



Mehrad Ansari



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Personal website: https://mehradans92.github.io

Summary:

A detail-oriented chemical engineer with a strong background in computational modeling, machine learning and scientific software development, supported by academic research and professional work experience.

Education



(May 2023)

(Oct 2021)

Doctor of Philosophy in Chemical Engineering

Master of Science in Chemical Engineering

University of Rochester, Rochester, NY

Thesis: "Applications of Physics-informed Machine Learning in Chemical Engineering". Advisor: Andrew D White

Master of Science in Environmental Engineering

(May 2018)

Missouri University of Science and Technology (UMR), Rolla, MO

Thesis: "Numerical Modeling of Capillary-driven Flow in Open Microchannels: An Implication of Optimized Wicking Fabric Design"

Bachelor of Science in Chemical Engineering

(July 2015)

(June 2023)

University of Tehran, Iran

Thesis: "Experimental Setup and Optimization for Electro-catalytical Generation of Hydroxyl Radicals in Wastewater Treatment"



Work Experience and Practical Training



Acceleration Consortium Research Fellow Acceleration Consortium, Toronto, ON

Developing agent-based chemistry plugins via large language models to accelerate design of materials for CO₂ reduction

Research Assistant (2019 - 2023)

University of Rochester, Rochester, NY

- Developed a HuggingFace app that answers questions from scientific papers using OpenAl's large language models
- Developed a <u>edge-computing cheminformatics tool</u> for semi-supervised classification of the activity of antimicrobial peptides via positive-unlabeled learning using recurrent neural networks
- Developed a <u>disease modeling tool</u> to predict future disease spreads and infer location of patient-zero
- Developed an automated tool in CFD modeling that reduces the number of simulations using active learning and generates a symbolic equation for the system of interest via symbolic regression
- Contributed to development of a simulation-based inference tool via maximum entropy reweighting
- Contributed to development of a plugin with TensorFlow GPU-accelerated operations combined with HOOMD-Blue molecular dynamics simulation engine (HOOMD-TF)
- Developed a web-app for peptide-based gelator transparency classification using Kernel ridge regression
- Developed an automated tool on a Raspberry-Pi for real-time monitoring of HPC using Python, JS and HTML
- Implemented finite difference analysis in Python to study 2D shallow water dynamics
- Implemented Monte Carlo simulations in MATLAB to study evolution of spin configurations of a ferromagnet using the Ising model

Energy & Materials Intern and Research Engineer

(May 2022 - Mar 2023)

Toyota Research Institute, Los Altos, CA

Developed a deep learning software to predict degradation of used batteries with unknown cycling histories. US Patent pending

Teaching Assistant of "Advanced Transport Phenomena"

(Jan - Dec 2020)

University of Rochester, Rochester, NY

Tutored students on homework related problems and organized laboratory experiments

Lead CFD Analyst at Missouri S&T Solar Car Design Team

(2016 - 2018)

Missouri University of Science and Technology, Rolla, MO

- Developed validated wind tunnel simulations in STAR-CCM+ for aerodynamic optimization of the solar car
- Improved aerodynamic design efficiency prior to manufacturing

Manufacturing Process Modeling Intern

(May-Dec 2017)

The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company, Akron, OH

- Phase-change heat transfer modeling and optimization of tire vulcanization process in ANSYS
- Model verification based on plant data and analytical solution
- Utilized assets more efficiently through MATLAB post processing and automating the simulation process using OPTIMUS
- Provided faster simulation results using Adaptive Mesh Refinement and High-Performance Computing
- GUI development and coupling ANSYS with MATLAB for time-effective post processing

Teaching Assistant of "Applied Numerical Methods in CFD"

(Jan-May 2017)

Missouri University of Science and Technology, Rolla, MO

Organized CFD and programming workshops for ANSYS and Star-CCM +





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Work Experience and Practical Training



Research Assistant Missouri University of Science and Technology, Rolla, MO

- Numerical modeling of multiphase flow in open microfluidics using ANSYS and STAR-CCM +
- Reduced simulation run-time by developing an algorithm for adaptive mesh refinement (AMR)

Engineering Intern

Emden-Leer University of Applied Sciences, Emden, Germany

(July-Sept 2014)

(2016 - 2018)

Design of experiments in advanced oxidation process (AOP) for wastewater treatment

Computer Skills



Scientific	Softwares	Devel	oned

- MaxEnt AL-CFD
- Pv0 Peptide.bio
- HOOMD-TF • GTP
- Decode-ELM • Bye-Cycle

Other tools: AWS, TensorFlow, PyTorch, Scikit-learn, JAX, Pandas

Languages: Python, JavaScript, HTML, CSS



Honors and Awards



Acceleration Consortium Research Fellowship University of Toronto, Toronto	(May 2023)
1 st place winner at <u>Battery Informatics & ML Kaggle Competition</u> Materials Research Society, Boston, MA	(Dec 2022)
Kwang-Yu and Lee-Chien Wang Fellowship Department of Chemical Engineering, University of Rochester	(Nov 2021)
Earl W. Costich Graduate Fellowship Department of Chemical Engineering, University of Rochester	(May 2020)
1 st place winner: 2017 Mike Alizadeh Scholarship American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE)	(Aug 2017)
Recognized reviewer: Journal of Environmental Chemical Engineering	(May 2016)
MATLAB Programming Contest Sharif Computer-Aided Chemical Engineering Contest (SC ₃), Sharif University of Technology, Iran	(Mar 2014)

Publications and Patents (Google Scholar)

Agent-based Learning of Materials Datasets from Scientific Literature (preprint available upon request)



	M Ansari, SM Moosavi	(,
2.	Learning Peptide Properties with Positive Examples Only Digital Discovery (Pending review) M Ansari, AD White	(Oct 2023)
3.	History-agnostic Battery Degradation Inference and US Patent Pending	(Mar 2023)

Journal of Applied Energy (Pending review) M Ansari, S Torrisi, A Trewartha, S Sun

(Oct 2023)

Serverless Prediction of Peptide Properties with Recurrent Neural Networks Journal of Chemical Information and Modeling M Ansari, AD White

(Apr 2023)

Assessment of Chemistry Knowledge in Large Language Models that Generate Code

(Jan 2023)

Digital Discovery AD White, GM Hocky, HA Gandhi, **M Ansari**, S Cox, GP Wellawatte, S Sasmal, Z Yang, K Liu, Y Singh, WJ Peña Ccoa **Book chapter:** Hyper-parameter Optimization in Deep Learning

(July 2022)

Deep Learning for Molecules and Materials, Living Journal of Computational Molecular Science **M Ansari**, AD White Inferring Spatial Source of Disease Outbreaks using Maximum Entropy

(July 2022)

American Physical Society, Physical Review E M Ansari, D Soriano-Paños, G Ghoshal, AD White

(Mar 2022)

Iterative Symbolic Regression for Learning Transport Equations AIChE Journal, Special Edition for AI M Ansari, HA Gandhi, DG Foster, AD White

Simulation-based Inference with Approximately Correct Parameters via Maximum Entropy Machine Learning in Science and Technology R Barrett, **M Ansari**, G Ghoshal, AD White

(Apr 2022)

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Presentations and Talks



1.	Positive Unlabeled Learning of Peptide Properties Accelerate Conference, Toronto, ON	(Aug 2023)
2.	Maximum Entropy Inference in Chemical Reaction Networks with Unknown Kinetic Parameters AIChE, Phoenix, AZ	(Nov 2022)
3.	Rescuing Physics-based Models with Maximum Entropy Reweighting	(Sept 2022)

Wang Lecture, University of Rochester, NY

Serverless Prediction of Peptide Properties with Recurrent Neural Networks Middle Atlantic Regional Meeting of the American Chemical Society, Ewing Township, NJ

(June 2022)

Simulation-based Inference with Approximately Correct Parameters via Maximum Entropy

Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems 33: Workshop on Machine Learning for Structural Biology

(Dec 2020)