

# Bhrij Patel

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## RESEARCH INTERESTS

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- Alignment and Personalization for AI Systems, including Multi-Agent Systems
- LLM-based Evaluators, particularly for Text-based Optimization
- Sample Efficient Statistical Optimization for Reinforcement Learning with Sparse Rewards

## EDUCATION

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### University of Maryland, College Park

Ph.D. in Computer Science (Expected: Dec 2026)

Co-Advised by Dinesh Manocha and Amrit Singh Bedi (UCF)

### University of Maryland, College Park

Master in Computer Science (May 2024)

Co-Advised by Dinesh Manocha and Amrit Singh Bedi (UCF)

### Duke University, Durham, NC

Bachelor of Science in Computer Science & Mathematics, Minor in Creative Writing (May 2022)

Advised by Cynthia Rudin

## AWARDS

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- **2021 Duke DataFest:** Judges' Pick Award
- **2021 NC State Datathon:** 3rd Place Team
- **2020 COMAP Mathematical Contest in Modeling:** Meritorious Winner
- **2019 Duke University Datathon:** Runner-Up Team

## PUBLICATIONS and PREPRINTS

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- *AIME: AI System Optimization via Multiple LLM Evaluators.*  
**Bhrij Patel**, Souradip Chakraborty, Wesley A. Suttle, Mengdi Wang, Amrit Singh Bedi, Dinesh Manocha  
arXiv, preprint (2024)
- *Multi-LLM QA with Embodied Exploration*  
**Bhrij Patel**, Vishnu Sashank Dorbala, Amrit Singh Bedi, Dinesh Manocha  
arXiv, preprint (2024)
- *Right Place, Right Time! Towards ObjectNav for Non-Stationary Goals*  
Vishnu Sashank Dorbala\*, **Bhrij Patel\***, Amrit Singh Bedi, Dinesh Manocha  
arXiv, preprint (2024)
- *CCE: Sample Efficient Sparse Reward Policy Learning for Robotic Navigation via Confidence-Controlled Exploration*  
**Bhrij Patel**, Kasun Weerakoon, Wesley A. Suttle, Alec Koppel, Brian M. Sadler, Tianyi Zhou, Amrit Singh Bedi, Dinesh Manocha  
arXiv, preprint (2024)
- *Towards Global Optimality for Practical Average Reward Reinforcement Learning without Mixing Time Oracles*

**Bhrij Patel**, Wesley A. Suttle, Alec Koppel, Vaneet Aggarwal, Brian M. Sadler, Amrit Singh Bedi, Dinesh Manocha

**International Conference of Machine Learning, 2024**

- *Beyond Exponentially Fast Mixing in Average-Reward Reinforcement Learning via Multi-Level Monte Carlo Actor-Critic*

Wesley A. Suttle\*, Amrit Singh Bedi\*, **Bhrij Patel** Brian M. Sadler, Alec Koppel, Dinesh Manocha

**International Conference of Machine Learning, 2023**

- *Interpretable, Fair and Accurate Machine Learning for Criminal Recidivism Prediction*

Caroline Wang\*, Bin Han\*, **Bhrij Patel**, Cynthia Rudin

**Journal of Quantitative Criminology, 2022**

\*Denotes Equal Contribution

## PRESENTATIONS

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- *In Pursuit of Interpretable, Fair and Accurate Machine Learning for Criminal Recidivism Prediction*

Caroline Wang, Bin Han, **Bhrij Patel**, Feroze Mohideen

Duke CS Showcase 2020

- Neural Network Dimension Reduction of Data with Topological Constraint

**Bhrij Patel** Duke Opportunities in Math 2020

- Comparing Black-box and Interpretable ML models for Criminal Recidivism Prediction

**Bhrij Patel**

Duke CS+ 2019

## TEACHING

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- Teaching Assistant, CMSC 335: Web Application Development with JavaScript, University of Maryland, College Park (Jan 2024-Current)
- Teaching Assistant, CMSC 131: Introduction to Object Oriented Programming, University of Maryland, College Park (Aug-Dec 2023)
- Teaching Assistant, CS 671: Graduate Machine Learning, Duke University (Aug-Dec 2021)
- Teaching Assistant, CS 371: Undergraduate Data Science, Duke University (Jan-May 2021)
- Teaching Assistant, CS 371: Undergraduate Machine Learning, Duke University (Aug-Dec 2020)
- Math Help Room Tutor, Linear Algebra, Duke University (Aug 2019-May 2020)