Sahand **REZAEI-SHOSHTARI** PhD Candidate in Computer Science

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Present PhD, School of Computer Science, McGill University, Montreal, Cana
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Sep. 2020 | Supervisors : Doina Precup, David Meger

CGPA: 4.00/4.00

Dec. 2019 | Master of Engineering - Thesis, McGill University, Montreal, Canada

Sep. 2017 | Supervisors: Inna Sharf, David Meger

CGPA: 4.00/4.00

Thesis: Learning Manipulator Dynamics for Control and Interaction Inference

Sep. 2016 | Bachelor of Mechanical Engineering, UNIVERSITY OF TEHRAN, Tehran, Iran

Sep. 2012 | Supervisor: Masoud Shariat Panahi

CGPA: 3.98/4.00

Thesis: Online Path Planning for a Mobile Robot in Dynamic Environments using Reinforcement Learning



Work Experience

Sep. 2020 | Research Intern, Samsung Al Centre, Montreal, Canada

Mar. 2020 > Multimodal generative modeling for learning intuitive physics using the senses of touch and vision

> Development of a visuotactile simulator for robotic manipulation in PyBullet

> Deep reinforcement learning for load balancing of 5G networks

Mar. 2020 | Al Programmer, UBISOFT LA FORGE, Montreal, Canada

Jan. 2020 > Deep reinforcement learning for automated video game testing

> Development of a video game environment in Unity3D for navigation in complex 3D environments

Aug. 2019 | Research Intern, Samsung Al Centre, Montreal, Canada

Mar. 2019 > Object detection neural networks for human hand-wave motion detection

> Development of the vision stack on-board of a mobile robot using Google Edge TPU

Apr. 2019 | Teaching Assistant, McGill University, Montreal, Canada

Sep. 2017 > Courses: System Dynamics and Control, Numerical Methods, Machine Element Design



PUBLICATIONS

- **2022 Rezaei-Shoshtari, S.**, Meger, D. and Precup, D., 2022. "Homomorphic Policy Gradient Algorithms". *Under Review*.
- **Rezaei-Shoshtari, S.**, Hogan, F.R., Jenkin, M., Meger, D. and Dudek, G., 2021, May. "Learning Intuitive Physics with Multimodal Generative Models". In *Proceedings of the AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence* (Vol. 35, No. 7, pp. 6110-6118).
- 2021 Hogan, F.R., Jenkin, M., Rezaei-Shoshtari, S., Girdhar, Y., Meger, D. and Dudek, G., 2021. "Seeing Through your Skin: Recognizing Objects with a Novel Visuotactile Sensor". In *Proceedings of the IEEE/CVF Winter Conference on Applications of Computer Vision* (pp. 1218-1227).
- **2020** Rezaei-Shoshtari, S., Meger, D. and Sharf, I., 2020. "Learning the Latent Space of Robot Dynamics for Cutting Interaction Inference". In 2020 IEEE/RSJ International Conference on Intelligent Robots and Systems (IROS) (pp. 5627-5632). IEEE.
- 2020 Molamohammadi, M., Rezaei-Shoshtari, S. and Quitoriano, N., 2020. "Jacobian of generative models for sensitivity analysis of photovoltaic device processes". In *Machine Learning for Engineering Workshop at Neu- rIPS (Vol. 2020)*.
- **2019** Rezaei-Shoshtari, S., Meger, D. and Sharf, I., 2019, November. "Cascaded gaussian processes for data-efficient robot dynamics learning". In *2019 IEEE/RSJ International Conference on Intelligent Robots and Systems (IROS)* (pp. 6871-6877). IEEE.

Honors and Awards

2022 – Present Canada Graduate Scholarship-Doctoral (CGS-D) Award. Amount of \$105,000. NSERC.

2020 – 2021 DeepMind Grad Award. Amount of \$25,000. DeepMind and McGill University.

Nov. 2019 IROS Student and Developing Countries (SDC) Travel Award. Amount of \$800. IEEE/RSJ IROS 2019.

2017 – 2018 Grad Excellence Award. Amount of \$5,000. McGill University.

Jul. 2012 National University Entrance Exam. Ranked 19th. Iran.

SKILLS

Programming Python, C++, C#, MATLAB, Simulink

Machine Learning Frameworks PyTorch, TensorFlow, GPyTorch, Jax, GPFlow

Platforms ROS, Docker

Robotic Software Mujoco, Bullet, Gazebo, MoveIt!, RViz, OpenCV

Other Software Unity 3D, SolidWorks, LETEX

Select Projects

MULTIMODAL GENERATIVE MODELING AND VISUOTACTILE SIMULATION

2020

- 🕠 github.com/SAIC-MONTREAL/multimodal-dynamics 🛮 🗹 Webpage
 - > Multimodal generative modeling for learning intuitive physics using the senses of touch and vision.
 - > Development of a visuotactile simulator for robotic manipulation in PyBullet.

GYM FOREST FIRE 2020

- github.com/sahandrez/gym_forestfire
 - > Fully-vectorized forest fire simulation based on cellular automaton for tackling wildfires with reinforcement learning.
 - > With OpenAI Gym interface and an implementation of TD3 with CNN actor and critic.

CONTROL AND MOTION PLANNING UTILITIES FOR KINOVA JACO 2 ROBOT

2018-2019

- github.com/sahandrez/jaco_control
 - > Developed a ROS package for Kinova Jaco 2 robot with unified interface for the real and simulated robot.
 - > Implemented impedance control, feedforward torque control, and velocity control utilities.
 - > Implemented motion planning utilities for joint space and Cartesian space planning.

RLBase: Implementations of RL Algorithms

2019

- github.com/sahandrez/rlbase 🖸 Blog Post
 - > Minimalistic Deep RL implementations as an educational resource.
 - > Fork of OpenAI Spinning Up with additional algorithms.

LEARNING QUADROTOR CONTROLS USING DATA-EFFICIENT MODEL-BASED REINFORCEMENT LEARNING

2017

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- github.com/sahandrez/quad_pilco 🗹 Simulation Videos
 - > Implemented PILCO (Probabilistic Inference for Learning Control) on a quadrotor to learn the control policies under the loss of an actuator.
 - > Successfully learned to hover with only three actuators.

Courses

IFT 6135 Representation Learning, Université de Montréal - 4.30/4.30

IFT 6760 Reinforcement Learning and Optimal Control, Université de Montréal - 4.30/4.30

COMP 766 Probabilistic Graphical Models, McGill University - 4.00/4.00

COMP 765 Intelligent Robotics, McGill University - 4.00/4.00

COMP 558 Fundamentals of Computer Vision, McGill University - 4.00/4.00

CERTIFICATIONS

Mar. 2021 ANITI Reinforcement Learning Virtual School (RLVS) 2021, Virtual

Oct. 2020 Simons Institute Mathematics of Online Decision Making Workshop, Virtual

Aug. 2019 CIFAR Deep Learning and Reinforcement Learning (DLRL) Summer School, Edmonton, Canada