

Rahul Kidambi

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[Google Scholar](#); [Github](#); [dblp](#).

Research Interests

Applications and Foundations of Machine Learning, Deep Learning and Optimization.

Selected Papers

(*) represents alphabetical ordering of authors (as in CS Theory papers).

- ↗ (*) Rong Ge, Sham M. Kakade, *Rahul Kidambi*, Praneeth Netrapalli, “**The Step Decay Schedule: A Near-Optimal Geometrically Decaying Learning Rate Procedure For Least Squares**”, To Appear, in Neural Information Processing Systems (**NeurIPS**), 2019.
- ↗ (*) Rong Ge, Prateek Jain, Sham M. Kakade, *Rahul Kidambi*, Dheeraj M. Nagaraj, Praneeth Netrapalli “**Open Problem: Do Good Algorithms Necessarily Query Bad Points?**”, Conference on Learning Theory (**COLT**), 2019.
- ↗ *Rahul Kidambi*, Praneeth Netrapalli, Prateek Jain, Sham M. Kakade, “**On the Insufficiency of existing momentum schemes for Stochastic Optimization**”, in International Conference on Learning Representations (**ICLR**) 2018. **Oral Presentation (23/1002 \approx 2% Acceptance Rate)**.
- ↗ (*) Prateek Jain, Sham M. Kakade, *Rahul Kidambi*, Praneeth Netrapalli, Aaron Sidford, “**Accelerating Stochastic Gradient Descent for Least Squares Regression**”, in Conference on Learning Theory (**COLT**), 2018.
- ↗ (*) Prateek Jain, Sham M. Kakade, *Rahul Kidambi*, Praneeth Netrapalli, Aaron Sidford, “**Parallelizing Stochastic Gradient Descent for Least Squares Regression: mini-batching, averaging, and model misspecification**”, in Journal of Machine Learning Research (**JMLR**), 2018.
- ↗ Jennifer Gillenwater, Rishabh Iyer, Bethany Lusch, *Rahul Kidambi*, Jeff Bilmes, “**Submodular Hamming Metrics**”, in Neural Information Processing Systems (**NeurIPS**), 2015. Spotlight presentation.
- ↗ *Rahul Kidambi*, Min-Chi Shih, Kenneth Rose, “**Deformable Trellises over Factor Graphs for Robust Microtubule Tracking in Clutter**”, in International Symposium on Biomedical Imaging (**ISBI**), 2012.

Education

- **Doctor of Philosophy** - PhD, ECE, University of Washington, Seattle – 2019.
Adviser: **Prof. Sham M. Kakade** (Associate Professor of Computer Science and Statistics).
Dissertation Title: Stochastic Gradient Descent for Modern Machine Learning: Theory, Algorithms and Applications.
- **Master of Science** - M.S., ECE, University of California, Santa Barbara – 2012.
- **Bachelor of Technology** - B.Tech, ECE, National Institute of Technology, Tiruchirappalli – 2010.
Smt. Neela Balasubramaniam endowed best outgoing student of the ECE department.

Research Experience

- Graduate Student Researcher, University of Washington Seattle - 2015 – 2019.
Mentor: **Prof. Sham M. Kakade**.
- Research Intern, Microsoft Research India, Summer 2017.
Mentor: **Dr. Praneeth Netrapalli**, **Dr. Prateek Jain**.
- Research Assistant, Microsoft Research India, Spring 2013-Fall 2014.
Mentor: **Dr. Sundararajan Sellamanickam**; Also worked with **Dr. S. Sathiya Keerthi**.

Service

Reviewer for conferences (ICML, NeurIPS, COLT, ICLR, ISIT, AISTATS, ALT) and journals (JMLR, Elec. Journal of Statistics, IEEE Trans. Info. Theory). Reviewed applications for UW CSE’s PhD program - 2019.