

Vahid Balazadeh Meresht

University of Toronto
Department of Computer Science

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EDUCATION

PhD Direct-Entry in Computer Science

University of Toronto

Machine Learning for Healthcare, supervised by: Rahul G. Krishnan

Sep. 2021 – Present
Toronto, Canada

B.Sc. in Computer Engineering and Mathematics (Double Major)

Sharif University of Technology, GPA:18.20/20

Sep. 2015 – Sep. 2020
Tehran, Iran

RESEARCH/WORK EXPERIENCE

University of Toronto & Vector Institute

Graduate Student Researcher

– Research on partial identification of causal effects. Started exploring applications of causality in machine learning

Sep. 2021 – Present
Toronto, Canada

Cafe Bazaar

Data Scientist at Video Team

– Worked on optimizing video watch time and automated mid-roll ad breaks

Sep. 2020 – Aug. 2021
Tehran, Iran

Max Planck Institute for Software Systems

Research Internship, supervised by: Manuel Gomez Rodriguez

– Worked on reinforcement algorithms for teams with multiple agents; proposed a theory of 2-layer MDPs for optimal switching policies

Jul. 2019 – Sep. 2020
Kaiserslautern, Germany

Sharif University of Technology

Research assistant

– Implemented a library in R language for multivariate analysis and visualization (muvis)

Jul. 2018 – Jun. 2019
Tehran, Iran

Daal GPS navigation app startup

Research and Development. Implemented a real-time traffic prediction algorithm.

Jan. 2018 – May 2018
Tehran, Iran

PUBLICATIONS

1. **Vahid Balazadeh**, Vasilis Syrgkanis, Rahul G. Krishnan, “Partial Identification of Treatment Effects with Implicit Generative Models”, *Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems*, (**NeurIPS 2022**).
2. **Vahid Balazadeh**, Abir De, Adish Singla, and Manuel Gomez Rodriguez, “Learning to switch among agents in a team”, *Transactions on Machine Learning Research*, (**TMLR 2022**).

PREPRINTS

1. Eleni Straitouri, Adish Singla, **Vahid Balazadeh**, and Manuel Gomez Rodriguez, “Reinforcement learning under algorithmic triage”, *arXiv preprint arXiv:2109.11328*, 2021.
2. Elyas Heidari, **Vahid Balazadeh**, and Ali Sharifi-Zarchi, “Multivariate analysis and visualization using R package muvis”, *arXiv preprint arXiv:1810.12184*, 2018.

AWARDS

- Admission with full scholarship to **MPI-SWS Summer Internship**, Germany Summer 2019
- Ranked **3rd** among more than **180,000** participants in the Iranian Nation-wide University Entrance Exam 2015
- Recipient of the Grant for undergraduate studies from the Iranian National Elites Foundation 2015 –2020

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- **University of Toronto**
 - Topics in Machine Learning: Introduction to Causality (**Head-TA**) Fall 2022
 - Artificial Intelligence Winter 2022
 - Introduction to Programming Fall 2021
- **Sharif University of Technology**
 - Stochastic Processes *Grad. Course* Spring 2019
 - Linear Algebra Fall 2018
 - Engineering Probability and Statistics Spring, Fall 2018

SERVICE / (PROGRAMMING) LANGUAGES

- **Reviewer:** AAAI 2021, CHILL 2022, NeurIPS 2022, ML4H 2022
- **Programming:** Python (PyTorch, SKlearn, JAX, pandas, PySpark), Mathematica, R, JavaScript, Java
- **Languages:** English, Persian, Azerbaijani