

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 20252. 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 20243. 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 – IIE 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 2. NCCR Automation Fellowship, Switzerland 3. Hansen Fellowship, ISE Department at UIUC 4. First-class Scholarship, SYSU	2024 2024 2021 2018
SERVICES	Conference Organization : ICCOPT Session Chair 2025 Reviewer : <i>Operations Research, Management Science, Computational Optimization and Applications</i>	
INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE	<p>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.</p> <p>Cainiao Network <i>Research Scientist Intern</i></p>	Shenzhen, China Mar 2022 - Present Jul 2023 - Aug 2023 Hangzhou, China Jun 2021 – Oct 2021