

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: 3.93/4.0)
Advisor: Mohammad Ali Fariborzi Araghi

Publications

2023 **Goal Space Planning**
***Parham M. Panahi**, *Kevin Roice, Scott Jordan, Adam White, Martha White.
In preparation.

Experience

Jan 2023 – Present **Graduate Student** University of Alberta
I work on **Reinforcement Learning**; a machine learning paradigm for sequential decision making and control. My current research is focused on speeding up learning by addressing the temporal and structural **Credit Assignment** problem through:
1. Agents that construct temporally extended **Models** of their world;
2. Agents that store and **Remember Past Experience** as part of the learning process.

Sept 2022 – Present **Contractor** Alberta Machine Intelligence Institute (amii)
I Work with [Adam White](#) and [Alona Fyshe](#) and amii's training team to create [AI Everywhere](#), an introductory AI course for all students at University of Alberta.

Sept 2022 – Apr 2023 **Teaching Assistant** University of Alberta
Course: CMPUT 175 - Introduction to the Foundations of Computation II
Conducted Labs to assist and test students, Marked Labs and Assignments, helped students during Office Hours.

- Nov 2021 – July 2022 **Content Creator** Caspian Net Pars
Designed and Produced Online Courses on Programming and Machine Learning.
- Dec 2020 – Sep 2021 **Research Assistant** Azad University
Implemented a Deep Learning Audio/Visual Speech Recognition system for Farsi.
- Sept 2018 – Apr 2019 **Teaching Assistant** Azad University
Course: Introductory and Advanced Programming
Conducted Labs and gave supplementary lectures on Programming Paradigms.

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](#)

Honors and Scholarships

- 2023 University of Alberta FGSR Graduate Travel Award 2023 - 2024
- 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

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).