

CURRICULUM VITAE – MINDA ZHAO

CONTACT	Minda Zhao Email : mindazhao@gatech.edu Phone : +1 470-303-3944 Address : Room 422, ISyE Main Building, 755 Ferst Dr NW, Atlanta, GA 30332		
EDUCATION	Georgia Institute of Technology (Gatech) <i>Ph.D. student in Operations Research</i> – Advisor : Prof. Xin Chen	Atlanta, GA	2022 - 2027 (Expected)
	University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign (UIUC) <i>Ph.D. student in Industrial Engineering</i> – Transferred to Georgia Institute of Technology.	Champaign, IL	2021 - 2022
	University of Chicago (UChicago) <i>M.S. in Computational and Applied Mathematics</i> – Advisor : Prof. Lek-Heng Lim	Chicago, IL	2019 - 2020
	Sun Yat-sen University (SYSU) <i>B.S. in Information and Computing Science</i>	Guangzhou, China	2015 - 2019
RESEARCH INTEREST	Methodology : Stochastic Programming, Nonconvex Optimization. Application : Operations Models, Optimal Control, Reinforcement Learning.		
PREPRINTS AND PUBLICATIONS	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A Simple Solution to Improving Human Supervision of Algorithms : Evidence from Smart Vending. [SSRN] Minda Zhao, Brian Han, Xin Chen, Tao Zhu. 2025. – Under review. – Third Place, CSAMSE Practice Award 2024. 2. Landscape of Policy Optimization for Finite Horizon MDPs with General State and Action. [ArXiv] (α-β) Xin Chen, Yifan Hu, Minda Zhao. 2024. – Under review. 3. Stochastic Steffensen Method. [Link] Minda Zhao, Zehua Lai, Lek-Heng Lim. 2024 <i>Computational Optimization and Applications</i>, pp.1-32. 		
RESEARCH IN PROGRESS	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Hidden Convexity in Pricing and Capacity Sizing for Queueing Systems. (α-β) Xin Chen, Linwei Xin, Minda Zhao. 		
CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Hidden Convexity in Pricing and Capacity Sizing for Queueing Systems. – Cornell Young Researchers Workshop, Ithaca, NY Oct 2025 2. A Simple Solution to Improving Human Supervision of Algorithms : Evidence from Smart Vending. – INFORMS MSOM Conference, Supply Chain Management SIG, London, UK Jun 2025 – Annual POMS Conference, Atlanta, GA May 2025 – Conference on Digital Experimentation MIT Oct 2024 3. Landscape of Policy Optimization for Finite Horizon MDPs with General State and Action. – International Conference on Continuous Optimization, Los Angeles, LA Jul 2025 – INFORMS RMP Section Conference, New York, NY Jul 2025 – INFORMS APS Conference, Atlanta, GA Jun 2025 – IISE Annual Conference & Expo, Atlanta, GA Jun 2025 – Annual POMS Conference, Atlanta, GA May 2025 – INFORMS Annual Meeting, Seattle, WA Oct 2024 – Cornell Young Researchers Workshop, Ithaca, NY Oct 2024 – Purdue Operations Conference, West Lafayette, IN Aug 2024 – INFORMS Annual Meeting, Phoenix, AZ Oct 2023 – International Annual Conference of CSAMSE, Shenzhen, China Jul 2023 		

HONORS AND AWARDS	1. Third Place, CSAMSE Practice Award	2024
	2. NCCR Automation Fellowship, Switzerland	2024
	3. Hansen Fellowship, ISE Department at UIUC	2021
	4. First-class Scholarship, SYSU	2018
SERVICES	Conference Organization : ICCOPT Session Chair 2025 Reviewer : <i>Operations Research, Management Science, Computational Optimization and Applications</i>	
INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE	Shenzhen Fengyi Technology Co., Ltd.	Shenzhen, China
	<i>Research Assistant (remote)</i>	Mar 2022 - Present
	<i>Research Scientist Intern</i>	Jul 2023 - Aug 2023
	– Conduct a new replenishment strategy, leading to a \$1,000,000 annual reduction in inventory costs.	
	Cainiao Network	Hangzhou, China
	<i>Research Scientist Intern</i>	Jun 2021 – Oct 2021