Healthy lAIfe, AI for healthier lives

Most of the health conditions are directly or indirectly resulted from humans’ decisions. These decisions are affected by a wide range of personal and environmental factors. While understanding health decision-making processes can lead to significant breakthroughs in both treatment and prevention of different diseases, due to their complex nature, our knowledge about many of these processes is very limited. Computational and data-driven techniques are increasingly considered as powerful options to fuse various types of data (such as biological and behavioral data) to understand these complexities. In this talk, I will present several projects from the areas of smoking and obesity research in which I have used complex systems and AI methods to study health behaviors. Additionally, I will discuss some of our future research directions in the "healthy lAIfe" lab as part of the recently launched Data Science Institute and the CIS Department.

BIOGRAPHY

Rahmat Beheshti is an assistant professor in the Data Science Institute and also the Department of Computer & Information Sciences at the University of Delaware. He has a unique interdisciplinary background by finishing his postdoctoral training in Public Health and his PhD and MSc in Computer Science. He has been working in the area of Health Data Analytics and Computational Epidemiology for the past eight years. Specifically, he has worked extensively on two major public health epidemics: smoking and obesity, and has focused on very different aspects of these two, including the social, economic, environmental, and lately biological factors that affect these epidemics.