Matin Aghaei

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Research Interests

- Deep Reinforcement Learning
- Optimization for Machine Learning
- Quantitative Trading
- Robotics
- Multi-Agent Systems

EDUCATION

Sep. 2022 – Present Master's in Computer Science Simon Fraser University Burnaby, BC, Canada • GPA: 3.5 /4 Bachelor's in Computer Engineering Sep. 2017 – Apr. 2022 Amirkabir University of Technology Tehran, Iran • GPA: 18.33 /20 Mathematics and Physics High School Diploma Sep. 2014 – Jun. 2017 National Organization for Development of Exceptional Talents Karaj, Iran Research Experience

Graduate Research Assistant

January 2023 – Present

Supervisor: Prof. Vaswani

Simon Fraser University

- Proved Convergence Guarantees for Policy Gradient Algorithms
- Designed Entropy Regularized RL Algorithms
- Experimented Bandits and RL Algorithms

Undergraduate Research Assistant

March 2021 – April 2022

Supervisor: Prof. Ebadzadeh

Amirkabir University of Technology

- Implemented Deep RL Algorithms
- Used Deep RL Algorithms for Portfolio Management [code]

Publications

- "On the Convergence Rates of Log-Linear Policy Gradient Methods" [PDF], Matin Aghaei, Anderson de Andrade, Qiushi Lin, Sharan Vaswani. In preparation.
- "Practical Principled Policy Optimization for Finite MDPs" [PDF], Michael Lu, Matin Aghaei, Anant Raj, Sharan Vaswani. "Optimization for Machine Learning" workshop, NeurIPS, 2023 (Oral Presentation).

Course Projects

Computer Vision

• Designed and trained CNN models to perform Object Detection, Semantic Segmentation, and Instance Segmentation on the iSAID dataset. [code]

Robotics

- A robot controller which follows oval and spiral paths [code]
- A robot controller which constructs an obstacle map using VFH algorithm and avoids the obstacles in a Gazebo environment using a polar histogram [code]

Data Mining

• An image compressor (Using K-Means algorithm to reduce the number of colors in an image by clustering them) [code]

Information Retrieval

• A search engine for Persian language using inverted index and TF-IDF [code]

Principles of Computational Intelligence

- A 2-layer Neural Network [code]
- Genetic Algorithm for solving Knapsack [code] and Traveling Salesman [code] problems
- Fuzzy C-means Clustering [code]

Principles and Applications of Artificial Intelligence

- Natural Language Processing using n-grams [code]
- Genetic Algorithm & Simulated Annealing Algorithm for solving Constraint Satisfaction Problem [code]
- A*, Bi-directional and IDS algorithms for solving Rubik's Cube [code]
- AC-3 algorithm for solving Constraint Satisfaction Problem [code]

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teaching Assistant, Probability and Computing

 $January\ 2024-Present$

Lecturer: Sharan Vaswani

Simon Fraser University

• Helped students to understand the concepts of Combinatorics

Teaching Assistant, Data Structures and Algorithms

January 2023 – April 2023

Lecturer: Mohammad Jahanara

Simon Fraser University

• Taught students how to analyze the computational complexity of algorithms

Teaching Assistant, Introduction to Artificial Intelligence

September 2022 – December 2022

Lecturer: Hazra Imran

Simon Fraser University

• Designed AI programming problems, and helped students with the assignments

Head Teaching Assistant, Artificial Intelligence

September 2021 – July 2022

Lecturer: Mahdi Javanmardi

Amirkabir University of Technology

• Supervised 8 teaching assistants, and gave additional lectures on RL and Bayes Nets

Head Teaching Assistant, Computational Intelligence

September 2020 – January 2022

Lecturer: Mehdi Ebadzedeh

Amirkabir University of Technology

• Supervised 7 teaching assistants, and designed assignments and quizzes

Head Teaching Assistant, Data Mining

February 2021 – June 2021

Lecturer: Ehsan Nazerfard

Amirkabir University of Technology

• Supervised 5 teaching assistants, and designed assignments and projects

Honors & Awards

- Paper accepted for an oral presentation (top-5% contribution) in NeurIPS OPT Workshop, 2023
- Elected as the Educational Manager of Students' Scientific Chapter of Computer Engineering at Amirkabir University of Technology, 2019
- Ranked top 2% among more than 150,000 Iranian students in the National University Entrance exam in Engineering and Applied Mathematics, 2017
- Advanced to the 3rd stage of the Iranian National Olympiad in Informatics (**Only 80 students** reached this stage), 2015
- Qualified as a member of the National Organization for Development of Exceptional Talents, 2010

SKILLS

Programming Languages: Python, Java, C, C++, MATLAB, VHDL, SQL, JavaScript **Developer Tools**: Git, Numpy, Scipy, TensorFlow, PyTorch, Pandas, Matplotlib

LANGUAGES

Persian: Native English: Advanced