

Lantao Yu

Wean Hall 4201 – Carnegie Mellon University – Pittsburgh, USA

✉ lantaoyu@hotmail.com • 🌐 lantaoyu.com

Education

Shanghai Jiao Tong University

Shanghai, China

Sep. 2014-Jun. 2018

- Senior undergraduate, Dept. of Computer Science
- Zhiyuan Honors Program of Engineering (an elite program for top 5% talented students)
- GPA: Overall: 91.30/100 (**Ranking: 3rd/151**) | Major: 93.47/100 | Final Year: 93.93/100
- Standard Test: TOEFL: 108 (R30, L29, S23, W26), GRE: V160, Q167, W4.0
- Advisors: Prof. [Weinan Zhang](#), Prof. [Yong Yu](#) and Prof. [Jun Wang](#) (University College London)

Carnegie Mellon University

Pittsburgh, USA

Aug. 2017-Feb. 2018

- Research Intern, Institute for Software Research, School of Computer Science
- Advisor: Prof. [Fei Fang](#)

Research Interests

Machine learning in general, including deep learning, representation learning, reinforcement learning, as well as their applications in sequential decision making, generative modeling, natural language understanding, multi-agent systems and data mining.

Publications (Google Scholar Profile)

SeqGAN: Sequence Generative Adversarial Nets with Policy Gradient

- Lantao Yu, Weinan Zhang, Jun Wang, Yong Yu.
- In *Proceedings of the 31st AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence*. AAAI 2017. **(90 citations)**

A Dynamic Attention Deep Model for Article Recommendation by Learning Human Editors' Demonstration

- Lantao Yu*, Xuejian Wang*(equal contribution), Kan Ren, Guanyu Tao, Weinan Zhang, Yong Yu, Jun Wang.
- In *Proceedings of the 23rd SIGKDD Conference on Knowledge Discovery and Data Mining*. KDD 2017.

IRGAN: A Minimax Game for Unifying Generative and Discriminative Information Retrieval Models

- Jun Wang, Lantao Yu, Weinan Zhang, Yu Gong, Yinghui Xu, Benyou Wang, Peng Zhang, Dell Zhang.
- In *Proceedings of the 40th International ACM SIGIR Conference on Research and Development in Information Retrieval*. SIGIR 2017. **Best Paper Award Honorable Mention. (10 citations)**

Deep Reinforcement Learning for Green Security Game with Online Information

- Lantao Yu, Yi Wu, Rohit Singh, Lucas Joppa and Fei Fang.
- In *Workshop on Artificial Intelligence for Imperfect-Information Games at AAAI 2018*.

An Empirical Study of AI Population Dynamics with Million-agent Reinforcement Learning

- Lantao Yu*, Yaodong Yang*, Yiwei Bai*(equal contribution), Jun Wang, Weinan Zhang, Ying Wen, Yong Yu.
- In *Workshop on Aligned Artificial Intelligence at NIPS 2017*.
- Follow-up work submitted to AAMAS 2018. Review score: 8, 8, 7 (out of 10)

Honors and Awards

- **IEEE Special Scholarship** (Top 2 students in School of Electronic Information and Electrical Engineering), Shanghai Jiao Tong University. 2017
- **Best Paper Award Honorable Mention** ([Link](#)), SIGIR 2017.
- **Microsoft Azure Research Award**, Carnegie Mellon University. 2017.
- **Scholarship of Excellent Undergraduates** (Top 2 students in School of Electronic Information and Electrical Engineering), Shanghai Jiao Tong University. 2017

- **National Scholarship** (Top 3 students in CS Department), Ministry of Education of P.R.China. 2016.
- **Zhiyuan College Honors Scholarship** (Top 5%), Shanghai Jiao Tong University. 2015 & 2016.
- **Overall GPA Ranking Top 3 out of 151** ([Link](#)) (Sophomore GPA Ranking 1st/151), Department of Computer Science, Shanghai Jiao Tong University. 2014-2017.
- **Yuan-Ze Scholarship** (Top 2% in Computer Science Department), Zhiyuan College. 2015.
- **First Prize** in China Undergraduate Mathematical Contest in Modeling, Shanghai Division. 2015

Research Experiences

Deep Reinforcement Learning for Security Game with Online Information

Guide: Prof. Fei Fang, SCS, CMU

Aug. 2017-Present

- Generalize Stackelberg Security Games to incorporate the vital online information, which has been previously neglected by the research community, and no existing mathematical programming methods are applicable.
- Proposed a method combining deep reinforcement learning, double oracle algorithm and meta-learning to efficiently approximate the Nash Equilibrium.

Learning and Planning for Wildlife Security

Guide: Prof. Fei Fang, SCS, CMU

Aug. 2017-Present

- Design machine learning algorithms to predict poaching activities and improve patrolling strategies.
- Deployed by World Wildlife Fund to improve real-world patrolling and featured on Cheddar TV.

Adversarial Training for Discrete Sequential Data Generation

Guide: Prof. Weinan Zhang, Prof. Jun Wang, Prof. Yong Yu, CSD, SJTU

Jun. 2016-Sep. 2016

- Proposed a novel framework SeqGAN combining adversarial training and policy gradient algorithm for generating discrete sequential data.
- Accepted as a full paper at **AAAI 2017**. Received **80+ citations**.
- **Included in the [deep learning course in University of Waterloo](#).**
- Successfully applied to dialogue systems, machine translations, image captions and music generation, etc.

Minimax Framework for Information Retrieval

Guide: Prof. Jun Wang, Prof. Weinan Zhang, CSD, SJTU

Sep. 2016-Jan. 2017

- Proposed a minimax framework unifying two major schools of IR methodologies
- Achieved significant performance gains over strong baselines in a variety of tasks including web search, item recommendation, and question answering.
- Accepted as a full paper at **SIGIR 2017**. Won the **Best Paper Award Honorable Mention**.

Dynamic Attention Deep Model for Article Recommendation

Guide: Prof. Weinan Zhang, Prof. Jun Wang, Prof. Yong Yu, CSD, SJTU

Dec. 2016-Feb. 2017

- Proposed a hybrid attention-based deep model to capture the editors' dynamic underlying criterion.
- Outperformed strong baselines through a 9-day A/B testing, with more stable and robust predictions.
- Accepted as a full paper at **KDD 2017**, deployed by a commercial article feed platform.

Emerging Collective Dynamics from Large AI Population

Guide: Prof. Weinan Zhang, Prof. Jun Wang, Prof. Yong Yu, CSD, SJTU

May. 2017-Aug. 2017

- Designed and developed a platform for large scale Multi-Agent Reinforcement Learning experiments.
- Discovered the ordered collective dynamics from a large population of RL agents driven by self-interest.
- Verified the principles developed in the real world could be applied to understand AI population.

Detecting Click Fraud in Computational Advertising

Guide: Prof. Weinan Zhang, Prof. Yong Yu, CSD, SJTU

Jan. 2016-Jun. 2016

- Apache Spark cluster computing for processing massive data from YOYI Inc.
- Implemented state-of-the-art click fraud detection algorithms on large-scale real world datasets.

Open Source Projects

- [Implementation of SeqGAN](#). 880+ stars, 300+ forks in Github.
- [Implementation of IRGAN](#). 280+ stars in Github.
- [Million-level Multi-Agent Reinforcement Learning Platform](#).
- [Multi-agent Reinforcement Learning Paper Collection](#). 330+ stars in Github.

Selected Academic Presentations

- [Sequence Generative Adversarial Networks](#). AAAI 2017 Conference, San Francisco.
- [Generative Adversarial Networks for Discrete Data](#). Invited talk, at PaperWeekly.
- [Adversarial Training for Information Retrieval](#). Apex Lab, SJTU.

Review Experience: PIC 2016, SIGIR 2017, TALLIP 2017