Yasitha Warahena Liyanage

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Main Interests

EDUCATION

Statistical Signal Processing, Machine Learning, Optimization Theory.

University at Albany, State University of New York (SUNY), Albany, NY

PhD, Electrical and Computer Engineering August 2017-present

Current G.P.A.: 3.98 out of 4. Advisor: Dr. Daphney-Stavroula Zois.

University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka

BSc, Electrical and Electronic Engineering March 2013-October 2016

G.P.A.: 3.95 out of 4. Standing: 3rd out of 110.

EXPERIENCE

Applied Scientist Intern

Amazon Capital Services, Inc., Seattle, WA

Graduate Research Assistant August 2017-present Department of Electrical & Computer Engineering, University at Albany, State University of New York (SUNY), Albany, NY

- Design algorithms to perform instance—wise dynamic joint feature selection and classification.
- Designed algorithms to infer urban issues' importance and type from ambiguous textual, time and location information.
- Designed algorithms to optimally detect the time and geographic location of accidents in nearreal-time in a road segment equipped with spatially distributed speed sensors.

Advisors: Dr. Daphney-Stavroula Zois and Dr. Charalampos Chelmis.

Graduate Research Assistant

November 2016–July 2017

Summer 2020

Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka

- Developed a real-time Non-Intrusive Load Monitoring (NILM) system using uncorrelated spectral components of the active power consumption signal based on Karhunen-Loéve expansion.
- Implemented a nonlinear controller for a standard twin rotor multi-input multi-output system using state feedback linearizing techniques.

Advisors: Dr. Janaka Ekanayake, Dr. Roshan Godaliyadda, Dr. Parakrama Ekanayake and Dr. Lilantha Samaranayake.

Electrical Engineer Intern

October 2015-December 2015

Ceylon Electricity Board, Sri Lanka

Electrical Engineer Intern

October 2014–December 2014

Lanka Electricity Company (Pvt) Ltd, Sri Lanka

Teaching EXPERIENCE Teaching Assistant

November 2016-July 2017

Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka

- EE 501: Advanced Control Systems
- EE 539: Nonlinear and Multi-variable Systems

AWARDS

NSF Student Travel Grant to attend IEEE ICASSP 2020 2020 President's Award for Scientific Research, Sri Lanka 2019 IEEE Signal Processing Society Travel Grant to attend GlobalSIP 2018 2018 Full Colors, Colors Awarding Ceremony, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka 2016 Undergraduate Merit Award, All Island Robot Competition 2013

- 5. **Y. Liyanage**, D.-S. Zois, C. Chelmis, "On–the–Fly Instance–wise Joint Feature Selection and Classification with Correlated Features". (under review)
- 4. Y. Liyanage, D.-S. Zois, C. Chelmis, "Dynamic Instance-wise Joint Feature Selection and Classification". (under review)
- 3. Y. Liyanage, D.-S. Zois, C. Chelmis, "Near Real-Time Freeway Accident Detection". IEEE Transactions on Intelligent Transportation Systems, October 2020. [pdf]
- C. Dinesh, S. Welikala, Y. Liyanage, M.P.B. Ekanayake, R.I. Godaliyadda, J. Ekanayake, "Non-Intrusive Load Monitoring Under Residential Solar Power Influx," Elsevier Journal of Applied Energy, vol. 205, pp. 1068-1080, November 2017. [pdf]
- 1. Y. Liyanage, J. Wijekoon, S. Welikala, L. Samaranayake, "Pitch Control of a Twin Rotor System using Error Dynamics Based Nonlinear Controller," Annual Transactions of IESL, pp. 349-353, November 2017. [pdf]

Conferences & Workshops

- 13. Y. Liyanage, D.-S. Zois, "Optimum Feature Ordering For Dynamic Instance—wise Joint Feature Selection and Classification". 46th IEEE International Conference on Acoustics, Speech, and Signal Processing (ICASSP 2021), Toronto, Ontario, Canada, June 06-11, 2021.
- 12. I. Nazar, Y. Liyanage, D.-S. Zois, C. Chelmis, "Sequential Heterogeneous Feature Selection for Multi-class Classification: Application in Government 2.0", IEEE International Workshop on Machine Learning for Signal Processing (MLSP), Aalto University, Espoo, Finland, September 21-24, 2020. [pdf]
- 11. Y. Liyanage, D.-S. Zois, C. Chelmis, "On–the–fly Feature Selection and Classification with Application to Civic Engagement Platforms". 45th IEEE International Conference on Acoustics, Speech, and Signal Processing (ICASSP 2020), Barcelona, Spain, May 04-08, 2020. [pdf]
- 10. I. Nazar, Y. Liyanage, D.-S. Zois, C. Chelmis, "Automated Optimal Online Civil Issue Classification using Multiple Feature Sets," Asilomar Conference on Signals, Systems, and Computers (ACSSC 2019), Pacific Grove, CA, November 03-09, 2019. [pdf]
- 9. Y. Liyanage, D.-S. Zois, C. Chelmis, M. Yao, "Robust Freeway Accident Detection: A Two-Stage Approach," 44th IEEE International Conference on Acoustics, Speech, and Signal Processing (ICASSP 2019), Brighton, UK, May 12-17, 2019. [pdf]
- 8. Y. Liyanage, D.-S. Zois, C. Chelmis, "Automating The Classification Of Urban Issue Reports: An Optimal Stopping Approach," 44th IEEE International Conference on Acoustics, Speech, and Signal Processing (ICASSP 2019), Brighton, UK, May 12-17, 2019. [pdf]
- 7. Y. Liyanage, C. Chelmis, D.-S. Zois, "A Hierarchical Framework for Timely Freeway Accident Detection and Localization," IEEE International Conference on Big Data (BigData 2018), Seattle, WA, December 10-13, 2018. [pdf]
- 6. Y. Liyanage, D.-S. Zois, C. Chelmis, "Quickest Freeway Accident Detection Under Unknown Post-Accident Conditions," 6th IEEE Global Conference on Signal and Information Processing (GlobalSIP 2018), Anaheim, CA, November 26-29, 2018. [pdf]
- 5. Y. Liyanage, M. Yao, C. Yong, D.-S. Zois, C. Chelmis, "What matters the most? Optimal Quick Classification of Urban Issue Reports by Importance," 6th IEEE Global Conference on Signal and Information Processing (GlobalSIP 2018), Anaheim, CA, November 26-29, 2018. [pdf]
- 4. Y. Liyanage, D.-S. Zois, C. Chelmis, "Optimal Sequential Detection of Freeway Accidents," Asilomar Conference on Signals, Systems, and Computers (ACSSC 2018), Pacific Grove, CA, October 28-31, 2018. [pdf]

- 3. J. Wijekoon, Y. Liyanage, S. Welikala, L. Samaranayake, "Yaw and Pitch Control of a Twin Rotor MIMO System Using a Nonlinear based Controller," IEEE International Conference on Industrial and Information Systems (ICIIS 2017), Peradeniya, Sri Lanka, December, 2017. [pdf]
- 2. Y. Liyanage, S. Welikala, C. Dinesh, M. P. B. Ekanayake, R. I. Godaliyadda, J. Ekanayake, "Real-time non-intrusive appliance load monitoring under supply voltage fluctuations," IEEE International Conference on Advances in ICT for Emerging Regions (ICTer 2017), Colombo, Sri Lanka, September, 2017. [pdf]
- 1. D. M. N. Jayasuriya, Y. Liyanage, H. M. A. S. Herath, R. I. Godaliyadda, M. P. B. Ekanayake, J. V. Wijayakulasooriya, "Intelligent Navigation System for mapping unknown environments," IEEE International Conference on Information and Automation for Sustainability (ICIAfS 2016), Galle, Sri Lanka, December, 2016. [pdf]

RECENT Coursework

- Statistical Pattern Recognition
- Information Theory, Inference and Machine Learning
- Artificial Intelligence
- Machine Learning
- Detection and Estimation theory
- Stochastic Processes
- Advanced Linear Algebra
- Optimization methods Non-linear Programming
- Probability and Random Processes
- Algorithm and Data Structures

TECHNICAL SKILLS

- Python, Matlab, AWS tools
- Linux, macOS
- Raspberry Pi, Arduino

Professional

• Program Committee: AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence 2021 (AAAI-21)

ACTIVITIES /

- Memberships • Member: IEEE, IEEE Signal Processing Society

 - Member: IESL (Institution of Engineers, Sri Lanka)

• Reviewer: IEEE Transactions on Industrial Informatics

- Industrial Coordinator: EEES, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka 2016
- Committee member: IET, Peradeniya Chapter, Sri Lanka 2015

Languages

• English: IELTS • Sinhala: Native