Adam Ibrahim

Interests

Mathematics:

Topology, Algebra, Measure Theory, Number Theory

Computer Science:

Machine Learning,
Algorithms and
Optimisation, Quantum
Computing,
Cryptography

Physics: Theoretical Physics, Computational Physics

Programming Skills

Python, C/C++, C#, Unity, MATLAB, R, LaTeX

Languages

Native/bilingual proficiency:
French, Arabic, English
Limited working proficiency:
Spanish
Elementary proficiency:

German (currently learning)

Extracurriculars

Gym, Rock climbing, Motorcycling (track), Scuba diving, Piano, Guitar

Work Experience

10/24 - 12/24

Jülich Supercomputing Center

Consulting on designing and executing foundation model experiments, benchmarking and optimisation of the Jupiter Supercomputer.

06/24 - 09/24

11

Head of LLM team. Also led the infrastructure team to set up and maintain clusters.

01/24 - 05/24

Zyphra

Consulting on pretraining and finetuning foundation models (mixture-of-experts, LLMs, and image generation).

05/23 - 12/23

Bosch

Mentoring/supervising confidential research project on foundation models for scene understanding as external consultant.

05/23 - 12/23

Optina Diagnostics

Mentoring/supervising two confidential research projects on image generation and self-supervised learning for computer vision as external consultant.

05/23 - 11/23

Staples

Mentoring/supervising confidential research project on Large Language Models as external consultant.

06/23 - 09/23

Blackbox Al

Consulting for the development of Large Language Models for code.

05/22 - 12/22

AMD

Mentoring/supervising confidential research project on reinforcement learning and exploration as external consultant.

02/22 - 06/22

Microsoft

Mentoring/supervising confidential research project on speech recognition as external consultant.

05/21 - 12/21

Apple

Mentoring/supervising confidential research project on multimodal machine learning in hardware-constrained environments as external consultant.

Summer 2016

Anasys Instruments

Design and optimisation of computer vision and signal processing algorithms for the Analysis Studio software (C#/C++). Design of computer vision algorithms for a healthcare related NDA project.

Education

2018 - 2024 Doctor of Philosophy

Mila, Université de Montréal, Canada

Machine Learning, under the supervision of Pr. Ioannis Mitliagkas and Irina Rish. GPA: 4.30/4.30.

2015 - 2018 Master of Science

University of California, Santa Barbara, USA

Computer Science. Areas of focus: Machine Learning, Human-Computer Interaction, Computer Vision, Cryptography. GPA: 4.0/4.0.

Relevant graduate courses: CS 595I Advanced Machine Learning seminar, CS 290I Deep Learning, CS 292F Foundations of Data Science, MATH 260J Foundations of Machine Learning, ECE 210A Matrix Analysis, CS 240A Parallel Computing.

2012 - 2015	Bachelor of Science McGill University, Montreal, Canada
	Joint Honours Mathematics and Physics. First-class honours. Relevant graduate courses: General Relativity, Introduction to String Theory, Group Theory, Topics in Topology, Quantum Field Theory, Very Early Universe.
2011 - 2012	MPSI Collège Stanislas, Paris, France
	Preparatory school. Main subjects: Mathematics, Physics, Engineering, specialisation Computer Science.
2011	Baccalauréat Scientifique Lycée Saint-Charles, Orléans, France
	Bilingual French/English Secondary School. Passed all of the Cambridge English proficiency exams, including the Certificate of Proficiency in English.

Research Experience

10/24 - <mark>12/24</mark>	Jülich Supercomputing Center
	Consulting on designing and executing foundation model experiments, benchmarking and optimisation of the Jupiter Supercomputer.
06/24 - 09/24	H
	Head of LLM team. Also led the infrastructure team to set up and maintain clusters.
09/18 - 06/24	Mila, Université de Montréal Research in optimisation, out-of-distribution generalisation and adversarial machine learning, and continual learning. Ongoing work on Large Language Models as part of the 2023 INCITE Allocation program by the US Department of Energy. Interests in reinforcement learning.
01/24 - 05/24	Zyphra
	Consulting on pretraining and finetuning foundation models (mixture-of-experts, LLMs, and image generation).
05/23 - 12/23	Bosch
	Mentoring/supervising confidential research project on foundation models for scene understanding as external consultant.
05/23 - 12/23	Optina Diagnostics
	Mentoring/supervising two confidential research projects on image generation and self-supervised learning for computer vision as external consultant.
05/23 - 11/23	Staples
	Mentoring/supervising confidential research project on Large Language Models as external consultant.
06/23 - 09/23	Blackbox AI
	Consulting for the development of Large Language Models for code.
05/22 - 12/22	AMD
	Mentoring/supervising confidential research project on reinforcement learning and exploration as external consultant.
02/22 - 06/22	Microsoft
	Mentoring/supervising confidential research project on speech recognition as external consultant.
05/21 - 12/21	Apple
	Mentoring/supervising confidential research project on multimodal machine learning in hardware-constrained environments as external consultant.

03/16 - 06/18	Four Eyes lab, UC Santa Barbara Research in recommender systems and in particular the perception of recommendations in Augmented Reality. Language learning project in Augmented Reality using machine learning to recognise objects in the environment in order to provide situated and personalised learning. Design of computer vision algorithms based on deep learning to allow users of Augmented Reality devices to select objects in the environment. Designed and conducted user studies to test the potential of Augmented Reality as a vocabulary learning medium.
09/14 - 04/15	David Cooke group, McGill University THz photons trapped in dynamical optically-pumped cavities in silicon materials. Worked in a group to test numerically the consistency of the results with the theory using an FDTD algorithm.

TD algorithm. 05/14 - 04/15 Keshav Dasgupta, McGill University Investigating whether string theoretical monodromy inflation can be uplifted to a de Sitter universe. 05/13 - 09/13 Robert Brandenberger, McGill University

Probing for cosmic string wakes signatures in the CMB using Canny's algorithm and analytical methods. Attended the weekly research meetings of the cosmology group until 2015.

Publications

2024	Zyda: A 1.3 T Dataset for Open Language Modeling Yury Tokpanov, Beren Millidge, Paolo Glorioso, Jonathan Pilault, Adam Ibrahim, James Whittington, Quentin Anthony
2024	Why Has Predicting Downstream Capabilities of Frontier Al Models with Scale Remained Elusive? Under review NeurlPS 2024, presented at ICML 2024 workshops Rylan Schaeffer, Hailey Schoelkopf, Brando Miranda, Gabriel Mukobi, Varun Madan, Adam Ibrahim, Herbie Bradley, Stella Biderman, Sanmi Koyejo
2024	Zamba: A Compact 7B SSM Hybrid Model Technical report (arXiv) Paolo Glorioso, Quentin Anthony, Yury Tokpanov, James Whittington, Jonathan Pilault, Adam Ibrahim, Beren Millidge.
2024	Simple and Scalable Strategies to Continually Pre-train Large Language Models Adam Ibrahim*, Benjamin Thérien*, Kshitij Gupta*, Mats Leon Richter, Quentin Gregory Anthony, Timothée Lesort, Eugene Belilovsky, Irina Rish. A * denotes equal contribution.
2023	Continual Pre-Training of Large Language Models: How to Re-warm Your Model? ESFoMo ICML 2023, ENLSP NeurIPS 2023 Kshitij Gupta*, Benjamin Thérien*, Adam Ibrahim*, Mats Leon Richter, Quentin Gregory Anthony, Eugene Belilovsky, Timothée Lesort, Irina Rish. A * denotes equal contribution.
2022	Towards Out-of-Distribution Adversarial Robustness arXiv preprint Adam Ibrahim, Charles Guille-Escuret, Ioannis Mitliagkas, Irina Rish, David Krueger, Pouya Bashivan.
2022	Learning Robust Kernel Ensembles with Kernel Average Pooling Pouya Bashivan, Adam Ibrahim, Amirozhan Dehghani, Yifei Ren arXiv preprint
2022	Gradient Descent Is Optimal Under Lower Restricted Secant Inequality And Upper Error Bound NeurIPS 2022 Charles Guille-Escuret, Adam Ibrahim, Baptiste Goujaud, Ioannis Mitliagkas.
2022	Towards Generalisable Robustness: A Domain Generalisation Approach ICML 2022 AdvML Adam Ibrahim, Charles Guille-Escuret, Ioannis Mitliagkas, Irina Rish, David Krueger, Pouya Bashivan.
2021	Adversarial Feature Desensitization Pouya Bashivan, Reza Bayat, Adam Ibrahim, Kartik Ahuja, Mojtaba Faramarzi, Touraj Laleh, Blake Richards, Irina Rish.
2020	Linear Lower Bounds and Conditioning of Differentiable Games Also presented at MAIS 2019, DeepMath 2019 and NeurIPS 2019 SGO workshop Adam Ibrahim, Waïss Azizian, Gauthier Gidel, Ioannis Mitliagkas.
2019	User Perception of Situated Product Recommendations in Augmented Reality International Journal of Semantic Computing 13 (03) Brandon Huynh, Adam Ibrahim, Yun Suk Chang, Tobias Höllerer, John O'Donovan.
2018	ARbis Pictus: A Study of Vocabulary Learning with Augmented Reality Also published as a journal paper in IEEE transactions on visualization and computer graphics 24 (11) Adam Ibrahim, Brandon Huynh, Jonathan Downey, Tobias Höllerer, Dorothy Chun, John O'Donovan.

Talks

10/09/24	Empowering AI - The Essential Infrastructure	Earlybird VC and OVNI Capital
05/23/24	Improving the Efficiency of Large Language Model Pretraining	Meta
02/07/23	Towards Out-of-Distribution Adversarial Robustness	Microsoft Research
07/05/19	Linear Lower Bounds and Conditioning of Differentiable Games	Montreal MLOpt
05/11/17	Motivating Convolutional Neural Networks	Microsoft Station Q

Awards

Bourse en Intelligence Artificielle (IA) des ESP

Université de Montréal

Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada

Trottier-Lavigne Physics Department Award

Edward Beatty Scholarship in Mathematics

John V Galley Scholarship in Mathematics

Dean's Honour List

Events Organised

12/15/2023	6th Neural Scaling Laws Workshop Workshop colocated with NeurIPS 2023. Co-organised with Irina Rish, Julia Bossmann, and the CERC-AAI team. Link: https://sites.google.com/mila.quebec/6thnslw-no/home
07/28/2023	Emergent Behaviours and Phase Transitions in Deep Learning Workshop colocated with ICML 2023. Co-organised with Irina Rish, Guillaume Dumas, Mohammad Pezeshki, Pascal J. Tikeng Notsawo, Hattie Zhou, Gabriela Moisescu-Pareja, Ethan Caballero, Yi Ren, Eric Michaud. Link: https://sites.google.com/mila.quebec/5thnslw
12/02/2022	4th Neural Scaling Laws Workshop Unofficial workshop held during NeurIPS on Friday 2nd, 2022. Co-organised with Irina Rish. You are encouraged to attend or reach out for more information! Link: https://sites.google.com/mila.quebec/4thnslw/home
2019-2021	Deep Learning Theory / Out-of-Distribution Generalisation Reading Group Mila

Teaching Assistant Experience

Spring 2018	CS 178 Introduction to Cryptography	UC Santa Barbara, USA
Winter 2018	CS 130B Data Structures and Algorithms II	UC Santa Barbara, USA
Fall 2017	CS 174A Fundamentals of Database Systems	UC Santa Barbara, USA
Summer 2017	CS 16 Problem Solving with Computers 1	UC Santa Barbara, USA
Spring 2017	CS 165B Machine Learning	UC Santa Barbara, USA
Winter 2017	CS 181B Introduction to Computer Vision	UC Santa Barbara, USA
Fall 2016	CS 40 Foundations of Computer Science	UC Santa Barbara, USA
Summer 2016	CS 16 Problem Solving with Computers 1	UC Santa Barbara, USA
Spring 2016	CS 24 Problem Solving with Computers 2	UC Santa Barbara, USA
Winter 2016	CS 16 Problem Solving with Computers 1	UC Santa Barbara, USA
Fall 2015	CS 16 Problem Solving with Computers 1	UC Santa Barbara, USA
2014	MATH 381 Complex Variables and Transforms for Engineers	McGill University
2013 & 2014	MATH 249 Honours Complex Variables	McGill University

Conferences Attended

05/24	2024 ICLR International Conference on Learning Representations
12/23	2023 NeurIPS Neural Information Processing Systems Presentation of <i>Continual Pre-Training of Large Language Models: How to Re-warm Your Model?</i> at workshops.
07/23	2023 ICML International Conference on Machine Learning Presentation of Continual Pre-Training of Large Language Models: How to Re-warm Your Model? at the Efficient Systems for Foundation Models workshop and Towards Out-of-Distribution Adversarial Robustness at the New Frontiers in Adversarial Machine Learning workshop.
12/22	2022 NeurIPS Neural Information Processing Systems Poster presentation of Gradient Descent Is Optimal Under Lower Restricted Secant Inequality And Upper Error Bound.
08/22	2022 CoLLAs Conference on Lifelong Learning Agents
07/22	2022 ICML International Conference on Machine Learning Poster presentation of <i>Towards Generalisable Robustness: A Domain Generalisation Approach</i> at the New Frontiers in Adversarial Machine Learning workshop.
20-22 COVID	Attended the virtual NeurIPS, ICML and ICLR conferences.
07/20	2020 ICML International Conference on Machine Learning Poster presentation of Linear Lower Bounds and Conditioning of Differentiable Games.
10/19	2019 DeepMath Conference on the Mathematical Theory of Deep Neural Networks Poster presentation of Linear Lower Bounds and Conditioning of Differentiable Games.
09/19	2019 MAIS Montreal AI Symposium Poster presentation of <i>Linear Lower Bounds and Conditioning of Differentiable Games</i> .
12/18	2018 NeurIPS Neural Information Processing Systems
10/18	2018 ISMAR International Symposium on Mixed and Augmented Reality Oral presentation of ARbis Pictus: A Study of Vocabulary Learning with Augmented Reality.
12/17	2017 NeurIPS Neural Information Processing Systems

10/17	2017 South California Machine Learning Symposium (USC)
03/17	2017 IEEE VR 3DUI Conference on Virtual Reality and 3D User Interfaces