

# Rafael Katopodis

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## SKILLS

### LANGUAGES

Python  
SQL  
Julia  
C/C++

### TOOLS AND LIBRARIES

Spark  
NumPy  
Pandas  
SciPy  
matplotlib  
scikit-learn  
PyTorch

### OS

Linux  
Windows

## LINKS

Github:// [rkatopodis](#)  
LinkedIn:// [rafaelkatopodis](#)

## COURSEWORK

### GRADUATE

Probability and Statistics for ML  
Reinforcement Learning  
Introduction to Robotics  
Weightless Neural Nets (*Teaching Asst 2x*)

### UNDERGRADUATE

Data Mining  
Artificial Intelligence  
Linear and Nonlinear Programming  
Concurrent and Parallel Programming  
Internet of things

## EDUCATION

### COPPE/UNIVERSIDADE FEDERAL DO RIO DE JANEIRO

M.SC. IN COMPUTER AND SYSTEMS ENGINEERING

June 2019 - January 2022

Thesis title: "Reinforcement Learning with Weightless Neural Networks"

### UNIVERSIDADE FEDERAL DO RIO DE JANEIRO

B.SC. IN COMPUTER SCIENCE

March 2015 - July 2019

*magna cum laude*

Cumulative Score: 9.2/10

## EXPERIENCE

### AMBEV TECH | DATA SCIENTIST

2022 – Present

- Built product recommender systems to personalize a B2B platform with close to a million users
- Designed and ran A/B tests to assess the real-world impacts of different recommendation models

### LABZERO (WEIGHTLESS NEURAL NETS LAB) | M.SC. RESEARCHER

2019 – 2022

- Developed new weightless neural networks architectures suitable for online and nonstationary learning
- Investigated the use of weightless neural nets for policy search and value function approximation in the context of reinforcement learning
- Presented our findings at an international conference (recording)

### LABROB (ROBOTICS LAB) | UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCHER

2017 – 2019

- Developed Arduino-based control systems for line follower and sumo robots using state machines and PID regulators
- Designed a navigation system for a wheeled robot, using encoders and inertial sensors' readings for odometry and a mounted camera paired with a convolutional neural network for recognizing goals

## HONORS AND AWARDS

- 2021 Invitation to submit an extended version of our ESANN 2021 paper to the Neurocomputing journal
- 2019 Silver medal - RoboMagellan competition, 2<sup>nd</sup> Robotics Summit, Joinville
- 2019 Silver medal - Robot-sumo competition, 15<sup>th</sup> Winter Challenge, Concórdia

## PUBLICATIONS

- [1] R. F. Katopodis, P. M. Lima, and F. M. França. Functional gradient descent for  $n$ -tuple regression. In *ESANN*, 2021.
- [2] Z. Susskind, A. Arora, I. D. Miranda, L. A. Villon, R. F. Katopodis, L. S. de Araújo, D. L. Dutra, P. M. Lima, F. M. França, M. Breternitz Jr, et al. Weightless neural networks for efficient edge inference. In *Proceedings of the International Conference on Parallel Architectures and Compilation Techniques*, pages 279–290, 2022.