

ERIC J. MICHAUD

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EDUCATION

University of California, Berkeley

May 2021

B.A. in Mathematics

Minor in Computer Science

Overall GPA: 4.000

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Center for Human-Compatible AI

May 2020 - August 2020

Research Intern

- Led a project (in collaboration with Adam Gleave and **Professor Stuart Russel**) on the interpretability of learned reward functions. Through a survey of neural network interpretability techniques, we discovered surprising failure modes in reward learning, and showed how saliency maps can be used to identify when learned reward functions fail to capture the true objective in several environments.

Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory

June 2019 - August 2019

DSSI Intern (Computational Engineering Division)

- Optimized and executed physics simulations on LLNL supercomputer clusters. Searched multi-dimensional experimental parameter space for notable behavior.
- Member of competitive Data Science Summer Institute program.

Berkeley SETI Research Center

June 2018 - August 2018

Research Intern

(with ongoing collaboration)

- Led a collaboration with Breakthrough Listen Initiative PI **Andrew Siemion** and former NASA Ames director **Pete Worden** on the opportunities for conducting SETI observations on the Moon's far side. Presented work at the 2019 International Astronautical Congress in Washington, D.C.
- Wrote networking software for the Breakthrough Listen Initiative computer cluster at the MeerKAT telescope.

PAPERS

Eric J. Michaud, Andrew P. V. Siemion, Jamie Drew and Pete Worden. "Lunar Opportunities for SETI". Submitted as a white paper for the National Academy of Sciences Planetary Science and Astrobiology Decadal Survey 2023-2032, 2020.

Eric J. Michaud, Andrew P. V. Siemion, Jamie Drew and Pete Worden. "SETI from the Lunar South Pole". Submitted as a white paper for the NASA Artemis III Science Definition Team, 2020.

Eric J. Michaud, Adam Gleave, and Stuart Russell. "Understanding Learned Reward Functions". *Deep Reinforcement Learning Workshop at NeurIPS*, 2020.

Simon Mattsson, **Eric J. Michaud**, and Erik Hoel. "Examining the Causal Structure of Artificial Neural Networks". (In Progress).

WORK EXPERIENCE

MoonVu

April 2017 - October 2017

Founder, Engineer

- Built software for detecting, classifying, and simultaneously tracking objects in video. Advised on early company strategy. Left the company to focus on school work.

ACTIVITIES

The Berkeley Forum

February 2019 - December 2019

Programming and Events Committees

- The Berkeley Forum organizes public talks and debates on the UC Berkeley campus. As a member of the programming and events committees, I organized public talks by Dr. Jill Tarter and by Jaron Lanier, as well as a debate on whether Big Tech should be broken up.

AWARDS

National Merit Finalist

Dean's List