

Dávid Pál

Curriculum Vitae

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Education and Employment

- Sep 2014 – present **Research Scientist at Yahoo Research, New York, NY**
Academic research in machine learning. Research, development and implementation of machine learning models for Yahoo products.
- Sep 2011 – Sep 2014 **Software Engineer at Google, New York, NY**
Backend development of Google Ad Exchange platform, with focus on advertising auction mechanisms and revenue optimization for publishers and Google.
- Jul 2009 – Jun 2011 **Postdoctoral Fellow at Department of Computing Science, University of Alberta, Edmonton, AB, Canada**
Advisor: Prof. Csaba Szepesvári
Theoretical research in machine learning, statistics and probability theory.
- Jan 2005 – May 2009 **Ph.D. in Computer Science, School of Computer Science, University of Waterloo, Waterloo, ON, Canada**
Advisor: Prof. Shai Ben-David
Ph.D. Thesis: Contributions to Unsupervised and Semi-Supervised Learning
- Jul 2007 – Sep 2007 **Research Internship at Google, New York, NY**
Theoretical research in game theory and web advertisement auctions.
- Jun 2004 – Dec 2004 **Programmer at Applied Software Consultants, Bratislava, Slovakia**
Development of C# database desktop application for elementary and high schools to keep track of their students, their grades etc.
- Sep 1999 – May 2004 **“Magister Degree” in Computer Science, Faculty of Mathematics, Physics and Informatics, Comenius University, Bratislava, Slovakia**
Advisor: Prof. Martin Škoviera Thesis: Steiner Colorings of Cubic Graphs

Service

- Program Committee member of COLT 2017

- Reviewer for STOC 2008, COLT 2007, 2008, 2016, NIPS 2008–2014, 2016, AAAI 2016, IJCAI 2016, ICML 2016–2017,
- Organizer of the Internet Problem Solving Contest, <http://ipsc.ksp.sk/>, 2000 – 2004, 2007
- Organizer of correspondence seminars in mathematics and computer science for Slovak high school students 1999 – 2004.

Awards

- co-author of a patent: “Passback auction” at Google, 2011
- David R. Cheriton Scholarship, 2007 – 2009
- COLT 2006 Best Student Paper Award
- 15th place in ACM ICPC 2000, Central European Region
- 14th place in ACM ICPC 1999, Central European Region
- Bronze Medal, Central European Olympiad in Informatics 1999
- Winner of Internet Problem Solving Contest 1999, High School Division
- Top 10 at Slovak National Olympiad in Informatics in 1997, 1998, 1999
- Top 10 at Slovak National Olympiad in Physics in 1999

Publications

- [1] Chansoo Lee, Satyen Kale, and Dávid Pál. Hardness of online sleeping combinatorial optimization problems. In D. D. Lee, M. Sugiyama, U. V. Luxburg, I. Guyon, and R. Garnett, editors, *Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems 29 (NIPS 2016)*, 2016.
- [2] Francesco Orabona and Dávid Pál. From coin-betting to parameter-free online learning. In D. D. Lee, M. Sugiyama, U. V. Luxburg, I. Guyon, and R. Garnett, editors, *Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems 29 (NIPS 2016)*, 2016.
- [3] Francesco Orabona and Dávid Pál. Open problem: Parameter-free and scale-free online algorithms. In Vitaly Feldman, Alexander Rakhlin, and Ohad Shamir, editors, *Proceedings of 29th Annual Conference on Learning Theory (COLT 2016)*, New York, NY, USA, 2016.
- [4] Francesco Orabona and Dávid Pál. Scale-free online learning, 2016. Submitted to Theoretical Computer Science, <http://arxiv.org/abs/1601.01974>.
- [5] Francesco Orabona and Dávid Pál. Scale-free algorithms for online linear optimization. In Kamalika Chaudhuri, Claudio Gentile, and Sandra Zilles, editors, *Algorithmic Learning Theory, 26th International Conference, ALT 2015, Banff, AB, Canada, October 4-6, 2015*, pages 287–301, 2015.
- [6] Gábor Bartók, Dean Foster, Dávid Pál, Alexander Rakhlin, and Csaba Szepesvári. Partial monitoring – classification, regret bounds, and algorithms. *Mathematics of Operations Research*, 39(4):967–997, June 2014.
- [7] Yasin Abbasi Yadkori, Dávid Pál, and Csaba Szepesvári. Online-to-confidence-set conversions and application to sparse stochastic bandits. In Neil Lawrence and Mark Girolami, editors, *Proceedings of the 15th International Conference on Artificial Intelligence and Statistics (AISTATS 2012)*, La Palma, Canary Islands, Spain, pages 1–9, 2012.

- [8] Gábor Bartók, Dávid Pál, and Csaba Szepesvári. Minimax regret of finite partial-monitoring games in stochastic environments. In Sham M. Kakade and Ulrike von Luxburg, editors, *Proceedings of 24th Annual Conference on Learning Theory (COLT 2011), Budapest, Hungary, 2011*.
- [9] Yasin Abbasi Yadkori, Dávid Pál, and Csaba Szepesvári. Improved algorithms for linear stochastic bandits. In J. Shawe-Taylor, R. S. Zemel, P. L. Bartlett, F. Pereira, and K. Q. Weinberger, editors, *Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems 24 (NIPS 2011), December 12-17, 2011, Granada, Spain, 2011*.
- [10] Gábor Bartók, Dávid Pál, and Csaba Szepesvári. Toward a classification of partial monitoring games. In Marcus Hutter, Frank Stephan, Vladimir Vovk, and Thomas Zeugmann, editors, *ALT 2010, Canberra, Australia, 2010*.
- [11] Shai Ben-David, Tyler Lu, Teresa Luu, and Dávid Pál. Impossibility theorems for domain adaptation. In Yee Whye Teh and Mike Titterton, editors, *Proceedings of the 13th International Conference on Artificial Intelligence and Statistics (AISTATS 2010), Chia Laguna Resort, Sardinia, Italy, volume 9, pages 129–136, 2010*.
- [12] Tyler Lu, Dávid Pál, and Martin Pál. Contextual multi-armed bandits. In *Proceedings of the 13th International Conference on Artificial Intelligence and Statistics (AISTATS 2010), Chia Laguna Resort, Sardinia, Italy, volume 9, pages 485–492, 2010*.
- [13] Barnabas Poczos, Dávid Pál, and Csaba Szepesvári. Estimation of Rényi entropy and mutual information based on generalized nearest-neighbor graphs. In J. D. Lafferty, C. K. I. Williams, J. Shawe-Taylor, R. S. Zemel, and A. Culotta, editors, *Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems 23 (NIPS 2010), December 6-11, 2010, Vancouver, Canada, 2010*.
- [14] Gagan Aggarwal, S. Muthukrishnan, Dávid Pál, and Martin Pál. General auction mechanism for search advertising. In *Proceedings of 10th Annual Conference on World Wide Web (WWW 2009), Madrid, Spain, pages 33–44, 2009*.
- [15] Shai Ben-David, Tyler Lu, Dávid Pál, and Miroslava Sotáková. Learning low density separators. In David van Dyk and Max Welling, editors, *Proceedings of the 12th International Conference on Artificial Intelligence and Statistics (AISTATS 2009), Clearwater Beach, Florida USA, volume 5, pages 25–32, 2009*.
- [16] Shai Ben-David, Dávid Pál, and Shai Shalev-Shwartz. Agnostic online learning. In Sanjoy Dasgupta and Adam Klivans, editors, *Proceedings of 22nd Annual Conference on Learning Theory (COLT 2009), Montreal, Canada, pages 33–44, 2009*.
- [17] Dávid Pál. *Contributions to Unsupervised and Semi-Supervised Learning*. PhD thesis, University of Waterloo, 2009.
- [18] Shai Ben-David, Tyler Lu, and Dávid Pál. Does unlabeled data provably help? Worst-case analysis of the sample complexity of semi-supervised learning. In Rocco Servedio and Thong Zhang, editors, *Proceedings of 21st Annual Conference on Learning Theory (COLT 2008), Helsinki, Finland, pages 33–44, 2008*.
- [19] Shai Ben-David, Hans Ulrich Simon, and Dávid Pál. Stability of k -means clusterings. In Nader H. Bshouty and Claudio Gentile, editors, *Proceedings of 20th Annual Conference on Learning Theory (COLT 2007), San Diego, CA, USA, pages 20–34. Springer, 2007*.
- [20] Dávid Pál and Martin Škoviera. Colourings of cubic graphs by small Steiner triple systems. *Graphs and Combinatorics*, 23(2):217–228, 2007.
- [21] Shai Ben-David, Ulrike von Luxburg, and Dávid Pál. A sober look at clustering stability. In Gábor Lugosi and Hans Ulrich Simon, editors, *Proceedings of 19th Annual Conference on Learning Theory (COLT 2006), Pittsburgh, PA, USA, pages 5–19. Springer, 2006*.

Skills

- C, C++, C#, Python, Java, Scala, PHP, Perl, HTML, CSS, Matlab, Maple, LaTeX
- Language skills: fluent English, basic German, native Slovak, quasi-native Czech

References

Prof. Shai Ben-David
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