

Rafid Mahmood

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Employment

Nvidia Corporation

AI Resident Researcher 2020–pres.

Education

University of Toronto, Mechanical and Industrial Engineering

Ph.D Industrial Engineering 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

Publications¹

Working Papers

1. T. C. Y. Chan, D. L. O'Connor, **R. Mahmood**, D. Stone, S. Unger, R. K. Wong*, and I. Y. Zhu, Milk Bank Batching Operations: A Data-driven Optimization Approach, *in preparation for Manufacturing & Service Operations Management*, 2021.

– Preliminary version at The Journal of Nutrition.

¹Articles for operations research journals use alphabetical author ordering. The primary author is starred.

Pre-prints

1. A. Babier, T. C. Y. Chan, A. Diamant, and **R. Mahmood***, Learning to Optimize with Hidden Constraints, *major revision in Management Science*, 2021.
2. **R. Mahmood***, S. Fidler, and M. T. Law, Low Budget Active Learning via Wasserstein Distance: An Integer Programming Approach, *under review at Neural Information Processing Systems*, 2021.
3. T. C. Y. Chan, **R. Mahmood***, and I. Y. Zhu*, Inverse Optimization: Methods and Applications, *under review at SIAM Review*, 2021.

Journal Articles

1. 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, *The Journal of Nutrition*, 2021.
2. 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, *INFORMS Journal on Optimization*, 3(2), 119–138, 2021.
 - **Honorable Mention (second place) at CORS 2018 Best Student Paper Competition.**
 - Preliminary version at the 2019 Canadian Healthcare Optimization Workshop.
3. 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, *Medical Physics*, Special Issue, 2021.
4. 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.
5. 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.
6. 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.
7. 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.

8. 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.
9. **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.
10. **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.
 - **Runners' Up (second place) 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.

Presentations²

Low Budget Active Learning: An Integer Programming Approach

- INFORMS Annual Meeting, Anaheim, CA, USA 2021
- CS Department Seminar, University of Calgary, Calgary, AB, Canada, 2021
- MSBE Seminar, University of Edinburgh Business School, Edinburgh, UK 2021

Learning to Optimize with Hidden Constraints

- CORS Annual Conference, Toronto, ON, Canada 2021
- 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 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 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

²Presentations are categorized by the abbreviated main paper discussed. Actual titles may vary.

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 Toronto³

1. Rachel Wong, Machine Learning Regression Models to Predict Protein and Fat Content in Human Donor Milk, *Masters of Applied Science Thesis*, 2020. Co-supervised with Ian Y. Zhu.
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 Concor-
dance, *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 Confer-
ence, 2018 (\$100).
5. Postgraduate Doctoral Scholarship, NSERC, 2017 (\$42 000).
6. First Place, Waterfront International Ltd. Quantathon, 2016 (\$7 500).

³All students were co-supervised with my adviser Timothy C. Y. Chan.

Other Professional Experience

NHL Expansion Draft Optimizer (<http://nhlexpansiondraft.com>)

2017, 2021

Back-end Software Developer (2017), Adviser (2021)

- Implemented an online tool demonstrating the power of optimization in simulating team choices for the 2017 and 2021 NHL Expansion Draft with the Vegas Golden Knights and Seattle Kraken, respectively.
- Our site received media coverage from *The Toronto Star*, *OR/MS Today*, and *The Seattle Times*.

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.
- Organized the OpenKBP Grand Challenge, which was an international competition for predicting radiation therapy dose treatments in head-and-neck cancer.

Opus One Solutions, Toronto, ON, Canada

2019

Independent Contract/Power Systems Optimization Expert

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

Service

Academic

Ad-hoc Journal Referee

Health Care Management Science, European Journal of Operations Research

Ad-hoc Conference Referee

ICLR 2022, NeurIPS 2020–2021, ICML 2021, ACM CHIL 2020–2021, NeurIPS ML4H Workshop 2019–2020, IEEE ISIT 2017

Conference Session Chair

INFORMS Annual Meeting 2021, CORS Annual Conference 2019

University of Toronto

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: September 13, 2021

<http://rafidrm.github.io>