

Alekh Agarwal

Department of Electrical Engineering and
Computer Science
University of California Berkeley
CA, USA
alekh@cs.berkeley.edu

387, Soda Hall, Berkeley, CA - 94720
Ph: 510-326-7873
<http://www.eecs.berkeley.edu/~alekh/>

- INTERESTS** I am broadly interested in several theoretical aspects of machine learning with particular emphasis in the areas of Statistical learning theory, online learning, interplay between optimization and learning and probabilistic graphical models. Also, I like to study the applications of machine learning in social networks, web search and ranking and lately content-driven web advertising.
- EDUCATION**
- ◇ **UC Berkeley** - PhD Candidate with graduate fellowship in EECS deptt starting Fall 2007
 - ◇ **Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay.** (2003 - 2007)
Bachelor of Technology Programme at Department of Computer Science and Engineering
· Overall CGPA: **9.55/10**
- MAJOR ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS**
- ◇ **Upton Graduate Fellowship** - Was offered the prestigious Upton Fellowship by the Princeton CS Deptt for Fall 2007 term.
 - ◇ **International Physics Olympiad** - Represented India at the IPhO 2003 and won an **Honorable Mention**.
 - ◇ **IIT JEE 2003** - Ranked 13th all over India, out of around 2,000,000 students.
 - ◇ **NTSE 2001** - Awarded the prestigious **National Talent Search** Scholarship.
- PUBLICATIONS AND MANUSCRIPTS**
- ◇ **Message passing in graph structured linear programs: Convergence, proximal projections and rounding schemes** - *Pradeep Ravikumar, Alekh Agarwal and Martin Wainwright* - UC Berkeley Technical report, preliminary version in ICML 2008, Helsinki.
 - ◇ **Matrix regularization techniques for online multitask learning** - *Alekh Agarwal, Alexander Rakhlin and Peter Bartlett* - UC Berkeley Technical Report.
 - ◇ **A new look at regret** - *Alexander Rakhlin, Jacob Abernethy, Alekh Agarwal and Peter Bartlett* - UC Berkeley Technical report.
 - ◇ **An analysis of inference with Universum** - *Fabian Sinz, Olivier Chapelle, Alekh Agarwal and Bernhard Schölkopf* - NIPS 2007, Vancouver.
 - ◇ **Learning Random Walks to Rank Nodes in Graphs** - *Alekh Agarwal and Soumen Chakrabarti* - ICML 2007, Corvallis, Oregon.
 - ◇ **Learning Parameters in Entity-Relationship Graphs from Ranking Preferences** - *Soumen Chakrabarti and Alekh Agarwal* - ECML-PKDD 2006, Berlin.
 - ◇ **Learning to Rank Networked Entities** - *Alekh Agarwal, Soumen Chakrabarti and Sunny Aggarwal* - ACM SIGKDD 2006, Philadelphia.
 - ◇ **Sentiment Analysis: A New Approach for Effective Use of Linguistic Knowledge and Exploiting Similarities in a Set of Documents to be Classified** - *Alekh Agarwal and Pushpak Bhattacharyya* - International Conference on Natural Language Processing (ICON), IIT Kanpur, India, December 2005
 - ◇ **Augmenting WordNet with Polarity Information on Adjectives** - *Alekh Agarwal and Pushpak Bhattacharyya* - 3rd International Wordnet Conference (GWC 06), Jeju Island, Korea, South Jeju (Seogwipo).
 - ◇ **Ranking of Networked Entities** - *Alekh Agarwal* - Senior Thesis report
 - ◇ **Designing kernels on structured and unstructured input spaces** - *Alekh Agarwal* - Junior thesis report.

- PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES
- ◇ Journal Refereeing - DMKD (Data Mining and Knowledge Discovery), IEEE TNN
 - ◇ Conference PC - ECML/PKDD 2008, SIGIR 2008 workshop on Learning To Rank for IR.
- WORK EXPERIENCE
- ◇ **Yahoo! Research** Worked with Olivier Chapelle in Summer 2008 on displaying ads on the Yahoo! search page based on the query context using techniques from bandit optimization.
 - ◇ **Max Planck Institute** Worked with Bernhard Schölkopf and Bob Williamson in Summer 2006 on taxonomy and reductions between learning problems and developed new reductions such as from one-class to binary classification and from binary classification to ranking.
- TECHNICAL SKILLS
- Proficient in C/C++, Java, Matlab, Ruby, Scheme