Joshua Zhanson

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Education

2020 - 2022 **Carnegie Mellon University**
M.Sc. in Language Technologies
Advisor: Yonatan Bisk

2016 - 2020 **Carnegie Mellon University**
B.S. in Computer Science, college and university honors, minor in Machine Learning
Senior Thesis: *Investigating and Robustifying Proximal Policy Optimization*, advised
by Emilio Parisotto, Adarsh Prasad, and Ruslan Salakhutdinov

Publications

2021 [1] *On Proximal Policy Optimization's Heavy-tailed Gradients*

Saurabh Garg, **Joshua Zhanson**, Emilio Parisotto, Adarsh Prasad, J. Zico Kolter,
Zachary C. Lipton, Sivaraman Balakrishnan, Ruslan Salakhutdinov, Pradeep Ravikumar

International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML) 2021

2019 [2] *Proprioceptive Spatial Representations for Generalized Locomotion*

Joshua Zhanson, Emilio Parisotto, Ruslan Salakhutdinov

Workshop on Structure & Priors in Reinforcement Learning at International Conference
on Learning Representations (ICLR) 2019

Teaching Assistantships

2020 15-300 Research and Innovation in Computer Science

2019, 2020 15-213 Introduction to Computer Systems

2019 15-300 Research and Innovation in Computer Science

2019 10-703 Deep Reinforcement Learning and Control

Service

2021 -   Carnegie Mellon University Language Technologies Institute Diversity & Equity Committee

2021 -   Carnegie Mellon University Language Technologies Institute Graduate Application Support Program Mentor

Fellowships & Awards

2020 -   NSF Graduate Research Fellowship

2016 - 2019 Carnegie Mellon University Dean's List
             Fall 2016 - Spring 2019

Employment

2018   **Merit International, Inc.** (formerly Sigma Accolade, Inc.)
             Software Engineer Intern
             Millbrae, CA

2017   **Vizio Inc.**
             Software Development Intern,
             Seattle, WA

Extracurriculars

2017 - 2018 ScottyLabs Director of Events

Skills

Languages: Python, C/C++, Javascript, Scala, Standard ML, Java, Bash, LaTeX
Technologies: Pytorch, Tensorflow/Keras, Numpy, Pandas, Docker, Git, React, Typelevel.Cats