Madeleine Pollack

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Operations Research Center

Massachusetts Institute of Technology 77 Massachusetts Avenue, E40-103 Cambridge, MA 02139

Office Phone: (617) 253-3601

Education

Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA

Candidate for PhD in Operations Research; expected completion, JUNE 2028. GPA: 4.5/5.0 Advisor: Swati Gupta

Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, GA

B.S. Industrial and Systems Engineering; May 2023. GPA: 4.0/4.0 Highest Honors, College of Engineering Honor Graduate

Research Experience

2023–Present Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA

Graduate Research Assistant Advisor: Prof. Swati Gupta

Projects: (1) Multi-armed bandits with reviewers, with calibration for reviewer quality, to guide human-AI collaboration, (2) AI/ML to minimize deceased organ non-utilization, and improve equity in the kidney allocation process, (3) Analyzing policy proposals for safe and progressive use of AI in infrastructure investments, and more, presented at INFORMS 2024.

2022-2023 Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, GA

Undergraduate Research Assistant

Supervisors: Prof. Swati Gupta and Prof. Daniel Molzahn

Project: Optimizing infrastructure investment decisions for powerline undergrounding to prevent power loss, decrease wildfire risk, and ensure equitable benefit across socioeconomic groups, presented at INFORMS 2023

Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, GA 2020-2023

Undergraduate Research Assistant

Supervisors: Prof. Lauren Steimle (2020-2022)

Project: Optimal aggregation of the state spaces of Markov Decision Processes to balance the trade-off between precision of state space definition and the accuracy of estimated transition probabilities to maximize infinite-horizon reward (Presented at IISE 2022, INFORMS 2022).

Teaching Experience

2023-Present Blended Learning, Cambridge, MA

Project Lead for Operations Management and Supply Chain Analytics course I teach weekly seminar-style classes on network optimization, business analytics, and optimization software skills to Chinese high school students.

Preprints

- 1. 2024, "Equitably allocating wildfire resilience investments for power grids: The curse of aggregation and vulnerability indices", https://arxiv.org/abs/2404.11520, with Ryan Piansky, Swati Gupta, Alyssa Kody, and Dan Molzahn.
 - a. Submitted to Applied Energy
- 2. 2024, "The implications of state aggregation in deteriorating Markov Decision Processes with optimal threshold policies", https://arxiv.org/abs/2405.12912, with Lauren N. Steimle.
 - a. Major revision at Computers & OR

Work Experience

2022 Tesla Motors, Fremont, CA

(Fall) Industrial Engineering Intern

- Developed headcount recommendations, saving Tesla \$12.5 million annually.
- Designed user-friendly interfaces for data access, including dashboards and web applications.
- Built Multiple Linear Regression and Markov Decision Process models to support datadriven decision-making.

2021 Hermeus Corporation, Atlanta, GA

(Fall) Flight Sciences Engineering Intern

- Developed Python tools to enhance data analysis efficiency, including an optimizer script to maximize total efficiency for a given target Mach number and angle of elevation.
- Created a "deck merger tool" to combine data from multiple sources with varying fidelities into a single, consolidated spreadsheet.
- Designed data visualization scripts for vehicle performance, as well as scripts for sensitivity analyses and implementing Machine Learning algorithms.

2021 Space Capital, New York, NY

(Summer)

Brooke Owens Fellow, Venture Capital Intern

- Actively involved in deal sourcing and participated in founder introductions with prospective portfolio companies.
- Attended two weekly deal flow meetings to discuss the candidacy of sourced companies.
- Contributed to writing three content pieces on early-stage investment methodology, best
 practices for founders hiring their first twenty employees, and a research report on the state
 and direction of the InsurTech sector.

Honors and Awards

2023-2024 Henry Gabbay Fellowship

Awarded to one promising incoming first-year ORC student each year

2023 Institute of Industrial & Systems Engineering (IISE) National Capstone 1st Place

(Spring) 1st place national capstone award for our supplier selection decision-support tool utilizing Thompson sampling frameworks for supplier recommendations.

2023 Davidson Family Tau Beta Pi Award

(Spring) Awarded to best graduate in the School of Engineering (comprising 11 majors) at Georgia Tech

2022 Adobe Women in Technology Scholarship

(Spring) \$10,000 scholarship awarded to 10 women nationally for demonstrated skills in computing fields

2021-2023 Georgia Tech IISE Awards

(Spring) - Best 2nd or 3rd year student in the Industrial Engineering major (2021)

- Best undergraduate researcher in the Industrial Engineering major (2022)

- Best display of leadership in the GT Industrial Engineering department (2023)

- Best graduating senior student in the Industrial Engineering major (2023)

2021,2022 Georgia Tech Undergraduate Research Awards

(Spring) - 3rd place poster, School of Engineering (2021)

- 2nd place oral presentation, School of Engineering (2022)

2021,2022 Society of Women Engineers Undergraduate Research Competition Finalist

(Fall) Awarded to top 5 women students based on their demonstrated research in engineering fields

2021 INFORMS Undergraduate Travel Scholarship

(Fall) Competitive scholarship to attend the INFORMS Annual Meeting as an undergraduate student

based on academic record, research experience, and demonstrated leadership in Operations

Research communities.

2021 Brooke Owens Fellowship

(Fall) Highly competitive fellowship program providing internships and mentorship in the aerospace

field for women and gender-minority students

2020 Literature Media & Communications First Year Writing Award

(Fall) Best first-year research composition (out of approximately 4,500 first-year students)

Skills, Activities, and Citizenship

Software: Julia, Python, R, Windows, Git

Skills: Project management, analytics, presentations, and cross-industry (venture capital, engineering,

tech, healthcare) and cross-academic (CS, engineering, business) communication

Citizenship Citizen of the United States