

CURRICULUM VITAE – MINDA ZHAO

CONTACT	Minda Zhao Email : mindazhao@gatech.edu Website : https://minda-zhao.github.io/Personal-Website Phone : +1 470-303-3944 Address : Room 422, ISyE Main Building, 755 Ferst Dr NW, Atlanta, GA 30332
EDUCATION	Georgia Institute of Technology (Gatech) Atlanta, GA <i>Ph.D. student in Operations Research</i> 2022 - 2026 (Expected) – Advisor : Prof. Xin Chen
	University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign (UIUC) Champaign, IL <i>Ph.D. student in Industrial Engineering</i> 2021 - 2022 – Transferred to Georgia Institute of Technology.
	University of Chicago (UChicago) Chicago, IL <i>M.S. in Computational and Applied Mathematics</i> 2019 - 2020 – Advisor : Prof. Lek-Heng Lim
	Sun Yat-sen University (SYSU) Guangzhou, China <i>B.S. in Information and Computing Science</i> 2015 - 2019
RESEARCH INTEREST	Methodology : Stochastic Programming, Nonconvex Optimization. Application : Operations Models, Optimal Control, Reinforcement Learning.
PREPRINTS AND PUBLICATIONS	1. Hidden Convexity in Queueing Models. [SSRN] Xin Chen, Linwei Xin, Minda Zhao (alphabetical order) 2. A Simple Solution to Improving Human Supervision of Algorithms : Evidence from Smart Vending. [SSRN] Minda Zhao , Brian Han, Xin Chen, Tao Zhu – Under review at <i>Manufacturing & Service Operations Management</i> . – Third Place , CSAMSE Practice Award 2024. 3. Landscape of Policy Optimization for Finite Horizon MDPs with General State and Action. [ArXiv] Xin Chen, Yifan Hu, Minda Zhao (alphabetical order) – Under revision at <i>Operations Research</i> . – Extended abstract accepted by NeurIPS 2025 ML×OR Workshop. 4. Stochastic Steffensen Method. [Link] Minda Zhao , Zehua Lai, Lek-Heng Lim. 2024 <i>Computational Optimization and Applications</i> , pp.1-32.
CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS	1. Hidden Convexity in Queueing Models. – (Poster) 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, Boston, MA Oct 2024 3. Landscape of Policy Optimization for Finite Horizon MDPs with General State and Action. – INFORMS Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA Oct 2025 – 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 – (Poster) 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 2. NCCR Automation Fellowship, Switzerland 3. Hansen Fellowship, ISE Department at UIUC 4. Merit Undergraduate Thesis (Top 10%), SYSU 5. First-class Scholarship, SYSU	2024 2024 2021 2019 2018
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SERVICES	Conference Organization : ICCOPT Session Chair 2025 Reviewer : <i>Operations Research, Management Science, Computational Optimization and Applications</i>
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INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE	Shenzhen Fengyi Technology Co., Ltd. <i>Research Assistant (remote)</i> <i>Research Scientist Intern</i> – Conduct a new replenishment strategy, leading to a \$1,000,000 annual reduction in inventory costs.	Shenzhen, China Mar 2022 - Present Jul 2023 - Aug 2023
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Cainiao Network <i>Research Scientist Intern</i>	Hangzhou, China Jun 2021 – Oct 2021
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