

# Rui Gong

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H. Milton Stewart School of Industrial and Systems Engineering, Georgia Institute of Technology  
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**RESEARCH INTERESTS** Semidefinite Optimization and its application to Combinatorial Optimization, Convex Optimization and other areas.

**EDUCATION** **Georgia Institute of Technology** Atlanta, Georgia, U.S.A.  
*PhD in Operation Research* 2023.08-2027.08 (expected)  
• Advisor: Diego Cifuentes, Alejandro Toriello

**University of Waterloo** Waterloo, Ontario, Canada  
*M.Math. in Combinatorics & Optimization* 2021.09-2023.06  
• Thesis: Low-Rank Plus Sparse Decompositions of Large-Scale Matrices via Semidefinite Optimization  
• Advisor: Levent Tuncel  
• Passed C&O PhD first stage comprehensive exams: Continuous Optimization, Graph Theory

**University of Waterloo** Waterloo, Ontario, Canada  
*B.Math. Triple Major in Mathematical Finance, Mathematical Optimization, Statistics* 2017.09-2021.08  
• Dean's Honour List

## RESEARCH

**SCHOLARSHIPS & AWARDS** **Georgia Institute of Technology**  
*ISyE Premium Fellowship*  
*Ronald & Carol Beerman Fellowship*  
**University of Waterloo**  
*Math Domestic Graduate Student Award* 2022-2023  
*Sinclair Graduate Scholarship* 2023.01-2023.04  
*Sinclair Graduate Scholarship* 2022.09-2022.12  
*C & O Graduate Award* 2022.01-2022.04  
*Sinclair Graduate Scholarship* 2022.01-2022.04  
*President's Scholarship of Uwaterloo* 2017

## SEMINARS

**Talks:**  
*Value Function Approximation for Maximum Stable Set Problem*, Combinatorial Optimisation and Graph Theory Session, International Symposium on Mathematical Programming (ISMP 2024), Montréal, Canada. July 26, 2024  
*Value Function Approximation for Maximum Stable Set Problem*, First Year PhD Seminar, ISyE, Georgia Institute of Technology. February 23, 2024  
*Convex Optimization, Factor Analysis and Realizability of a Subspace*, Graduate Research Seminar, Department of Combinatorics & Optimization, Faculty of Mathematics, University of Waterloo. April 11, 2022  
*Low-Rank Plus Sparse Decompositions of Large-Scale Matrices via Semidefinite Optimization*, MMATH Thesis Talk, Department of Combinatorics & Optimization, Faculty of Mathematics, University of Waterloo. May 3, 2023

**Posters:**

*Rounding the Lovasz Theta Function with a Value Function Approximation*, Mixed Integer Programming Workshop 2024, Poster Finalist, University of Kentucky. March 4, 2024

**Workshops:**

Attendee: 24th Midwest Optimization Meeting & Workshop on Large Scale Optimization and Applications, University of Waterloo. October 28-29, 2022

Algorithms, Combinatorics and Optimization Research Network (ACORN) Meeting 2023, Atlanta, Georgia. March 9–11, 2023

**WORK  
EXPERIENCE****Intact Financial Corporation**

Toronto, Canada

*Actuarial Analyst of Ontario PL Pricing*

2020.01 - 2020.04

Extracted and manipulated databases to respond to internal inquiries by SAS. Generated earning and loss reports weekly and monthly by Excel and SAS. Analyzed correctness of rates for insurance premium algorithm with R.

**TEACHING***Teaching Assistant*

University of Waterloo

- Undergraduate course: Portfolio Optimization (CO372) 2021.09-2022.04;  
2022.09-2022.12

Holding office hours, marking assignments and exams.

- Graduate course: Semidefinite Programming (CO471/671) 2022.05-2022.08  
Marking assignments.

**TECHNICAL  
STRENGTHS**

*Language Proficiency:* Native Chinese Speaker, Proficient in English

*Programming Languages:* *Python*, *Matlab*, *R*, *L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X*