lily\_xu@g.harvard.edu lily-x.github.io

## EDUCATION Harvard University, Cambridge, MA

2019 - present

PhD Candidate, School of Engineering and Applied Sciences

Advised by Prof. Milind Tambe

### Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH

2014 - 2018

A.B. with Honors in Computer Science, minor in Spanish

Magna cum laude

#### **PUBLICATIONS**

## Robust Reinforcement Learning Under Minimax Regret for Green Security

Under review

Lily Xu, Andrew Perrault, Fei Fang, Haipeng Chen, Milind Tambe

# Getting Agents to Reach Better Equilibria: A Gradient-based Optimization Approach

 $Under\ review$ 

Kai Wang, Lily Xu, Andrew Perrault, Michael K. Reiter, Milind Tambe

# Envisioning Communities: A Participatory Approach Towards AI for Social Good

AIES-21: AAAI/ACM Conference on AI, Ethics, and Society Elizabeth Bondi\*, **Lily Xu**\*, Diana Acosta-Navas, Jackson A. Killian \* $Equal\ contribution$ 

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

 $AAAI-21:\ Thirty-Fifth\ AAAI\ Conference\ on\ Artificial\ Intelligence$ 

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

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

ICDE-20: IEEE International Conference on Data Engineering 2020

**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 \*Equal contribution

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

NeurIPS Workshop on Machine Learning for Development 2020

Rachel Guo, **Lily Xu**, Andrew Plumptre, Drew Cronin, Francis Okeke, and Milind Tambe

# Game Theory on the Ground: The Effect of Increased Patrols on Deterring Poachers

Working paper

Appeared at Harvard CRCS Workshop on AI for Social Good 2020

Lily Xu, Andrew Perrault, Andrew Plumptre, Margaret Dricin	ru, Fred Wanyama,
Aggrey Rwetsiba, and Milind Tambe	

A High-Performance Graph Model for Near-Optimal Payments for
Ecosystem Services

Working paper

Teaching

EXPERIENCE

Guest Lecturer

 $Appeared\ at\ Mechanism\ Design\ for\ Social\ Good\ (MD4SG)\ Workshop\ 2020$ 

Florian Berlinger\*, **Lily Xu\***, Yiling Chen \*Equal contribution

	*Equal contribution	
Honors and Awards	Harvard University Certificate of Distinction in Teaching AAAI Best Paper Award Runner Up Certificate of Appreciation from the SMART Consortium Five Citations for Academic Excellence at Dartmouth College Special distinction rarely awarded by faculty members "for meritoric characteristics not indicated adequately by academic grades." Computational Photography (Wojciech Jarosz, CS 89.15)	2021 2021 2018 2014 – 2018 2018
	Latin American Film (Silvia Spitta, Spanish 63.01) Computer Graphics (Emily Whiting, CS 77) Object-Oriented Programming (Travis Peters, CS 10) Introduction to Programming and Computation (Hany Farid, CS	1)
	Adobe Women-In-Technology Scholarship – Honorable Mention	2017
	Rick Angulo World Experience Award	2016
	For "intellectual openness, enthusiasm, and impressive academic per following a study abroad program in Cusco, Peru. Award in \$1,500.	formance"
	James O. Freedman Presidential Scholar	2016
	Willis S. Fitch '17 Metropolitan Washington Scholarship	2015
	Bank of America's Joe Martin Scholarship	2014
RESEARCH EXPERIENCE	Harvard University, Cambridge, MA Doctoral Research Assistant Advised by Prof. Milind Tambe	2019 – present
	University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA Doctoral Research Assistant Advised by Prof. Bistra Dilkina and Prof. Milind Tambe	2018 - 2019
	Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH Undergraduate Senior Thesis Researcher Advised by Prof. Amro Farid	2017 - 2018
	Presidential Scholar Research Assistant Advised by Prof. Emily Whiting and Prof. David Kotz	2016 - 2017
Work Experience	Google, Seattle, WA Software Engineering Intern	Summer 2017
	Dyn, Inc., Hanover, NH Data Analytics Research Intern	Spring 2016

University of Pittsburgh, CS 1699. AI for Good: Ethics and Implications Spring 2021

Spring 2021

University of Michigan, SI 431. Algorithms and Society

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	Harvard University, CS 182. Artificial Intelligence	Fall 2020
	Dartmouth College, CS 11. Foundations of Applied Computer Science	Spring 2018
	Harvard University	
	Head Teaching Fellow	
	CS 182: Artificial Intelligence	Fall 2020
	Dartmouth College	
	Teaching Assistant, Department of Computer Science	W
	CS 31: Algorithms CS 11: Foundations of Applied Computer Science	Winter 2017
	CS 10: Object-Oriented Programming	Spring 2018 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
	Teaching Assistant, Tuck School of Business	a
	Tuck FWP: Fundamentals of Web Programming	Spring 2017
	Tuck DSA: Data Structures and Analytics	Spring 2017
Carra	E . D. I 1 1505 H 1 C II	C : 0001
STUDENTS MENTORED	Ezenia Diaz-Lembert '23, Harvard College Emilia Cabrera '21, Harvard College (co-mentored with Haipeng Chem	Spring 2021 a) Fall 2020 –
WIENTOKED		Summer 2020 –
	NCWIT Collegiate Award Winner	Summer 2020
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Professional	Program Organization	
SERVICE	Co-lead, MD4SG Community Engagement	October 2020 –
		January 2020 –
	Co-organizer, Harvard CRCS Rising Stars Speaker Series	$March\ 2021$
	Co-organizer, CompSust Open Graduate Seminar (COGS)	Spring 2020
	Social co-chair, Fourth Workshop on MD4SG	August 2020
	Lead organizer, Harvard CRCS Rising Stars Workshop	March 2020
	Co-organizer, Computational Sustainability Doctoral Consortium	October 2019
	Program Committee	
	Conferences	
	COMPASS	2021
	AAAI Emerging Track on AI for Social Impact (AISI)	2021
	AAAI Emerging Track on AI for Social Impact (AISI)	2020
	Workshops	
	Data-Driven Humanitarian Mapping @ KDD	2021
	Autonomous Agents for Social Good (AASG) Workshop @ AAMAS	2021
	AI for Social Good Workshop @ IJCAI	2020
	Resistance AI @ NeurIPS	2020
	4th Black in AI Workshop @ NeurIPS	2020
	Machine Learning for the Developing World (ML4D) @ NeurIPS	2020
	Fourth Workshop on Mechanism Design for Social Good (MD4SG)	2020
	AI for Social Good Workshop @ Harvard CRCS Workshop on Humanitarian Mapping @ KDD	$2020 \\ 2020$
	Morvenob on tinniannarian mabbins @ KDD	2020

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ICML, subreviewer	2021
NeurIPS, subreviewer	2020
IJCAI Special Track on CompSust and Human Well-being, subreviewer	2020
COMPASS, subreviewer	2019
Bloomberg Data for Good Exchange (D4GX), subreviewer	2019

#### 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.

#### 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.

#### INVITED TALKS

#### PAWS: AI to Predict and Plan Against Poaching

International Congress for Conservation Biology, Kigali, Rwanda	December 2021
SMART Partnership, Webinar for International Women's Day	March 2021

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

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Beijing Academy of Artificial Intelligence	March 2021
University College London, AI Society journal club	February 2021
Thirty-Fifth AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence (AAAI-21)	February 2021
CompSust Doctoral Consortium	October 2020
CRCS AI for Social Good Workshop	July 2020
AI and Social Good Symposium, Carnegie Mellon University	April 2020
EconCS Seminar, Harvard University	March 2020

#### Poaching Prediction and Patrol Planning Under Uncertainty

CRCS Rising Stars Workshop	March 2020
IEEE International Conference on Data Engineering (ICDE-20)	April 2020
PhD on Tap, Harvard University	February 2020
CompSust Doctoral Consortium, Carnegie Mellon University	October 2019
KDD Data Mining and AI for Conservation Workshop	August 2019
AAMAS Strategic Reasoning for Societal Challenges Workshop	May 2019

#### Outreach

#### Public Events

AI LA Earth Summit	April 2021
South by Southwest (SXSW), Wildlife AI Panel	March 2021

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Harvard Tech for Social Good, panelist	April 2021
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 visit	March 2020
L.A. Unified School District (LAUSD), African American Family Day	May 2019
Zoo Magnet High School, College and Career Day	November 2018

## Mentoring

InTouch Peer Mentor, Harvard University	2020 -
Women in STEM Mentor, Harvard University	2019 - 2020
Women in Computer Science, Dartmouth College	2017 - 2018

#### Volunteering

Graduate Council Outreach Committee, Harvard University	2020
A Guide to Your PhD, Harvard SEAS	October 2020
Project Teach, Harvard University	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 housing. My team won first place, and the four students each received a laptop.

Press

**Rethinking Economics NL**, Disruptive Technologies series (to appear). April 2021 **Engadget**, PAWS anti-poaching AI predicts where illegal hunters will show up next March 2021

Mongabay, Where to patrol next: 'Netflix' of ranger AI serves up poaching predictions.

November 2020

Harvard SEAS, Preventing poaching.

BBC Sounds, How tech is tackling wildlife trafficking.

June 2020

BBC World Service, Using technology to take on poachers.

August 2019

USC Viterbi Magazine, AI is for Animals.

April 2019

Personal

Residential member, Los Angeles Eco Village

2018 - 2019