

Parham Mohammad Panahi

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780-937-1410

Edmonton Alberta Canada

Education

- 2022 – Present **University of Alberta** – Edmonton, Canada
M.Sc. in Computing Science (GPA: 4.0/4.0)
Advisor: [Adam White](#)
Research Topic: Reinforcement Learning
- 2016 – 2021 **Azad University** – Tehran, Iran
B.Sc. in Computer Science (GPA: 18.71/20.0)
Mentors: Mohammad Ali Fariborzi Araghi, Amin Mahmoodi.

Research Interests

Temporally Abstract Models in RL • Sample Efficiency in Deep RL

Honors and Scholarships

- 2023 Admitted to the DLRL2023 Summer School Organized by CIFAR/MILA
- 2022 University of Alberta Graduate Recruitment Scholarship FALL 2022/23
- 2021 Rank 25 in National Mathematical Olympiad for University Students in Iran
- 2021 Rank 26 in National Graduate School Entrance Exam in Mathematics in Iran

Research Experience

- May 2023 – present **Sample Efficiency in Deep Reinforcement Learning**
Collaborators: Andrew Patterson, Adam White, Martha White
Topic: Experience Replay
- Jan 2023 – present **Model Based Reinforcement Learning**
Collaborators: Kevin Roic, Scott Jordan, Adam White, Martha White
Topic: Planning with Option Models

Dec 2020 – Sep 2021 **Audio-Visual Speech Recognition**
Collaborator: Shahed Mohammadi
Gathered and processed video data for visual speech recognition. Implemented a Lip Reading System for Farsi using STCNNs and LSTMs.

Teaching Experience

Fall 2022 - Winter 2023 **Teaching Assistant, CMPUT 175: Introduction to the Foundations of Computation II (University of Alberta)**
Conducted Labs to Assist and Test Students, Assignment Marking, Lab Marking, and Helping Students during Office Hours.

Fall 2018 - Winter 2019 **Teaching Assistant, Python Programming (Azad University)**
Conducted Labs and gave Supplementary Lectures.

Industry Experience

Nov 2021 - July 2022 **Caspian Net Pars (Designer and Producer) Tehran, Iran**
Designed and Taught Online Courses on the Topics of Programming and Reinforcement Learning.

Selected Course Projects

Fall 2022 **Average Reward Methods in Continuing Control**
Empirical study of differential Q-learning on continuing Catch and Pendulum tasks.
Instructor: Adam White • [Project Report](#)

Fall 2022 **Novel Content Generation with Machine Learning**
Controlling generation of blended content via genetic algorithm and VQ-VAEs.
Instructor: Matthew Guzdial • [Project Report](#)

Other Skills

Programming Languages: Python, Julia, C++, and many Machine Learning and Scientific Computing Packages, Including, Torch, TensorFlow, and Jax.

Languages: English (IELTS band 8), Farsi (native).