lily_xu@g.harvard.edu lily-x.github.io

EDUCATION	Harvard University. Cambridge, MA PhD Candidate in Computer Science Advisor: Milind Tambe Thesis committee: Dimitris Bertsimas, Yiling Chen, Andrew Davies	expected 2024
	Dartmouth College. Hanover, NH A.B. with Honors in Computer Science, minor in Spanish Magna cum laude	2018
Honors	Stanford Rising Star in Management Science and Engineering (MS&E) Selected participant at workshop to "celebrate and fast-track the careers of exceptional young scholars at a critical inflection point in their career".	2023
	Google PhD Fellowship	2022
	One of 13 awardees in machine learning globally.	2021
	INFORMS Doing Good with Good OR Competition Winner Recognizes the "most exciting work performed by students in partnership public and private organizations that yields tangible and beneficial outcomfor individuals, communities, and organizations".	
	AAAI Best Paper Award Runner Up 3 best papers and 3 runner-ups were selected out of 9,034 submissions and 1,692 accepted papers.	2021 d
	Certificate of Appreciation from the SMART Partnership Recognition for contribution to developing PAWS system.	2019
	Five Citations for Academic Excellence at Dartmouth College Special distinction rarely awarded by faculty members "for meritorious characteristics not indicated adequately by academic grades", received acre five computer science and Spanish courses.	2014 – 2018 oss
	Adobe Women-In-Technology Scholarship – Honorable Mention	2017
Non-Profit	SMART Conservation Partnership.	
SERVICE	AI Lead I work with SMART to effectively integrate AI, computation, and research their conservation management activities. The SMART Partnership is the global leader in protected area solutions, consisting of 8 leading conservation NGOs: WWF, Wildlife Conservation Society, Wildlife Protection Solution Frankfurt Zoological Society, ZSL, NC Zoo, Panthera, and Re:wild.	e ion
WORK Experience	Google Research. India, AI for Social Good lab Student Researcher	Spring 2022
	Google. Seattle, WA Software Engineering Intern	Summer 2017
	Dyn, Inc. Hanover, NH	
	Data Analytics Research Intern	Spring 2016

Preprints

* indicates equal contribution

 † indicates undergraduate I advised

 $(\alpha-\beta)$ indicates alphabetical ordering

Reinforcement learning with combinatorial actions for coupled restless bandits

Under review

Lily Xu, Bryan Wilder, Elias B. Khalil, Milind Tambe

Ranger patrols deter poaching: first causal insights for improving protected area management

Working paper

Rachel Guo^{†*}, **Lily Xu***, Andrew Perrault, Luke W. Miratrix, Andrew J. Plumptre, Joshua Mabonga, Herbert Kitimbo, Fredrick Wanyama, Simon Nampindo, Milind Tambe, Andrew B. Davies

Artificial Replay: A Meta-Algorithm for Harnessing Historical Data in Bandits

Under review

 $(\alpha\!-\!\beta)$ Siddhartha Banerjee, Sean R. Sinclair, Milind Tambe, **Lily Xu**, Christina Lee Yu

Publications (Journals)

Bridging adaptive management and reinforcement learning for more robust decisions

Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society B (2023)

Melissa Chapman, Lily Xu, Marcus Lapeyrolerie, Carl Boettiger

PUBLICATIONS

Environment, Society, and Machine Learning

(BOOK CHAPTERS)

Oxford Handbook of the Sociology of Machine Learning (2023)

Caleb Scoville, Hilary Faxon, Melissa Chapman, Samantha Jo Fried, **Lily Xu**, Carl Boettiger, J. Michael Reed, Marcus Lapeyrolerie, Amy Van Scoyoc, Razvan

Amironesei

Publications (Conferences)

Optimistic Whittle Index Policy: Online Learning for Restless Bandits

AAAI 2023. 37th AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence

Kai Wang*, Lily Xu*, Aparna Taneja, Milind Tambe

Flexible Budgets in Restless Bandits: A Proximal Primal-Dual Algorithm for Efficient Budget Allocation

AAAI 2023. 37th AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence

Paula Rodriguez Diaz, Jackson A. Killian, **Lily Xu**, Aparna Taneja, Arun Sai Suggala, Milind Tambe

Robust Planning over Restless Groups: Engagement Interventions for a Large-Scale Maternal Telehealth Program

AAAI 2023. 37th AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence

Jackson A. Killian*, Arpita Biswas*, **Lily Xu***, Shresth Verma*, Vineet Nair, Aparna Taneja, Aparna Hegde, Neha Madhiwalla, Paula Rodriguez Diaz, Sonja Johnson-Yu, Milind Tambe

Restless and Uncertain: Robust Policies for Restless Bandits via Deep Multi-Agent Reinforcement Learning

UAI 2022. 38th Conference on Uncertainty in Artificial Intelligence

Jackson A. Killian, Lily Xu, Arpita Biswas, Milind Tambe

Ranked Prioritization of Groups in Combinatorial Bandit Allocation

IJCAI 2022. 31st International Joint Conference on Artificial Intelligence Lily Xu, Arpita Biswas, Fei Fang, Milind Tambe

Coordinating Followers to Reach Better Equilibria: End-to-End Gradient Descent for Stackelberg Games

AAAI 2022. 36th AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence Kai Wang, Lily Xu, Andrew Perrault, Michael K. Reiter, Milind Tambe

Robust Reinforcement Learning Under Minimax Regret for Green Security

UAI 2021. 37th Conference on Uncertainty in Artificial Intelligence
 Lily Xu, Andrew Perrault, Fei Fang, Haipeng Chen, Milind Tambe
 Oral Presentation

Top~6.17%~of~submissions

Envisioning Communities: A Participatory Approach Towards AI for Social Good

AIES 2021. 4th AAI/ACM Conference on AI, Ethics, and Society Elizabeth Bondi*, Lily Xu*, Diana Acosta-Navas, Jackson A. Killian

Dual-Mandate Patrols: Multi-Armed Bandits for Green Security

AAAI 2021. 35th AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence

Lily Xu, Elizabeth Bondi, Fei Fang, Andrew Perrault, Kai Wang, and Milind Tambe Best Paper Award Runner Up

Top 6 of 1692 accepted papers

Stay Ahead of Poachers: Illegal Wildlife Poaching Prediction and Patrol Planning Under Uncertainty with Field Test Evaluations

ICDE 2020. 36th IEEE International Conference on Data Engineering Lily Xu*, Shahrzad Gholami*, Sara Mc Carthy, Bistra Dilkina, Andrew Plumptre, Milind Tambe, Rohit Singh, Mustapha Nsubuga, Joshua Mabonga, Margaret Driciru, Fred Wanyama, Aggrey Rwetsiba, Tom Okello, Eric Enyel

WORKSHOP PAPERS Reflections from the Workshop on AI-Assisted Decision Making for Conservation

white paper

Lily Xu*, Esther Rolf*, Sara Beery, Joseph R. Bennett, Tanya Berger-Wolf, Tanya Birch, Elizabeth Bondi-Kelly, Justin Brashares, Melissa Chapman, Anthony Corso, Andrew Davies, Nikhil Garg, Angela Gaylard, Robert Heilmayr, Hannah Kerner, Konstantin Klemmer, Vipin Kumar, Lester Mackey, Claire Monteleoni, Paul Moorcroft, Jonathan Palmer, Andrew Perrault, David Thau, Milind Tambe

Enhancing Poaching Predictions for Under-Resourced Wildlife Conservation Parks Using Remote Sensing Imagery

 $NeurIPS\ MD4D$. Workshop on Machine Learning for Development 2020 Rachel Guo[†], **Lily Xu**, Andrew Plumptre, Drew Cronin, Francis Okeke, and Milind Tambe

Causal AI and Conservation			
INFORMS Annual Meeting. ML for Social Good session	October 2023		
ICCB. SMART Symposium, Kigali, Rwanda	July 2023		
Microsoft Research New England. Machine Learning Ideas seminar	June 2023		
United Nations ITU. AI for Good Summit	June 2023		
WWF. Fuller Seminar Series on Conservation AI	April 2023		
Minimax Regret Optimization: Robust Planning for Conservation and Maternal Health			
Berkeley MARL. Multi-Agent Learning Seminar	March 2023		
Brown University. Algorithmic Game Theory group	March 2023		
Learning and Planning Under Uncertainty for Wildlife Cons			
Harvard Kennedy School. "Leading in AI" Executive Education	July 2023		
Penn State. CSRAI Young Achievers Symposium	March 2023		
UC Berkeley. Global Policy Lab	February 2023		
Centro de Analítica para Políticas Públicas (CAPP). (in Spanish)	December 2022		
Georgia Tech. ISyE seminar	November 2022		
Analytics for a Better World.	September 2022		
Harvard Kennedy School. "Leading in AI" Executive Education	July 2022		
UC Berkeley. Ethics and Practices of Algorithmic Conservation	April 2022		
UCL. Climate Hack AI Competition, keynote	March 2022		
Harvard University. AI-Assisted Decision-Making Colloquium	February 2022		
Pasteur's Quadrant. Seminar Series	February 2022 October 2021		
INFORMS. Doing Good with Good OR Finalists	October 2021		
Ranked Prioritization of Groups in Combinatorial Bandit A	llocation		
Sony. Computer Science Laboratories (CSL) Paris	October 2022		
Stanford. Computing & Society group	October 2022		
INFORMS Annual Meeting. Fairness in Sequential Decision Making			
Envisioning Communities: A Participatory Approach to AI Good	for Social		
MIT. AI Ethics group	September 2022		
Women's Forum. Women4AI Daring Circle workshop	June 2022		
Women's Forum. Women4AI Daring Circle workshop	June 2022		
Robust Reinforcement Learning Under Minimax Regret for Green Security			
Google Research India. AI for Social Good research group	January 2022		
DAWG ALL D. I. LDI. A. L. D. L.			
PAWS: AI to Predict and Plan Against Poaching	D		
ICCB. International Congress for Conservation Biology	December 2021		
IUCN WCC. World Conservation Congress	September 2021		
WILDLABS. Tech Tutors: Season Three	September 2021		
AI for Climate. Mexico Talk Series powered by Huawei SMART Partnership. International Women's Day Webinar	July 2021 March 2021		
WWF. Webinar on SMART			
AI LA. Earth Summit	April 2020		
AI DA. Darth Summit	April 2021		
Dual-Mandate Patrols: Multi-Armed Bandits for Green Sec	curity		
Beijing Academy of Artificial Intelligence.	March 2021		
University College Landon Al Society	Folymory 2021		

February 2021

University College London. AI Society

Invited Panels	Hertz Foundation Workshop. AI Science and Policy, moderator panelists: Jacob Steinhardt, Julie Owono, Jessica Fjeld	July 2022
	South by Southwest (SXSW). AI for Wildlife, panelist	March 2021
	Harvard CRCS. AI for Social Impact, moderator	March 2020
	panelists: Susan Murphy, Erez Yoeli, Desmond Patton	
Professional	Initiative Organization	
SERVICE	Co-organizer, Mechanism Design for Social Good (MD4SG) with Charles Cui, Francisco J. Marmolejo Cossío, George Obaido,	March 2021 –
	Matthew Olckers, and Ana-Andrea Stoica; previously with Rediet Abebe, Irene Lo, and Wanyi Li	
		020 – Apr 2021
	Co-founder and co-organizer, MD4SG Working Group on Environment Apr 2021	-
	Workshop Organization	0 . 1
	Co-organizer, AI-Assisted Decision Making for Conservation Workshop with Esther Rolf and Milind Tambe	
	Organizer, SMART/PAWS Workshop. Rio Bravo, Belize	August 2022
	Lead organizer, Harvard CRCS Rising Stars Workshop	March 2020
	Co-organizer, Computational Sustainability Doctoral Consortium	October 2019
	with Priya Donti, Genevieve Flaspohler, Aaron Ferber, and Sebastic	in Ament
	Tutorials	
	Lead organizer, AI for Social Impact tutorial @ EAAMO with Emily Aiken, Priya Donti, Nikhil Garg, and Paul Gölz	October 2023
	D 1	
	Panels	A: 1 9099
	Co-organizer and co-moderator. The Future of AI for Social Impact panelists: Fei Fang, Lynn Kaack, Danaë Metaxa, Bryan Wilder	April 2022
	Conference Event Organization	
	Social co-chair, ACM EAAMO'23	October 2023
	Social co-chair, ACM EAAMO'22	October 2022
	Social co-chair, ACM EAAMO'21	October 2021
	Social co-chair, Fourth Workshop on MD4SG	August 2020
	Seminar Organization	
	Co-organizer, Harvard CRCS Social Impact Seminar Series	Spring 2022
	Co-organizer, Harvard CRCS Rising Stars Speaker Series	April 2021
	Co-organizer, CompSust Open Graduate Seminar (COGS)	Spring 2020
	$ \begin{array}{l} \textbf{Program Committee (Reviewing)} \\ \rightarrow \textit{Conferences} \end{array} $	
	AIES. Artificial Intelligence, Ethics, and Society	2022, 2023
	AAAI. AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence	2023
		020, 2021, 2022
	COMPASS. ACM SIGCAS Conference on Computing and Sustainab.	
	EAAMO. Equity and Access in Algorithms, Mechanisms, and Optimiz 2022, 2023	ization 2021,
	FAccT. ACM Conference on Fairness, Accountability, and Transparer	ncv 2022, 2023
	IAAI. AAAI Innovative Applications of Artificial Intelligence	2023
	NeurIPS. Neural Information Processing Systems	2023
	Č v	

	ightarrow Workshops		
	AI for Wildlife Conservation @ SIGSPATIAL		2023
	Autonomous Agents for Social Good (AASG) @ AAMAS	20	21, 2023
	AI for Social Good @ AAAI		2023
	Data-Driven Humanitarian Mapping @ KDD	2020, 20	21, 2022
	Regulating Machine Learning @ NeurIPS		2023
	Computational Sustainability @ NeurIPS		2023
	Cooperative AI Workshop @ NeurIPS		2022
	Black in AI Workshop @ NeurIPS	,	21, 2022
	Machine Learning for the Developing World (ML4D) @ NeurIPS	20	20, 2021
	Machine Learning for Public Health @ NeurIPS		2021
	Resistance AI @ NeurIPS		2020
	AI for Social Good @ IJCAI Makenium Design for Social Good (MD4SC)		$2020 \\ 2020$
	Mechanism Design for Social Good (MD4SG) AI for Social Good @ Harvard CRCS		2020
	Al for Social Good @ Harvard Cites		2020
	Competition Selection Committee		
	AI2, EarthRanger Conservation Tech Award	20	22, 2023
	Reviewer		
	Deep Learning Indaba		2022
	Caltech Computer Vision for Ecology (CV4Ecology) Summer Scho	ool	2022
	ICML, subreviewer		2021
	NeurIPS, subreviewer		2020
	IJCAI Special Track on CompSust and Human Well-being, subrev	iewer	2020
	COMPASS, subreviewer		2019
	Bloomberg Data for Good Exchange (D4GX), subreviewer		2019
STUDENTS ADVISED	$ ho ightarrow At \ Harvard \ College$		
STODENTS TEVISED	Vincent Börsch-Supan '25	Sen	ot 2022 –
		ne 2022 – I	
	Christopher Ong '23		ing 2022
	April Chen '22		ner 2021
	Adobe Research Women-In-Technology Scholarship Winner		
	Ezenia Diaz-Lembert '23	Spr	ing 2021
	Emilia Cabrera '21 Se	ept 2020 – I	Dec 2021
	Thesis: Protecting the Lion's Share: Mitigating Illegal Wildlife	Poaching	
	with Multi-Agent Reinforcement Learning	0000 1	r 2000
		ne 2020 – N	1ay 2023
	NCWIT Collegiate Award Winner	blo Montina	2
	CRA Outstanding Undergraduate Researcher Award — Honora Harvard Hoopes Prize for Outstanding Thesis	oie meninot	ı
	NSF Graduate Research Fellowship		
	Thesis: On the Effect of Ranger Patrols on Deterring Poaching: A Bayesian		an
	Approach for Causal Inference Using Field Tests as an Instru		
	Next step: Stanford ICME PhD student	<	
	.		

TEACHING	\rightarrow Guest Lecturer		
Experience	Cornell Tech. ORIE 5355/INFO 5370. Applied Data Science: Decision-making		
	beyond prediction	Fall 2023	
	Harvard. CS 182. Artificial Intelligence	Fall 2023	
	Cornell. INFO 6960. Data Science for Global Development	Spring 2023	
	MIT. 15 076. Analytics for a Better World	Spring 2023	
	Harvard. CS 96. Machine Learning for Social Impact	Spring 2023	
	Wellesley. CS 115. Computing for the Socio-Techno Web	Fall 2022	
	Ohio State. CSE 3521. Survey of Artificial Intelligence I	Fall 2022	
	Harvard. CS 288. AI for Social Impact class	Fall 2022	
	University of Southern California. ISE 599. Analytics for Social Impact Spring 2022 University of Pennsylvania. OIDD 941. Recent Advances in Data-Driven		
	Decision-Making	Spring 2022	
	Harvard. CS 96. Machine Learning for Social Impact	Spring 2022 Spring 2022	
	Cornell Tech. ORIE 5355/INFO 5370. People, Data, Systems	Fall 2021	
	Harvard Business School. HBSMBA 2231. From Data to Decisions		
	Wellesley. CS 115. Computing for the Socio-Techno Web	Fall 2021	
	Australian National University. CECS8001. Building Cyber-Physic		
	2021	v	
	University of Pittsburgh. CS 1699. AI for Good: Ethics and Implication 2021	ations Spring	
	University of Michigan. SI 431. Algorithms and Society	Spring 2021	
	Harvard. CS 182. Artificial Intelligence	Fall 2020	
	Dartmouth. CS 11. Foundations of Applied Computer Science	Spring 2018	
	Harvard University		
	ightarrow Head Teaching Fellow		
	CS 182: Artificial Intelligence	Fall 2020	
	Certificate of Distinction in Teaching		
	Dartmouth College		
	\rightarrow Teaching Assistant, Department of Computer Science		
	CS 31: Algorithms	Winter 2017	
	CS 11: Foundations of Applied Computer Science, head TA	Spring 2018	
	CS 10: Object-Oriented Programming	Spring 2016	
	CS 10: Object-Oriented Programming	Spring 2015	
	CS 1: Intro to Programming and Computation	Spring 2018	
	CS 1: Intro to Programming and Computation	Fall 2017	
	CS 1: Intro to Programming and Computation	Spring 2017	
	CS 1: Intro to Programming and Computation	Winter 2016	
	CS 1: Intro to Programming and Computation	Fall 2015	
	ightarrow Teaching Assistant, Tuck School of Business		
	Tuck FWP: Fundamentals of Web Programming	Spring 2017	
	Tuck DSA: Data Structures and Analytics	Spring 2017	
OUTREACH	Speaking		
	Harvard. Tech for Social Good and Harvard Computer Society	March 2023	
	Harvard SEAS. PhD Admitted Students Open House, panelist	March 2021	
	Harvard SEAS. Research Labs Open House	November 2020	
	GirlsComputingLeague. AInnovation Business Summit	September 2020	
	IEEE Computer Society. Women in Computing, Kerala Chapter	September 2020	
	Data Science Africa. Tutorial on MD4SG and the Environment	July 2020	
	Ledyard Canoe Club. Inclusivity in the Outdoors	July 2020	
		-	

Dartmouth. Women in Computer Science, panelist	May 2020
Harvard SEAS. Diversity, Inclusivity, and Belonging, panelist	May 2020
Center for Initiatives in Jewish Education. High school student vi	
World Science Festival. Science and Storytime	June 2019
L.A. Unified School District (LAUSD). African American Family 1	
Zoo Magnet High School. College and Career Day	November 2018
200 Magnet Hoge School. Conege and Career Day	110vember 2010
Mentoring	
Harvard University. In Touch Peer Mentor	2020 -
Harvard University. Women in STEM Mentor	2019 - 2020
Dartmouth College. Women in Computer Science	2017 - 2018
Volunteering	
Harvard SEAS. A Guide to Your PhD	October 2020
Harvard University. Project Teach	April 2020
Cambridge Public Schools. STEAM It Up!	October 2019
Hustle N' Code. Hackathon, technical lead	December 2018
Hustle N' Code is a Los Angeles hackathon for youth in public h	
My team won first place, and the four students each received a la	
my team won mist place, and the four students each received a la	ipiop.
Case Studies	
Harvard Business School. SMART: AI and ML for Wildlife Conser	rvation October
2022	rvation October
2022	
Podcasts	
Ecochat. AI for Conservation - Using Machine Learning to Stop Pe	oaching 2023
Cold Call (Harvard Business School podcast). Can AI and Machin	_
Park Rangers Prevent Poaching?	2023
INFORMS Resoundingly Human Podcast.	May 2022
Rethinking Economics NL. Disruptive Technologies podcast series.	*
The interior of Decision in the Disturbance Technologies podease series.	Way 2021
Video	
AIhub. New Voices in AI: environmental conservation with Lily X	u. October 2022
Voice of America (VOA) News. Wildlife Rangers Use AI to Predic	
Moves.	January 2022
	·
Articles	
Business Insider. Conservationists are using artificial intelligence to	to map out the
best ways for saving threatened wildlife and resources	October 2022
Oxford Science. AI in conservation: a modern-day solution to the	biodiversity
crisis?	March 2022
The Hill. These new technologies could transform wildlife conserva-	ation. February
2022	
Harvard SEAS. Computer Conservation.	November 2021
Alhub. Interview with Lily Xu.	October 2021
Engadget. PAWS anti-poaching AI predicts where illegal hunters v	vill show up next.
March 2021	
Mongabay. Where to patrol next: 'Netflix' of ranger AI serves up	-
predictions.	November 2020
Harvard SEAS. Preventing poaching.	June 2020
KKI: Sounda How took is tooking wildlite trettieling	11110 0 1111111

 $BBC\ Sounds.$ How tech is tackling wildlife trafficking.

USC Viterbi Magazine. AI is for Animals.

 $BBC\ World\ Service.$ Using technology to take on poachers.

 $\mathrm{June}\ 2020$

April 2019

 $August\ 2019$

Press

Non-Academic Leadership

Ledyard Canoe Club at Dartmouth. Secretary, Canoeing Leader 2014 – 2018

- Co-governed club functions for over 100 undergraduates. Managed club assets that include \$1M in endowments, a student-run rental business with annual revenues of \$50K, and boats and equipment valued at \$150K.
- Co-organized an Explorers Symposium featuring ten notable speakers, including Olympic racers and members of National Geographic—sponsored expeditions.
- Led a group of twenty-eight students on a nine-day, 220-mile canoe expedition.
- Voted by my peers to receive the Jay Evans '49 Award for service and commitment to the club.

Fusion Dance Ensemble. Director

2014 - 2018

• Led a group of fourteen dancers. Choreographed, taught, and performed contemporary and hip-hop dances, with over 20 performances each year.

Dartmouth Sophomore Trips. Co-director

2015 - 2016

• Planned the Sophomore Trips program for 130 undergraduates across 14 three-day outdoor trips throughout New Hampshire and Vermont.

Dartmouth First-Year Trips. Grant Crew Volunteer

Summer 2015

• Served on a nine-person crew for a 21-day, round-the-clock commitment to assist with five-day outdoor orientation trips for 1,000 incoming students.

Personal

Residential member, Los Angeles Eco Village

2018 - 2019