawa, Ottawa, ON, Canada. May 2008.
- "Go as a Testbed for Advancing Reinforcement Learning Research"
  - DARPA Information Processing Technology meeting, Arlington, VA, USA. February 2008.

PUBLICATIONS

Journal Papers

(J1) M. Dudík, D. Erhan, J. Langford, and *L. Li*: Doubly robust policy evaluation and optimization. In *Statistical Science*, 29(4):485–511, 2014.

(J2) J. Bian, B. Long, *L. Li*, T. Moon, A. Dong, and Y. Chang: Exploiting user preference for online learning in Web content optimization systems. In *ACM Transactions on Intelligent Systems and Technology*, 5(2), 2014.

(J3) T. Moon, W. Chu, *L. Li*, Z. Zheng, and Y. Chang: Refining recency search results with user click feedback. In *ACM Transactions on Information Systems*, 30(4), 2012.

(J4) J. Langford, *L. Li*, P. McAfee, and K. Papineni: Cloud control: Voluntary admission control for Intranet traffic management. In *Information Systems and e-Business Management*, 10(3):295–308, 2012.

(J5) *L. Li*, M.L. Littman, T.J. Walsh, and A.L. Strehl: Knows what it knows: A framework for self-aware learning. In *Machine Learning*, 82(3):399–443, 2011.

(J6) *L. Li* and M.L. Littman: Reducing reinforcement learning to KWIK online regression. In the *Annals of Mathematics and Artificial Intelligence*, 58(3–4):217–237, 2010.

(J7) J. Langford, *L. Li*, J. Wortman, and Y. Vorobeychik: Maintaining equilibria during exploration in sponsored search auctions. In *Algorithmica*, 58(4):990–1021, 2010.

(J8) A.L. Strehl, *L. Li*, and M.L. Littman: Reinforcement learning in finite MDPs: PAC analysis. In the *Journal of Machine Learning Research*, 10:2413–2444, 2009.

(J9) E. Brunskill, B.R. Leffler, *L. Li*, M.L. Littman, and N. Roy: Provably efficient learning with typed parametric models. In the *Journal of Machine Learning Research*, 10:1955–1988, 2009.

(J10) J. Langford, *L. Li*, and T. Zhang: Sparse online learning via truncated gradient. In the *Journal of Machine Learning Research*, 10:777–801, 2009.

(J11) T.J. Walsh, A. Nouri, *L. Li*, and M.L. Littman: Planning and learning in environments with delayed feedback. In the *Journal of Autonomous Agents and Multi-Agent Systems*, 18(1):83–105, 2009.

(J12) *L. Li*, V. Bulitko, and R. Greiner: Focus of attention in reinforcement learning. In the *Journal of Universal Computer Science*, 13(9):1246–1269, 2007.

(J13) *L. Li*, M. Shao, Z. Zheng, C. He, and Z.-H. Du: Typical XML document transformation methods and an application system (in Chinese). *Computer Science*, 30(2):40–44, February, 2003.

Refereed Conference Papers

(C1) Z. Lipton, X. Li, J. Gao, *L. Li*, F. Ahmed, and L. Deng: Efficient dialogue policy learning with BBQ-networks. In *the 32nd AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence (AAAI)*, 2018.

(C2) J. Chen, C. Wang, L. Xiao, J. He, *L. Li*, and L. Deng: Q-LDA: Uncovering latent patterns in text-based sequential decision processes. In Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems 30 (NIPS), 2017.

(C3) B. Peng, X. Li, *L. Li*, J. Gao, A. Celikyilmaz, S. Lee, and K.-F. Wong: Composite task-completion dialogue system via hierarchical deep reinforcement learning. In *the 2017 Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP)*, 2017.

(C4) *L. Li*, Y. Lu, and D. Zhou: Provably optimal algorithms for generalized linear contextual bandits. In *the 34th International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML)*, 2017.

(C5) S. Du, J. Chen, *L. Li*, L. Xiao, and D. Zhou: Stochastic variance reduction methods for policy evaluation. In *the 34th International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML)*, 2017.

(C6) B. Dhingra, *L. Li*, X. Li, J. Gao, Y.-N. Chen, F. Ahmed, and L. Deng: Towards end-to-end reinforcement learning of dialogue agents for information access. In *the 55th Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL)*, 2017.

(C7) E. Parisotto, A. Mohamed, R. Singh, *L. Li*, D. Zhou, and P. Kohli: Neuro-symbolic program synthesis. In *the 5th International Conference on Learning Representations (ICLR)*, 2017.

(C8) T.K. Huang, *L. Li*, A. Vartanian, S. Amershi, and J. Zhu: Active learning with oracle epiphany. In Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems 29 (NIPS), 2016.

(C9) J. He, M. Ostendorf, X. He, J. Chen, J. Gao, *L. Li*, and L. Deng: Deep reinforcement learning with a combinatorial action space for predicting and tracking popular discussion threads. In *the 2016 Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP)*, 2016.

(C10) C.-Y. Liu and *L. Li*: On the Prior Sensitivity of Thompson Sampling. In *the 27th International Conference on Algorithmic Learning Theory (ALT)*, 2016.

(C11) J. He, J. Chen, X. He, J. Gao, *L. Li*, L. Deng, and M. Ostendorf: Deep reinforcement learning with a natural language action space. In *the 54th Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL)*, 2016.

(C12) N. Jiang and *L. Li*: Doubly robust off-policy value evaluation for reinforcement learning. In *the 33rd International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML)*, 2016.

(C13) S. Agrawal, N. R. Devanur, and *L. Li*: An efficient algorithm for contextual bandits with knapsacks, and an extension to concave objectives. In *the 29th Annual Conference on Learning Theory (COLT)*, 2016.

(C14) M. Zoghi, T. Tunys, *L. Li*, D. Jose, J. Chen, C.-M. Chin, and M. de Rijke: Click-based hot fixes for underperforming torso queries. In *the 39th International ACM SIGIR Conference on Research and Development in Information Retrieval (SIGIR)*, 2016.

(C15) J. He, J. Chen, X. He, J. Gao, *L. Li*, L. Deng, and M. Ostendorf: Deep reinforcement learning with an unbounded action space. In *the International Conference on Learning Representations (ICLR), Workshop Track*, 2016.

(C16) *L. Li*, R. Munos, and Cs. Szepesvári: Toward minimax off-policy value estimation. In *the 18th International Conference on Artificial Intelligence and Statistics (AISTATS)*, 2015.

(C17) *L. Li*, S. Chen, J. Kleban, and A. Gupta: Counterfactual estimation and optimization of click metrics in search engines: A case study. In *the 24th International Conference on World Wide Web (WWW), Companion*, 2015.

(C18) *L. Li*, J. Kim, and I. Zitouni: Toward predicting the outcome of an A/B experiment for search relevance. In *the 8th International Conference on Web Search and Data Mining (WSDM)*, 2015.

(C19) *L. Li*, H. He, and J.D. Williams: Temporal supervised learning for inferring a dialog policy from example conversations. In the *IEEE Spoken Language Technology Workshop (SLT)*, 2014.

(C20) A. Agarwal, D. Hsu, S. Kale, J. Langford, *L. Li*, and R.E. Schapire: Taming the monster: A fast and simple algorithm for contextual bandits. In *the 31st International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML)*, 2014.

(C21) E. Brunskill and *L. Li*: PAC-inspired option discovery in lifelong reinforcement learning. In *the 31st International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML)*, 2014.

(C22) E. Brunskill and *L. Li*: Sample complexity of multi-task reinforcement learning. In *the 29th Conference on Uncertainty in Artificial Intelligence (UAI)*, 2013.

(C23) M. Dudík, D. Erhan, J. Langford, and *L. Li*: Sample-efficient nonstationary-policy evaluation for contextual bandits. In *the 28th Conference on Uncertainty in Artificial Intelligence (UAI)*, 2012.

(C24) *L. Li*, W. Chu, J. Langford, T. Moon, and X. Wang: An unbiased offline evaluation of contextual bandit algorithms with generalized linear models. In *Journal of Machine Learning Research - Workshop and Conference Proceedings 26: On-line Trading of Exploration and Exploitation 2*, 2012.

(C25) V. Navalpakkam, R. Kumar, *L. Li*, and D. Sivakumar: Attention and selection in online choice tasks. In *the 20th International Conference on User Modeling, Adaptation and Personalization (UMAP)*, 2012

(C26) H. Wang, A. Dong, *L. Li*, Y. Chang, and E. Gabrilovich: Joint relevance and freshness learning From click-throughs for news search. In *the 21st International Conference on World Wide Web (WWW)*, 2012.

(C27) O. Chapelle and *L. Li*: An empirical evaluation of Thompson sampling. In *Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems 24 (NIPS)*, 2012.

(C28) M. Dudík, J. Langford, and *L. Li*: Doubly robust policy evaluation and learning. In *the 28th International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML)*, 2011.

(C29) W. Chu, M. Zinkevich, *L. Li*, A. Thomas, and B. Tseng: Unbiased online active learning in data streams. In *the 17th ACM SIGKDD Conference on Knowledge Discovery and Data Mining (KDD)*, 2011.

(C30) D. Agarwal, *L. Li*, and A.J. Smola: Linear-time algorithms for propensity scores. In *the 14th International Conference on Artificial Intelligence and Statistics (AISTATS)*, 2011.

(C31) A. Beygelzimer, J. Langford, *L. Li*, L. Reyzin, and R.E. Schapire: Contextual bandit algorithms with supervised learning guarantees. In *the 14th International Conference on Artificial Intelligence and Statistics (AISTATS)*, 2011. **Co-winner of the Notable Paper Award.**

(C32) W. Chu, *L. Li*, L. Reyzin, and R. Schapire: Linear contextual bandit problems. In *the 14th International Conference on Artificial Intelligence and Statistics (AISTATS)*, 2011.

(C33) *L. Li*, Wei Chu, John Langford, and Xuanhui Wang: Unbiased offline evaluation of contextual-bandit-based news article recommendation algorithms. In *the 4th ACM International Conference on Web Search and Data Mining (WSDM)*, 2011. **Winner of the Best Paper Award.**

(C34) A.L. Strehl, J. Langford, *L. Li*, and S. Kakade: Learning from logged implicit exploration data. In *Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems 23 (NIPS)*, 2011.

(C35) M. Zinkevich, M. Weimer, A.J. Smola, and *L. Li*: Convergence rates of parallel online learning via stochastic gradient descent. In *Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems 23 (NIPS)*, 2011.

(C36) T. Moon, *L. Li*, W. Chu, C. Liao, Z. Zheng, and Y. Chang: Online learning for recency search ranking using real-time user feedback (short paper). In *the 19th ACM Conference on Information and Knowledge Management (CIKM)*, 2010.

(C37) *L. Li*, W. Chu, J. Langford, and R.E. Schapire: A contextual-bandit approach to personalized news article recommendation. In *the 19th International Conference on World Wide Web (WWW)*, 2010.

(C38) Y. Xie, Y. Zhang, and *L. Li*: Neuro-fuzzy reinforcement learning for adaptive intersection traffic signal control. In *the Annual Meeting of Transportation Research Board (TRB)*, 2010.

(C39) *L. Li*, J.D. Williams, and S. Balakrishnan: Reinforcement learning for spoken dialog management using least-squares policy iteration and fast feature selection. In *the 10th Annual Conference of the International Speech Communication Association (INTERSPEECH)*, 2009.

(C40) C. Diuk, *L. Li*, and B.R. Leffler: The adaptive k-meteorologists problem and its application to structure learning and feature selection in reinforcement learning. In *the 26th International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML)*, 2009.

(C41) J. Asmuth, *L. Li*, M.L. Littman, A. Nouri, and D. Wingate: A Bayesian sampling approach to exploration in reinforcement learning. In *the 25th International Conference on Uncertainty in Artificial Intelligence (UAI)*, 2009.

(C42) *L. Li*, M.L. Littman and C.R. Mansley: Online exploration in least-squares policy iteration. In *the 8th International Conference on Autonomous Agents and Multiagent Systems (AAMAS)*, 2009.

(C43) L. Langford, *L. Li*, and T. Zhang: Sparse online learning via truncated gradient. In *Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems 21 (NIPS)*, 2009.

(C44) *L. Li*: A worst-case comparison between temporal difference and residual gradient. In *the 25th International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML)*, 2008.

(C45) *L. Li*, M.L. Littman, and T.J. Walsh: Knows what it knows: A framework for self-aware learning. In *the 25th International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML)*, 2008. **Co-winner of the Best Student Paper Award. A Google Student Award winner at the New York Academy of Sciences Symposium on Machine Learning, 2008.**

(C46) R. Parr, *L. Li*, G. Taylor, C. Painter-Wakefield, and M.L. Littman: An analysis of linear models, linear value function approximation, and feature selection for reinforcement learning. In *the 25th International Conference*

on Machine Learning (ICML), 2008.

(C47) E. Brunskill, B.R. Leffler, *L. Li*, M.L. Littman, and N. Roy: CORL: A continuous-state offset-dynamics reinforcement learner. In *the 24th Conference on Uncertainty in Artificial Intelligence (UAI)*, 2008.

(C48) *L. Li* and M.L. Littman: Efficient value-function approximation via online linear regression. In *the 10th International Symposium on Artificial Intelligence and Mathematics (AI&Math)*, 2008.

(C49) J. Wortman, Y. Vorobeychik, *L. Li*, and J. Langford: Maintaining equilibria during exploration in sponsored search auctions. In *the 3rd International Workshop on Internet and Network Economics (WINE)*, LNCS 4858, 2007.

(C50) T.J. Walsh, A. Nouri, *L. Li*, and M.L. Littman: Planning and learning in environments with delayed feedback. In *the 18th European Conference on Machine Learning (ECML)*, LNCS 4701, 2007.

(C51) R. Parr, C. Painter-Wakefield, *L. Li*, and M.L. Littman: Analyzing feature generation for value-function approximation. In *the 24th International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML)*, 2007.

(C52) A.L. Strehl, *L. Li*, E. Wiewiora, J. Langford, and M.L. Littman: PAC model-free reinforcement learning. In *the 23rd International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML)*, 2006. **Best Student Poster Award winner at the New York Academy of Sciences Symposium on Machine Learning, 2006.**

(C53) A.L. Strehl, *L. Li*, and M.L. Littman: Incremental model-based learners with formal learning-time guarantees. In *the 22nd Conference on Uncertainty in Artificial Intelligence (UAI)*, 2006.

(C54) *L. Li*, T.J. Walsh, and M.L. Littman: Towards a unified theory of state abstraction for MDPs. In *the 9th International Symposium on Artificial Intelligence and Mathematics (AI&Math)*, 2006.

(C55) *L. Li*, M.L. Littman: Lazy approximation for solving continuous finite-horizon MDPs. In *the 20th National Conference on Artificial Intelligence (AAAI)*, 2005.

(C56) *L. Li*, V. Bulitko, and R. Greiner: Batch reinforcement learning with state importance (extended abstract). In *the 15th European Conference on Machine Learning (ECML)*, LNCS 3201, 2004.

(C57) V. Bulitko, *L. Li*, R. Greiner, and I. Levner: Lookahead pathologies for single agent search (poster paper). In *the 18th International Joint Conference on Artificial Intelligence (IJCAI)*, 2003.

(C58) I. Levner, V. Bulitko, *L. Li*, G. Lee, and R. Greiner: Towards automated creation of image interpretation systems. In *the 16th Australian Joint Conference on Artificial Intelligence*, LNCS 2903, 2003.

(C59) *L. Li*, V. Bulitko, R. Greiner, and I. Levner: Improving an adaptive image interpretation system by leveraging. In *the 8th Australian and New Zealand Intelligent Information System Conference*, 2003.

Book and Book Chapters

(B1) K. Hofmann, *L. Li*, and F. Radlinski: Online Evaluation for Information Retrieval. Foundations and Trends in Information Retrieval, 10(1):1–107, 2016. ISBN 978-1-68083-163-4.

(B2) *L. Li*: Sample complexity bounds of exploration. In Marco Wiering and Martijn van Otterlo, editors, *Reinforcement Learning: State of the Art*, Springer Verlag, 2012.

(B3) M. Shao, *L. Li*, Z. Zheng, and C. He: Practical Programming in XML. *Tsinghua University Press*, Beijing, China, December, 2002. ISBN 7-900643-85-0.

Theses

(T1) *L. Li*: A unifying framework for computational reinforcement learning theory. *Doctoral dissertation*, Department of Computer Science, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ, USA, May, 2009.

(T2) *L. Li*: Focus of attention in reinforcement learning. *MSc thesis*, Department of Computing Science, University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, July, 2004.

(T3) *L. Li*: Design and implementation of an agent communication module based on KQML. *Bachelor degree thesis*, Department of Computer Science and Technology, Tsinghua University, Beijing, China, June, 2002.

Other Papers

(O1) X. Li, Z.C. Lipton, B. Dhingra, *L. Li*, J. Gao, Y.-N. Chen: A user simulator for task-completion dialogues. MSR technical report, December 2016.

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