Pratik Rathore — US Citizen

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Education

Stanford University Stanford, CA

PhD Candidate in Electrical Engineering 9/2021-Present

Stanford University Stanford, CA

M.S. in Electrical Engineering 9/2021-12/2024

University of Maryland College Park, MD

B.S. in Electrical Engineering, summa cum laude 8/2017-5/2021

University of Maryland College Park, MD

B.S. in Mathematics, summa cum laude 8/2017-5/2021

Research & Industry Experiences

Stanford UniversityStanford, CAResearch Assistant7/2022-Present

Research Assistant
Department of Management Science & Engineering

Investigating approaches for improving optimization of physics-informed neural networks

 Developing efficient preconditioned stochastic gradient methods for solving large-scale problems in machine learning

Gridmatic Cupertino, CA

Research Scientist Intern

Power Trading & Optimization Team

- Applied scenario reduction to reduce runtime for solving linear programs in battery scheduling, while preserving profits
- O Developed a new backtest framework that accounts for Gridmatic's price impact in ERCOT market
- Formulated, implemented, and tested price impact models based on residual demand curves
- Proposed an ADMM-based algorithm for price impact-aware portfolio optimization

Stanford University Stanford, CA

Research Assistant

9/2021-12/2021, 3/2022-6/2022

Autonomous Systems Laboratory

- O Developed a quantum computing-based algorithm to solve mixed-integer quadratic programs (MIQPs)
- Applied matrix sketching techniques to improve scalability of semidefinite programming-based neural network verification

STR Arlington, VA

Electrical Engineering Intern

5/2020-8/2021

6/2024-9/2024

Prototype Systems & Technology Group

 Aided in the development of an object-oriented environment for radar I/Q simulation, and modeled sub-banded adaptive beamforming in phased arrays

- Contributed to data generation for a deep learning-based platform that performs automatic target recognition on maritime ISAR images
- Worked on a US Department of Defense funded SBIR research project focused on improving Inverse Synthetic Aperture Radar (ISAR) signal processing to enhance ISAR image quality

Lockheed Martin Space

Littleton, CO 5/2019-8/2019

Electrical Engineering Intern Military Support Programs

- Led reviews for computational models (frequency sweep generator, solar array controller, attitude determination with Kalman filter) being developed for satellites in MATLAB/Simulink
- Developed test cases, added new functionality, and improved upon existing documentation in MAT-LAB/Simulink for these computational models
- Presented model walkthroughs and review suggestions to colleagues during meetings

University of Maryland

College Park, MD

Undergraduate Researcher Department of Mathematics 5/2018-8/2018

- Investigated Descartes numbers, a family of odd spoof perfect numbers
- O Proved new results regarding the prime factorizations of Descartes numbers
- Developed and submitted a research manuscript containing the proofs of these results to arXiv

Papers

In the pipeline.

P. Rathore, Z. Frangella, J. Yang, M. Dereziński, and M. Udell. *Have ASkotch: A Neat Solution for Large-scale Kernel Ridge Regression*. Submitted, 2024, arxiv:2407.10070

Published....

- Z. Frangella, **P. Rathore**, S. Zhao, and M. Udell. *SketchySGD: Reliable Stochastic Optimization via Randomized Curvature Estimates*. SIMODS, 2024, arxiv:2211.08597
- Z. Frangella*, **P. Rathore***, S. Zhao, and M. Udell. *PROMISE: Preconditioned Stochastic Optimization Methods by Incorporating Scalable Curvature Estimates*. JMLR, 2024, arxiv:2309.02014
- P. Rathore, W. Lei, Z. Frangella, L. Lu, and M. Udell. *Challenges in Training PINNs: A Loss Landscape Perspective*. ICML, 2024, arxiv:2402.01868 (Oral, top 1.5% of all submissions)

Miscellaneous

P. Rathore. There are no Cube-free Descartes Numbers with Exactly Seven Distinct Prime Factors (2018), arxiv:1808.10027

Talks & Posters

The Alan Turing Institute (online)

10/2024

Challenges in Training PINNs: A Loss Landscape Perspective

Bridging the Farm: AI for Science at SLAC and Stanford (Stanford)

10/2024

Challenges in Training PINNs: A Loss Landscape Perspective

^{*} denotes equal contribution.

Naval Surface Warfare Center, Carderock Division (online) Challenges in Training PINNs: A Loss Landscape Perspective	8/2024
Oral Presentation, ICML (Vienna)	7/2024
Challenges in Training PINNs: A Loss Landscape Perspective	
Lu Group, Yale University (online)	2/2024
Challenges in Training PINNs: A Loss Landscape Perspective	
Gridmatic (Cupertino)	2/2024
PROMISE: Preconditioned Stochastic Optimization via Scalable Curvature Estimates	

Honors & Awards

Banneker-Key Scholar – a full merit scholarship awarded to top 1% of undergraduates	2017-2021
Dean's List – A. James Clark School of Engineering	2017-2021
Dean's List – College of Computer, Mathematical, & Natural Sciences	2018-2021
Honors College, University Honors, University of Maryland	2017-2021
University of Maryland Department of Mathematics High Honors Medal	5/2021
NSF GRFP Honorable Mention	3/2021
University of Maryland Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering Chair's Award	3/2021
International Mathematics Competition for University Students, Second Prize	7/2020
Putnam Math Competition, Ranked in Top 5% of 4200+ Participants	2/2020
Member of UMD Putnam Team, 14 th place team in the nation	2/2020
University of Maryland Dan Shanks Award for research in number theory	4/2019
Putnam Math Competition, Ranked in Top 3% of 4600+ Participants	3/2019
Member of UMD Putnam Team, 9 th place team in the nation	3/2019
Virginia Tech Regional Math Contest, Ranked 15 th out of 739 participants	10/2017
United States of America Mathematical Olympiad (USAMO) Qualifier	5/2017

Skills

Programming Languages & Frameworks

- $\hspace{0.1in} \circ \textit{Proficient} \colon \mathsf{Python}, \ \mathsf{PyTorch}, \ \mathsf{NumPy}, \ \mathsf{MATLAB}, \ \underline{\mathsf{LATE}} X$
- o Familiar: Pandas, C/C++, Julia, Java, R, Simulink

Advising

Weimu Lei, MS ICME 6/2023-8/2024

Projects: Physics-informed neural networks; software for fast convex optimization

Academic Service

Reviewing.....

AISTATS 2023, ICML 2024, NeurIPS 2024, ICML 2025

Organized Sessions.....

INFORMS: Advances in Optimization for Machine Learning

Co-organizer (with Zachary Frangella and Madeleine Udell)

Seattle, WA

10/2024

Teaching

CME307: Optimization Stanford University

Course Assistant 9/2024-12/2024

CME307: Optimization Stanford University
Course Assistant 1/2024-3/2024

EE364B: Convex Optimization II Stanford University

Course Assistant 4/2023-6/2023

ENEE150: Intermediate Programming Concepts for Engineers University of Maryland

Undergraduate Teaching Fellow 1/2021-5/2021

Relevant Courses

Machine Learning, Machine Learning for Sequence Modeling, Machine Learning for Discrete Optimization, Reinforcement Learning, Convex Optimization, Theory of Statistics, Numerical Linear Algebra, Parallel Computing