Nicholas Moehle

Education

2011–2018 PhD, Mechanical Engineering, Stanford University, GPA – 4.04.

- o Advised by Stephen Boyd
- o Thesis Title: Control of Electric Motors and Drives via Convex Optimization
- 2006–2010 BS, Mechanical Engineering, University of California, Berkeley, GPA 3.74.

Industry experience

2018–2021 Research Fellow, BlackRock Al Labs.

My primary role was to apply convex optimization and machine learning to practical problems throughout BlackRock, with a special interest in optimal investment problems. I worked closely with Stanford professors Stephen Boyd, Rob Tibshirani, Trevor Hastie, Mykel Kochenderfer, and Emmanuel Candès.

Selected projects:

- Built the optimization engine for BlackRock's tax-managed equity SMA product
- o Created convex optimal control algorithms for retirement planning and target date funds
- o Wrote a suite of statistical outlier detection tools using low-rank models for an Aladdin data quality initiative

Other achievements:

- Wrote four academic papers and one patent application (pending)
- o Gave several presentations to Larry Fink (CEO), Rob Kapito (President), Rob Goldstein (COO), and board members.
- Hosted three company-wide research seminars
- Worked closely with BlackRock thought leaders Ronald Kahn and Andrew Ang

2014–2014 **Software Engineering Intern**, *Google*.

I implemented control algorithms for renewable energy applications.

Teaching

Instructor o Convex Optimization I (EE364A), Stanford, 2016

- Teaching Stochastic Control Short Course, Chinese University of Hong Kong, Shenzen, 2017
- Assistant o Convex Optimization II (EE364B), Stanford, 2014
 - o Convex Optimization I (EE364A), Stanford, 2014
 - o Introduction to Linear Dynamical Systems (EE263), Stanford, 2013
 - o Introduction to Optimal Control Theory (AA203), Stanford, 2013
 - o Feedback Control Design (ENGR105), Stanford, 2013

Computer skills

Languages Python, Julia, MATLAB, C

Other Linux, LATEX

Publications

Nicholas Moehle, Mykel J Kochenderfer, Stephen Boyd, and Andrew Ang. Tax-aware portfolio construction via convex optimization. *Journal of Optimization Theory and Applications*, 2021.

Nicholas Moehle, Stephen Boyd, and Andrew Ang. Portfolio performance attribution via shapley value. arXiv preprint, 2021.

Nicholas Moehle. Risk-sensitive model predictive control. arXiv preprint, 2021.

Nicholas Moehle and Stephen Boyd. A certainty equivalent merton problem. arXiv preprint, 2021.

Reza Takapoui, Nicholas Moehle, Stephen Boyd, and Alberto Bemporad. A simple effective heuristic for embedded mixed-integer quadratic programming. *International Journal of Control*, 93(1):2–12, 2020.

Nicholas Moehle, Xinyue Shen, Zhi-Quan Luo, and Stephen Boyd. A distributed method for optimal capacity reservation. *Journal of Optimization Theory and Applications*, 182(3):1130–1149, 2019.

Nicholas Moehle, Enzo Busseti, Stephen Boyd, and Matt Wytock. Dynamic energy management. In *Large Scale Optimization in Supply Chains and Smart Manufacturing*, pages 69–126. Springer, 2019.

Bartolomeo Stellato, Goran Banjac, Paul Goulart, Alberto Bemporad, and Stephen Boyd. OSQP: An operator splitting solver for quadratic programs. *Mathematical Programming Computation*, pages 1–36, 2020.

Nicholas Moehle and Stephen Boyd. Value function approximation for direct control of switched power converters. In *Conference on Industrial Electronics and Applications*, pages 360–367. IEEE, 2017.

Matt Wytock, Nicholas Moehle, and Stephen Boyd. Dynamic energy management with scenario-based robust MPC. In *American Control Conference*, pages 2042–2047. IEEE, 2017.

Nicholas Moehle and Stephen Boyd. Maximum torque-per-current control of induction motors via semidefinite programming. In *Conference on Decision and Control*, pages 1920–1925. IEEE, 2016.

Nicholas Moehle and Stephen Boyd. Optimal current waveforms for switched-reluctance motors. In *Conference on Control Applications*, pages 1129–1136. IEEE, 2016.

N. Moehle and S. Boyd. A perspective-based convex relaxation for switched-affine optimal control. *Systems & Control Letters*, 86:34–40, 2015.

Nicholas Moehle and Stephen Boyd. Optimal current waveforms for brushless permanent magnet motors. *International Journal of Control*, 88(7):1389–1399, 2015.

Nicholas Moehle and Dimitry Gorinevsky. Covariance estimation in two-level regression. In *Conference on Control and Fault-Tolerant Systems*, pages 288–293. IEEE, 2013.