Curriculum Vitae Afshin Oroojlooy

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Research Interests

Reinforcement Learning, Multi-echelon Supply Chain, Mixed Integer Programming, Optimization Methods for Machine Learning, Forecasting.

Appointments

- Reinforcement Learning Researcher/Developer, Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning R&D at SAS Institute, Sep 2018- now,
 - Member of Reinforcement Learning team.
 - Designed a general structure for Reinforcement Learning development framework.
 - Designed and Developed a new RL algorithm for Heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) problem.
 - Developed a general RL package via C++.
 - Developed a SAS-C framework for customer journey optimization problem.
- Machine Learning Intern, Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning R&D at SAS Institute, Jun 2017- Aug 2018
 - Member of Reinforcement Learning team.
 - Developed a feasibility study of Reinforcement Learning application for real world problems, applied on customer journey optimization for proof of the concept.
 - Developing a general Reinforcement Learning package in SAS-C.
 - Developed DQN algorithm in SAS-C and tested on OpenAI gym atari 2600 games.
 - Developed a Deep Concurrent Temporal Difference and Deep Q-Network algorithm for customer journey optimization.
 - Developed a DDPG algorithm for HVAC problem.
 - Drafted and submitted the corresponding patent application.
- Research Assistant at Lehigh University, Aug 2014- Sep 2018
 - Developed an adjusted Deep Q-Network algorithm to solve the ordering problem in a serial multi-echelon supply chain network.
 - Developed an integrated Policy Gradient algorithm and Pointer Network to solve the Vendor Route Problem and Stochastic Vendor Route Problem.
 - Implemented a Deep Q-Network, Deep Deterministic Policy Gradient algorithm, and an integrated Policy Gradient algorithm and Pointer Network to solve Traveling Salesman Problem problem.
 - ▲ Implemented DQN, Deep TD, Deep Concurrent TD, Policy Gradient, Pointer Network, and DDPG algorithms.
 - \blacktriangle Implemented classical Q-learning and Sarsa(λ) algorithms.
 - ▲ Implemented on PyTorch and TensorFlow.
 - Integrated Estimation and Optimization Research Project for Supply Chain Problems.

- ▲ Developed a Stock-out prediction tool with Deep Neural Networks for general multiechelon supply chain problems.
 - · Predicted one and multi-step ahead stock-out predictions.
- ▲ Proposed and implemented a Deep Neural Networks algorithm to solve newsvendor problem (strongly competitive to the current approaches).
- \blacktriangle Implemented on caffe (C++) and TensorFlow.
- System Administrator of the COR@L lab, Aug 2016 up to now.
 - ▲ A small size high performance computing cluster.
 - ▲ Maintain several Unix based OS server.
- Course Projects of Computational Methods in Optimization: Developed in C++
 - ▲ Parallel implementation of Conjugate Gradient algorithm with Boost::MPI.
 - ▲ Cache efficient implementation of different factorization methods.
 - ▲ Cache efficient implementation of different sort and matrix multiplication algorithms.
 - ▲ Parallel implementation of a matrix vector multiplication algorithm.
- Course Projects of Mining Massive Datasets: Implemented with Apache Spark Python
 - ▲ Dimensionality reduction algorithm based on singular value decomposition.
 - ▲ A-Priori Algorithm to extract frequent item sets and association rule in transactional databases.
 - ▲ Latent factor model as a recommendation system for Netflix problem.
 - ▲ PageRank algorithm to rank Wikipedia web pages.
 - ▲ K-means, SVD and SVM algorithms.
 - ▲ Min hashing algorithm to obtain text and web page similarity.
- SAP ERP Implementation Consultant at SamenEA, IT company- June 2011- Sep 2014
 - Responsible for system design, mapping, development, implementation, training and supporting.
 - Consulted with modules Financial Accounting: Asset (AA), Account Payable/Receivable (AP/AR), Cost Accounting, Employee/Manager Self Service (ESS/MSS), Personal Development (PD), Personal Time Management (PT), Organization Management (OM), Personal Administration, Workflow Management On (ECC 6.0)
 - Analyzed gathered data and prepared AS-IS documents (e.g. process and organization models, etc.)
 - Developed solutions, proposed improved methods of actions, documented TO-BE materials.
 - Prepared manuals and trained workers in use of new forms, reports, procedures or software, according to organizational policy.
- System Architecture and Analyzer- Isfahan Municipality and Isfahan's Fire Station Jun-Sep 2010
 - Interviewed with key users, gathered required data, analyzed the data and prepared AS-IS documents (e.g. process and organization models, etc.).

Education

Ph.D. Lehigh University, Aug. 2014 - Sep 2018

Industrial Engineering, GPA: 3.75

Research: Application of Machine Learning in Supply Chain Problems

Advisers: Prof. Lawrence Snyder and Prof. Martin Takac

M.Sc. Sharif University of Technology, Sep. 2010 Sep. 2012

Industrial Engineering, GPA: 4.0

Thesis: Mixed Integer Programming Model for Train Timetabling on Multiple Track and Station Capacity Railway with Enhanced Upper Bound Heuristic

Method and Lagrangian Relaxation Lower Bound

Adviser: Prof. Kourosh Eshghi

B.Sc. Isfahan University of Technology, Sep. 2006 Sep. 2010, Industrial Engineering- Industrial Production, GPA: 3.87

Relevant Publications

- 1. A. OroojlooyJadid and D. Hajinezhad. "A Review of Cooperative Multi-Agent Deep Reinforcement Learning." arXiv preprint arXiv:1908.03963 (2019).
- 2. <u>A. Oroojlooy</u>, R. Nazari, L. Snyder, and M. Takac. "A Deep Q-Network for the Beer Game: Reinforcement Learning for Inventory Optimization." Under review.
- 3. R. Nazari, <u>A. Oroojlooy</u>, L. Snyder, and M. Takac. "A Reinforcement Learning Framework for Solving Combinatorial Optimization Problems: Applications in Stochastic Vehicle Routing Problem." Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS) 2018, Montreal, CA.
- 4. A. Oroojlooy, R. Nazari, L. Snyder, and M. Takac. "A Deep Q-Network for the Beer Game with Partial Information." Neural Information Processing Systems (NIPS), Deep Reinforcement Learning Symposium 2017, Long Beach, CA.
- 5. R. Nazari, A. Oroojlooy, M. Kabul. "Online Reinforcement Learning with the applications in Customer Journey Optimization." Neural Information Processing Systems (NIPS), Deep Reinforcement Learning Symposium 2017, Long Beach, CA.
- 6. A. Oroojlooy, L. Snyder, M. Takac. "Stock-out Prediction in Multi-echelon Networks." arXiv: 1709.06922 (2017), Under review.
- 7. A. Oroojlooy, L. Snyder, and M. Takac. "Applying Deep Learning to the Newsvendor Problem." IISE Transaction, 2019, DOI: 10.1080/24725854.2019.1632502.
- 8. A. Oroojlooy, K. Eshghi, Train Timetabling on multiple track and station capacity railway with enhanced upper and lower bound heuristic method for same train in network, Scientia Iranica 24 (6), 2017, 3324-3344.
- 9. BR. Vellaboyana, A. Oroojlooy, D. Fooladivanda, J. Taylor, L. Snyder, Optimal Scheduling of Networked Energy Storages, *IEEE Global Conference on Signal and Information Processing* 2015, Orlando, Florida, USA
- 10. A. Oroojlooy, M. Firouz, L. Snyder, Simulation based approach for solving Unequal Area Facility Layout Problems in Stochastic condition by Genetic Algorithm, arXiv:1608.08321 (2016).
- 11. A. Oroojlooy, B. Ghalebsaz Jeddi, Transfer Function and ARIMA Models to Forecast Atmospheric Carbon Dioxide Emission, working paper, Oct 2015
- 12. K. Kianfar, S.M.T. Fatemi Ghomi, <u>A. Oroojlooy</u>, 2012, Study of stochastic sequence-dependent flexible flow shop via developing a dispatching rule and a hybrid GA, *Engineering Applications of Artificial Intelligence* 25 (2012) 494506.

Invited Talks

- A. Oroojlooy, Application of Machine Learning on Supply Chain Problems. *Opex Analytics Round-table Tech*, Sep 2017.
- A. Oroojlooy, Application of Deep Learning for Newsvendor Problems, *Production and Operations Management Society conference*, Seattle, WA, May 2017.

Contributed Talks

- A. Oroojlooy, Reinforcement Learning algorithm for Inventory Optimization: Case on Beer Game, *INFORMS Annual Meeting*, Phoenix, AZ, Nov 2018.
- A. Oroojlooy, A Reinforcement Learning algorithm for Vehicle Routing Problem, *INFORMS Annual Meeting*, Phoenix, AZ, Nov 2018.
- A. Oroojlooy, RL for Inventory Optimization: Case on Beer Game, *INFORMS Annual Meeting*, Houston, TX, Oct 2017.
- A. Oroojlooy, A Computer Plays the Beer Game: A Deep Reinforcement Learning Algorithm for Inventory Optimization, *INFORMS Annual Meeting*, Houston, TX, Oct 2017.
- A. Oroojlooy, A Deep Q-Network Algorithm for Inventory Optimization, Application on Beer Game, *Modeling and Optimization: Theory and Applications conference*, Bethlehem, PA, Aug 2017.
- A. Oroojlooy, A Deep Learning Model to Predict Stockouts in Multi-Echelon Inventory Systems, Modeling and Optimization: Theory and Applications conference, Bethlehem, PA, Aug 2016.
- A. Oroojlooy, Deep Learning for Newsvendors, *Modeling and Optimization: Theory and Applications conference*, Bethlehem, PA, Aug 2016.

Patent

 Computer-Assisted Reinforcement Learning System, Application No. 62/572,200, filed on 9/11/2018, under SAS Institute.

Reviewing Papers

• *ICML* 14 papers

• NIPS 10 papers

• *IJCAI* 3 papers

• Journal of the Operational Research Society 1 paper

Honors and Awards

- P.C. Rossin Fellowship, P.C. Rossin College of Engineering and Applied Science, Lehigh University, May 2017.
- DDA Scholarship, P.C. Rossin College of Engineering and Applied Science, Lehigh University, Aug 2014.

 \bullet Awarded DAAD scholarship for Summer School from German Academic Exchange Service, May 2009. s

Organized Conference Sessions and Sessions Chair

- "Reinforcement Learning for Supply Chain and Inventory Optimization", INFORMS Annual Meeting, Phoenix, AZ, Nov 2018.
- "Reinforcement Learning for Supply Chain", Modeling and Optimization: Theory and Applications conference, Bethlehem, PA, Aug 2018.
- "Using Deep Neural Networks for Solving Combinatorial Optimization Problems", INFORMS Annual Meeting, Houston, TX, Oct 2017.
- "Machine Learning", Modeling and Optimization: Theory and Applications conference, Bethlehem, PA, Aug 2017.
- "Application of Machine Learning", Modeling and Optimization: Theory and Applications conference, Bethlehem, PA, Aug 2016.

Memberships

- INFORMS Student Member.
- INFORMS College on Artificial Intelligence
- Production and Operational Management Society (POMS) student member.

Teaching Assistantship (All included office hours and grading homeworks)

- Introduction to Deterministic Optimization Models in Operations Research, spring 2016.
 - Included teaching AMPL and MATLAB.
- Introduction to Stochastic Models in Operations Research, fall 2015.
 - Included preparing homeworks, solutions.
- Production Analysis, spring 2015.
- Resource Planning and Scheduling (graduate course), fall 2014.
 - Included teaching CPLEX IBM ILOG, Defining project and grading.
- Graph Theory (graduate course), spring 2013.
- Operations Research I, fall 2011, spring 2012.
- Design and Analysis of Experiments (graduate course), fall 2011.
- Inventory Control and Production Planning, spring 2009.

Computer Skills

Programming Languages Python, C/C++, MATLAB

DNN & Deep Learning TensorFlow, PyTorch, Torch-C++, caffe, TensorBoard

Cluster Computing Apache Spark

Time Series Analysis SAS

Mathematical Modelling CPLEX, Gurobi, AMPL, ILOG OPL

Data Bases Microsoft SQL

OS/ General Linux, Bash Scripting, LATEX, Windows, git, Microsoft Office

Other Local Service

• I have created and offered to our PhD students a teaching on Linux/Unix programming to use high performance computation servers.

- Participated in developing a free online beer game for teaching students basic ideas of inventory optimization.
- Volunteer at INFORMS Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, Nov 2015 and Nashville, Oct 2016.
- Volunteer at MOPTA conference, Bethlehem, PA, Aug 2016, 2017, and 2018.