

Parand Alizadeh Alamdari

Email : parand@cs.toronto.edu

Mobile : +1 (647) 890 2903

EDUCATION

- **University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada** Sep 2020 – Nov 2025 (expected)
Affiliated with [Vector Institute for Artificial Intelligence](#)
Ph.D. in Computer Science, advisor: [Prof. Sheila McIlraith](#)
- **Sharif University of Technology, Tehran, Iran** 2015 – 2020
B.Sc. in Computer Engineering, Major in Software Engineering
Thesis: Graph Representation Learning with Graph Neural Networks and Clustering Techniques

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Reinforcement Learning, AI Safety, Responsible AI, Fairness, and Deep Learning.

PUBLICATIONS

- Toryn Klassen, Parand Alizadeh Alamdari, and Sheila McIlraith. Epistemic Side Effects and Avoiding Them (Sometimes). *NeurIPS Workshop on ML Safety*, 2022.
- Parand Alizadeh Alamdari, Toryn Q. Klassen, Rodrigo Toro Icarte, and Sheila A. McIlraith. [Be Considerate: Avoiding Negative Side Effects in Reinforcement Learning](#). In *Proceedings of the International Conference on Autonomous Agents and Multiagent Systems (AAMAS)*, 2022.
- Parand Alizadeh Alamdari, Toryn Klassen, Rodrigo Toro Icarte, and Sheila McIlraith. Avoiding Negative Side Effects by Considering Others. *NeurIPS Workshop on Safe and Robust Control of Uncertain Systems*, 2021.
- Parand Alizadeh Alamdari, Guy Avni, Thomas A Henzinger, and Anna Lukina. [Formal Methods with a Touch of Magic](#). In *Proceedings of the 20th Conference on Formal Methods in Computer-Aided Design*, 2020.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- **Research Assistant at University of Toronto** Sep 2020 – Present
Supervisor: [Sheila McIlraith](#)
Developing techniques to characterize and build AI technologies that are properly aligned with human values.
- **Research Assistant at Sharif University of Technology** Sep 2019 – Jun 2020
Supervisor: [Mahdieh Soleymani Baghshah](#)
Designed and trained a graph representation model using graph neural networks and clustering techniques.
- **Research Intern at IST Austria in Henzinger Group** Jul 2019 – Sep 2019
Supervisors: [Thomas Henzinger](#) and [Guy Avni](#)
Designed and implemented a controller which is provably correct and efficient, with explainable decisions using an intermediate concise model to approximate the neural network.
- **Research Intern at EPFL in DIAS Lab** Jul 2018 – Sep 2018
Supervisors: [Anastasia Ailamaki](#) and [Eleni Tzirita Zacharitou](#)
Designed a tree-based data structure and a packing algorithm for indexing spatial data with several categories.
- **Research Intern at EPFL in DATA Lab** Jul 2017 – Sep 2017
Supervisors: [Christoph Koch](#) and [Amir Shaikhha](#)
Redesigned and optimized an SQL query compiler [DBToaster](#) by introducing a new materialization algorithm.

HONORS AND AWARDS

- **Recipient of DeepMind Fellowship** for PhD studies. 2021 – 2025
- **Recipient of Graduate Fellowship** from **Schwartz Reisman Institute** for Technology and Society, University of Toronto. 2022 – 2023
- **Recipient of AI Risk Analysis Award** in NeurIPS Workshop for ML Safety. 2022

- **Ranked 3rd** in cumulative GPA among all 150 students of Computer Engineering, 2015 beginners, Sharif University of Technology. 2020
- **Silver Medal** in the 24th Iranian National Olympiad in Informatics (INOI). 2014
- **Recipient of Research Scholarship** from the Austrian Agency for International Cooperation in Education & Research (OeAD-GmbH). 2019
- **Ranked 150th** in Iran's university entrance exam among over 181,000 participants. 2015
- **Recipient of the Scholarship for Undergraduate Studies** from Iranian National Elites Foundation, for outstanding academic success. 2014 – 2020
- **4th Place** in the International RoboCup Competitions, Rescue Simulation League, as a member of Poseidon team, Eindhoven, Netherlands. 2013

WORKING EXPERIENCE

- **Data Scientist at Cafébazaar AI and Infrastructure Services, Tehran, Iran** Feb 2020 – Sep 2020
Trained and released text-to-speech and speech-to-text tools for Persian language using Kaldi.
- **Data Engineer at Cafébazaar AI and Infrastructure Services, Tehran, Iran** Oct 2017 – Mar 2018
Designed and developed Big Data analytics tools.
- **Software Engineer at Cafébazaar, Tehran, Iran** Jul 2016 – Jun 2017
Released an application recommender system for Cafébazaar android app store with 37 million users.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- **Teaching Assistant**
 - **Introduction to Artificial Intelligence (CSC384)**, University of Toronto Fall & Winter 2021 & 2022
 - **Knowledge Representation and Reasoning (CSC486/2502)**, University of Toronto Fall 2021
 - **Design of Algorithms (Head TA)**, Sharif University of Technology Fall 2019
 - **Data Mining (Graduate Course)**, Sharif University of Technology Fall 2018
 - **Discrete Mathematics (Head TA)**, Sharif University of Technology Winter 2017, 2018 and 2019
- **Lecturer at Farzanegan 1 Highschool** Jun 2015 – Mar 2016
Taught Algorithms and Data Structures to students preparing for National Informatics Olympiad (INOI).

SKILLS

- **Programming Languages:** Python, Java, Scala, C/C++, and R.
- **Machine Learning Frameworks:** Pytorch, Keras, Tensorflow, Scikit-learn.
- **Languages:** Persian (Native), English (Fluent), French (Intermediate), Turkish (Intermediate).
- **Miscellaneous:** Git, Bash, Scrum, Django framework, and L^AT_EX.

RELATED COURSES

- **Graduate Courses:**
 - Reinforcement Learning (A+)
 - AI Planning and Search (A+)
 - Algorithms for Private Data Analysis (A+)
 - Trustworthy Machine Learning (A)
 - Online Learning and Sequential Decision Theory (A+)
 - Introduction to Causality (Current)
- **Undergraduate Courses:**
 - Machine Learning (A+)
 - Artificial Intelligence (A+)
 - Deep Learning (A)
 - Social and Economic Networks (A+)