

# Mengyan Zhang

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[mengyanz.github.io](https://mengyanz.github.io)

## EDUCATION

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### Ph.D. Candidate in Machine Learning

*Computational Media Lab, The Australian National University, 2018.08- present*  
*Machine Learning Research Group, Data61, CSIRO, 2018.08- present*

### Bachelor of Computer Science (first class honours)

*The Australian National University and Shandong University, 2+2 joint degree,*  
*2014-2018, GPA 6.938/7.0*

## WORK EXPERIENCE

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### Research Internship

*Social Computing Lab, Microsoft Research Asia, 2021.10 - 2022.03, worked on deep contextual bandits for news recommendation.*

### Academic Tutor

*Australian National University, paid teaching position, 2019-2021, total working hours: 300h*

## RESEARCH INTEREST

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My research interests are online experimental design in machine learning, including multi-armed bandits and active learning. I work on both theoretical and practical views of experimental design with two goals: (I) Designing robust algorithms to reflect the preference of agents and understanding the concentration of measures and adaptive strategies involved. (II) Designing the pipeline and recommendation strategies for synthetic biology experimental design applications.

## PUBLICATIONS/ PRE-PRINTS

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### Gaussian Process Bandits with Aggregated Feedback

*Zhang, M., Tsuchida, R., Ong, C. S. (2022). AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence.*

### Quantile Bandits for Best Arms Identification

*Zhang, M., Ong, C. S. (2021). International Conference on Machine Learning.*

### Opportunities and Challenges in Designing Genomic Sequences

*Zhang, M., Ong, C. S. (2021). ICML Workshop on Computational Biology.*

### Machine learning guided batched design of a bacterial Ribosome Binding Site

*Zhang, M., Holowko M. B., Hayman Zumpe H., Ong, C. S. (2021). under review.*

### Classification of Historical Death and Occupation coding

*Zhang, M. (2018). Honours thesis. (Supervisors: Christen, P., Graham, T. )*

## OPEN SOURCE

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### Acton: Active Learning Library for Knowledge Graph

*Alger M., Zhang M., Ong, C.S. (2018). [Python software](#)*

## AWARDS

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2019 Data61 Top-up Postgraduate Research Scholarship  
2018 PhD Scholarship of ANU  
2018 ANU HDR Fee Remission Merit Scholarship  
2017 Paul Thistlewatte Memorial Honours Year Scholarship of ANU  
2015-2016 National Scholarship (China)  
2016 Lan Qiao Cup Programming Competition Shandong province 1st prize

## TALKS/PRESENTATIONS

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**Dec. 2021: WiML workshop in NeurPIS**  
*Poster presentation: Gaussian Process Bandits with Aggregated Feedback*  
**Jul. 2021: ICML Workshop on Computational Biology**  
*Spotlight Talk: Opportunities and Challenges in Designing Genomic Sequences*  
**Jul. 2021: Thirty-ninth International Conference on Machine Learning**  
*Poster presentation: Quantile Bandits for Best Arms Identification*  
**Jul. 2020: Machine Learning Summer School (acceptance rate: 13.84%)**  
*Poster presentation: Quantile Bandits for Best Arms Identification*  
**Dec. 2019: Collaborative Conference on Computational and Data Intensive Science**  
*Talk: Optimized Experimental Design for Translation Initiation using Machine Learning*

## TEACHING

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Tutor for [COMP8600 Statistical Machine Learning](#) (S1 2019, S1 2020, S1 2021)  
Tutor for [COMP6670 Introduction to Machine Learning](#) (S2 2020)

## TECHNICAL SKILLS

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Programming: Python (familiar with PyTorch), Java, C#, C++  
Language: Chinese, English  
Others: Git,  $\text{\LaTeX}$

## REFeree

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### Dr. Cheng Soon Ong

Senior Principal Research Scientist, Director of [ML and AI future science platform](#) at CSIRO  
[chengsoon.ong@anu.edu.au](mailto:chengsoon.ong@anu.edu.au)

### Prof. Lexing Xie

Professor, School of Computing, ANU; Director of [Computation Media lab](#); Director of [Humanising Machine Intelligence](#)  
[lexing.xie@anu.edu.au](mailto:lexing.xie@anu.edu.au)