

# Rafid Mahmood

Nvidia Toronto AI Lab  
Nvidia Corporation  
Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Phone: +1 (647) 784 6242  
Email: rafid.mahmood@mail.utoronto.ca  
Homepage: <http://rafidrm.github.io>

## Employment

### Nvidia Corporation

AI Resident Researcher

2020–2021

## Education

### University of Toronto, Mechanical and Industrial Engineering

Ph.D Industrial Engineering (Operations Research)

2015–2020

Vector Institute for Artificial Intelligence Postgraduate Affiliate

2019–2020

Thesis: Learning to Solve Optimization Problems with Hidden Components: Applications in Automated Treatment Planning

Adviser: Professor Timothy C. Y. Chan

### University of Toronto, Electrical and Computer Engineering

M.A.Sc. Electrical Engineering

2013–2015

Thesis: Rank Metric Convolution Codes with Applications in Network Streaming

Adviser: Professor Ashish Khisti

Honors B.A.Sc. Electrical Engineering

2008–2013

## Publications<sup>1</sup>

### In Preparation

### Under Review

1. A. Babier, T. C. Y. Chan, A. Diamant, and **R. Mahmood\***, Learning to Optimize with Hidden Constraints, *under review in Management Science*, 2020.
2. A. Babier\*, B. Zhang, **R. Mahmood**, K. Moore, T. Purdie, A. McNiven, and T. C. Y. Chan, OpenKBP: The Open-access Knowledge-Based Planning Grand Challenge, *under review in Medical Physics*, 2020.

---

<sup>1</sup>Articles for operations research journals use alphabetical author ordering. The primary author is starred.

3. R. K. Wong\*, M. A. Pitino, **R. Mahmood**, I. Y. Zhu, D. Stone, S. Unger, D. L. O'Connor, and T. C. Y. Chan, Prediction of Protein and Fat Content in Human Donor Milk Using Machine Learning, *under review in Journal of Nutrition*, 2020.

## Journal Articles

1. A. Babier, T. C. Y. Chan, T. Lee, **R. Mahmood\***, and D. Terekhov, An Ensemble Learning Framework for Model Fitting and Evaluation in Inverse Linear Optimization, *forthcoming in INFORMS Journal on Optimization*, 2020.
  - **Honorable Mention at CORS 2018 Best Student Paper Competition: Open Category.**
  - Preliminary version at the 2019 Canadian Healthcare Optimization Workshop.
2. T. C. Y. Chan, A. Diamant, and **R. Mahmood\***, Sampling from the Complement of a Polyhedron: An MCMC Algorithm for Data Augmentation, *Operations Research Letters*, 48 (6), 744–751, 2020.
3. M. J. Crowson\*, A. Hamour, **R. Mahmood**, A. Babier, V. Lin, D. Tucci, and T. C. Y. Chan, AutoAudio: Deep Learning for Automatic Audiogram Interpretation, *Journal of Medical Systems*, 44 (163), 2020.
4. A. Babier\*, **R. Mahmood**, A. McNiven, A. Diamant, and T. C. Y. Chan, The Importance of Evaluating the Complete Knowledge-Based Planning Pipeline, *Physica Medica: European Journal of Medical Physics*, 72, 73–79, 2020.
  - Preliminary version at the 2019 International Conference on the Use of Computers in Radiotherapy.
5. M. J. Crowson\*, P. Dixon, **R. Mahmood**, J. W. Lee, D. Shipp, T. Le, V. Lin, J. Chen, and T. C. Y. Chan, Predicting Post-Operative Cochlear Implant Performance Using Supervised Machine Learning, *Otology & Neurotology*, 41 (8), 1013–1023, 2020.
6. A. Babier\*, **R. Mahmood**, A. McNiven, A. Diamant, and T. C. Y. Chan, Knowledge-based Automated Treatment Planning with Three-dimensional Generative Adversarial Networks, *Medical Physics*, 47, 297–306, 2019.
  - Preliminary version at the 2018 NeurIPS Workshop on Machine Learning for Health.
7. **R. Mahmood\***, A. Badr, and A. Khisti, Streaming Codes for Multiplicative-Matrix Channels with Burst Rank Loss, *IEEE Transactions on Information Theory*, 64 (7), 5296–5311, 2018.
  - Preliminary version at the 2016 International Symposium on Information Theory.
8. **R. Mahmood\***, A. Badr, and A. Khisti, Convolutional Codes with Maximum Column Sum Rank for Network Streaming, *IEEE Transactions on Information Theory*, 62 (6), 3039–3052, 2016.
  - Preliminary version at the 2015 International Symposium on Information Theory.

## Conference Proceedings

1. **R. Mahmood\***, A. Babier, A. McNiven, A. Diamant, and T. C. Y. Chan, Automated Treatment Planning in Radiation Therapy with Generative Adversarial Networks, *Machine Learning for Healthcare*, Proceedings of Machine Learning Research 85, 484–499, 2018.  
– **Won Runners’ Up at CORS 2019 HCOR Student Presentation Competition.**
2. **R. Mahmood\***, A. Badr, and A. Khisti, Low Delay Network Streaming Under Burst Losses, *IEEE International Symposium on Information Theory*, 2898–2902, 2016.
3. **R. Mahmood\***, A. Badr, and A. Khisti, Convolutional Codes with Maximum Column Sum Rank for Network Streaming, *IEEE International Symposium on Information Theory*, 2271–2275, 2015.
4. A. Badr\*, **R. Mahmood**, and A. Khisti, Embedded MDS Codes for Multicast Streaming, *IEEE International Symposium on Information Theory*, 2276–2280, 2015.

## Refereed Workshops and Clinical Abstracts

1. A. Babier\*, **R. Mahmood**, A. McNiven, A. Diamant, and T. C. Y. Chan, The Importance of Evaluating the Complete Knowledge-based Automated Planning Pipeline, *International Conference on the Use of Computers in Radiotherapy*, 2019.
2. A. Babier\*, **R. Mahmood**, A. McNiven, and T. C. Y. Chan, An Optimization Method for Knowledge-based Automated Planning that Leverages Ensemble Dose Predictions, *American Association of Physicists in Medicine*, 2019.
3. A. Babier\*, **R. Mahmood**, A. McNiven, and T. C. Y. Chan, Comparing Deep Learning Architectures for Knowledge-Based Automated Planning, *American Association of Physicists in Medicine*, 2019.
4. A. Babier, T. C. Y. Chan, T. Lee, **R. Mahmood\***, and D. Terekhov, Model Fitting in Generalized Inverse Linear Optimization: Applications in Radiation Therapy, *Canadian Healthcare Optimization Workshop*, 2019.
5. A. Babier\*, **R. Mahmood\***, A. McNiven, A. Diamant, and T. C. Y. Chan, Automated Treatment Planning in Radiation Therapy with 3-D Generative Adversarial Networks, *NeurIPS Workshop on Machine Learning for Health*, 2018.

## Presentations

### Learning to Optimize with Hidden Constraints

- |  |      |
|--|------|
| – INFORMS Annual Meeting, Washington DC, USA                           | 2020 |
| – AOIS Seminar, Alberta School of Business, Edmonton, AB, Canada       | 2020 |
| – Nvidia AI Research Seminar, Toronto, ON, Canada                      | 2020 |
| – IE Department Seminar, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA, USA | 2020 |

- INFORMS Annual Meeting, Seattle, WA, USA 2019
- CORS Annual Conference, Saskatoon, SK, Canada 2019
- GERAD Seminar, Université de Montréal, Montréal, QC, Canada 2019

### **An Ensemble Learning Framework for Model Fitting and Evaluation in Inverse Linear Optimization**

- INFORMS Health Care, Boston, MA, USA 2019
- CORS Annual Conference, Saskatoon, SK, Canada 2019
- CORS Annual Conference, Halifax, NS, Canada 2018
- INFORMS Annual Meeting, Houston, TX, USA 2017
- CORS Annual Conference, Quebec City, QC, Canada 2017
- INFORMS Annual Meeting, Nashville, TN, USA 2016

### **Automated Treatment Planning in Radiation Therapy with Generative Adversarial Networks**

- CORS Annual Conference, Saskatoon, SK, Canada 2019
- MLHC Conference, Palo Alto, CA, USA 2018

### **Convolutional Codes with Maximum Column Sum Rank for Network Streaming**

- IEEE ISIT, Hong Kong, HK, China 2015

## **Teaching Assistantship**

- MIE 465: Analytics in Action** 2017–2019
- Responsible for course creation in 2017.
- MIE 1620: Linear Programming and Network Flows** 2018
- MIE 258: Engineering Economics and Accounting** 2016–2017
- ECE 363: Communication Systems** 2015

## **Students Supervised**

### **University of Toronto<sup>2</sup>**

1. Rachel Wong, Machine Learning Regression Models to Predict Protein and Fat Content in Human Donor Milk using Maternal-Infant and Domation Specific Variables, *Masters of Applied Science Thesis*, 2020. Co-supervised with Ian Yihang Zhu.

---

<sup>2</sup>All students were co-supervised with my adviser Timothy C. Y. Chan.

2. Richard Chavez, Sliding Window Generative Adversarial Networks for Radiation Therapy, *Industrial Engineering 4th Year Thesis*, 2019. Co-supervised with Aaron Babier.
3. Michael Shin, Using Portfolio Theory to Optimize Selection of Daily Fantasy Basketball Contests, *Engineering Science 4th Year Thesis*, 2018. Co-supervised with Ben Potter.
4. Yusuf Shalaby, Inverse Optimization for Measuring Cancer Treatment Pathway Concordance, *Industrial Engineering 4th Year Thesis*, 2018. Co-supervised with Nasrin Youssefi.
5. Palmira Pereira, Netflix Prize Problem Using Inverse Optimization, *Masters of Engineering Thesis*, 2017.

## Awards

1. University of Toronto Doctoral Completion Award, 2019–2020 (\$8 000).
2. Runners' Up, Health Care Operations Research Student Presentation Competition, CORS Annual Conference, 2019.
3. Postgraduate Affiliate Award, Vector Institute for Artificial Intelligence, 2019 (\$12 000).
4. Honourable Mention, Student Paper Competition: Open Category, CORS Annual Conference, 2018 (\$100).
5. Postgraduate Doctoral Scholarship, NSERC, 2017 (\$42 000).
6. First Place, Waterfront International Ltd. Quantathon, 2016 (\$7 500).

## Other Professional Experience

**OpenKBP Grand Challenge**, American Association of Physicists in Medicine      2019–2020  
Machine Learning Expert

- Released the OpenKBP Data Set, which is the first public-access data set (of 400 ML-generated treatments) to standardize research in automated planning.

**Opus One Solutions**, Toronto, ON, Canada      2019  
Power Systems Optimization Expert

- Developed and implemented algorithms to solve optimal power flow, dispatch, and related power systems problems.

**NHL Expansion Draft Optimizer** (<http://nhlexpansiondraft.com>)      2017  
Back-end Software Developer

- Implemented an online tool to determine optimal draft choices for the 2017 NHL Draft subject to user input preferences. We received media coverage from *The Toronto Star*.

## Service

Referee for European Journal of Operations Research, Health Care Management Science, IEEE ISIT (2017), NeurIPS ML4H Workshop (2019, 2020), ACM CHIL (2020), NeurIPS (2020), and ICML (2021).

**Electrical and Computer Engineering Graduate Student Society** 2014–2015  
Treasurer

**Electrical and Computer Engineering Graduate Students Symposium** 2014  
Organizing Committee Member

## Personal

Languages: English (fluent), French (beginner)

Citizenship: Canadian

Last updated: December 15, 2020

<http://rafidrm.github.io>