

Yurong Chen

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RESEARCH INTERESTS

Algorithmic game theory and machine learning

Private information learning, utilization, and counteraction, with reflections on the assumptions of classic economics and game theory.

Games among strategic and learning agents in newly-emerged practical applications.

APPOINTMENTS

Inria, Ecole Normale Supérieure, PSL Research University

Paris, France

SIERRA team in Inria Paris

Oct. 2024 - Present

Postdoctoral Researcher

Advisor: Michael I. Jordan

EDUCATION

Peking University

Beijing, China

Center on Frontiers of Computing Studies

Sept. 2019 - Jul. 2024

Ph.D. in Computer Science

Supervisor: Xiaotie Deng

Thesis: “*Games over Learning Agents: Private Information Learning, Utilization, and Coordination*”

Beihang University

Beijing, China

Hua Luogeng Class, Shenyuan Honors College

Sept. 2015 - Jul. 2019

B.Sc in Applied Mathematics

GPA: 3.85/4.00 (Top 5%)

Supervisor: Xiangyu Liang

INTERNSHIP

The University of Hong Kong

Hong Kong, China

Research Assistant

Aug. 2024 - Sept. 2024

Host: Zhiyi Huang

Alibaba (Beijing) Software Services Co., Ltd. company

Beijing, China

Alimama - Ad Product Technology

May. 2024 - Sept. 2024

Algorithm Engineer Intern

The University of Hong Kong

Hong Kong, China

Research Assistant

Feb. 2023 - Aug. 2023

Host: Zhiyi Huang

PUBLICATIONS

($\alpha - \beta$) denotes alphabetical order (standard in theory venues). * denotes equal contribution.

Journals

[J1] **Optimal Private Payoff Manipulation against Commitment in Extensive-form Games**

($\alpha - \beta$) Yurong Chen, Xiaotie Deng, and Yuhao Li

Games and Economic Behavior, 2025

Conference Proceedings

[C1] **Mechanism Design for LLM Fine-tuning with Multiple Reward Models**

Haoran Sun, Yurong Chen, Siwei Wang, Wei Chen, and Xiaotie Deng

39th Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems (**NeurIPS 2025**)

[C2] **Learning a Stackelberg Leader’s Incentives from Optimal Commitments**

($\alpha - \beta$) Yurong Chen, Xiaotie Deng, Jiarui Gan, and Yuhao Li

26th ACM Conference on Economics and Computation (**ACM EC 2025**)

- [C3] **Are Bounded Contracts Learnable and Approximately Optimal?**
 $(\alpha - \beta)$ **Yurong Chen**, Zhaohua Chen, Xiaotie Deng, and Zhiyi Huang
 25th ACM Conference on Economics and Computation (**ACM EC 2024**)
- [C4] **A Scalable Neural Network for DSIC Affine Maximizer Auction Design**
 Zhijian Duan, Haoran Sun, **Yurong Chen**, and Xiaotie Deng
 37th Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems (**NeurIPS 2023**)
- [C5] **Learning-Based Ad Auction Design with Externalities: the Framework and A Matching-Based Approach**
 Ningyuan Li, Yunxuan Ma, Yang Zhao, Zhijian Duan, **Yurong Chen**, Zhilin Zhang, Jian Xu, Bo Zheng, and Xiaotie Deng
 29th ACM SIGKDD Conference on Knowledge Discovery and Data Mining (**KDD 2023**)
- [C6] **Coordinated Dynamic Bidding in Repeated Second-Price Auctions with Budgets**
Yurong Chen*, Qian Wang*, Zhijian Duan, Haoran Sun, Zhaohua Chen, Xiang Yan, and Xiaotie Deng
 40th International Conference on Machine Learning (**ICML 2023**)
- [C7] **Optimal Private Payoff Manipulation against Commitment in Extensive-form Games**
 $(\alpha - \beta)$ **Yurong Chen**, Xiaotie Deng, and Yuhao Li
 18th Conference on Web and Internet Economics (**WINE 2022, Best Student Paper**)
- [C8] **On the Convergence of Fictitious Play: A Decomposition approach**
Yurong Chen, Xiaotie Deng, David Mguni, Chenchen Li, Jun Wang, Xiang Yan, and Yaodong Yang
 31st International Joint Conference on Artificial Intelligence (**IJCAI 2022**)
- [C9] **The Tight Bound for Pure Price of Anarchy in an Extended Miner's Dilemma Game**
 Qian Wang and **Yurong Chen**
 20th International Conference on Autonomous Agents and Multiagent Systems (**AAMAS 2021**)

WORKING PAPERS

- [1] **How Sampling Shapes LLM Alignment: From One-Shot Optima to Iterative Dynamics**
 $(\alpha - \beta)$ **Yurong Chen**, Yu He, Michael I. Jordan, and Fan Yao
- [2] **Calibeating Made Simple**
 $(\alpha - \beta)$ **Yurong Chen**, Zhiyi Huang, Michael I. Jordan, and Haipeng Luo

TEACHING

Teaching Assistant in Peking University

- **Conscious Turing Machine (2020 Spring, 2021 Spring, 2023 Spring)**, School of Electronics Engineering and Computer Science
- **Mathematics in Artificial Intelligence (2022 Spring)**, Yuanpei College
- **Discrete Mathematics I for Turing Class (2019 Fall, 2020 Fall)**, School of Electronics Engineering and Computer Science
- **Discrete Mathematics II for Turing Class (2020 Spring)**, School of Electronics Engineering and Computer Science

Teaching Assistant in Beihang University

- **Real Function for Hua Luogeng Class (2019 Spring)**, Hua Luogeng Class, Shenyuan Honors College

HONORS AND AWARDS

- Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA) Postdoctoral Fellowship, 2025
 Advisor: Francis Bach and Michael I. Jordan.
- Nomination Award for the 2025 CCF Excellent Doctoral Dissertation in Intelligent Agents and Multi-Agent Systems, 2025
 Thesis: “*Games over Learning Agents: Private Information Learning, Utilization, and Coordination*”
- CCF Incentive Program for Outstanding Doctoral Dissertations in Theoretical Computer Science, 2025
 Thesis: “*Games over Learning Agents: Private Information Learning, Utilization, and Coordination*”
- Outstanding Doctoral Dissertation Award of the School of Computer Science, Peking University, 2024
 Thesis: “*Games over Learning Agents: Private Information Learning, Utilization, and Coordination*”
- Outstanding Graduate of Peking University, 2024
- Best Student Paper Award of WINE 2022, 2022
- Excellent Student of CFCS, Peking University, 2019 & 2022
- Merit Student, Peking University, 2021
- Hongsheng Award, Peking University, 2021
- Excellent Graduate Student of Beijing, 2019
- Hua Luogeng Prize of Chinese Academy of Sciences, 2016 & 2017 & 2018

- National Scholarship (5%), 2016 & 2017
- Excellent Student of Beihang University, 2016 & 2017
- Academic Excellent Award of Beihang University, **1st Prize**, 2016 & 2017
- Award for Subject and Competition of Beihang University, **2nd Prize**, 2017
- National English Competition for Undergraduate Students, **2nd Prize**, 2017
- China Undergraduate Mathematical Contest in Modeling in Beijing District, **2nd Prize**, 2017
- National Mathematics Competition for Undergraduate Students (math major), **2nd Prize**, 2016

SERVICES

PC member

ACM EC 2025 & 2026, WWW 2026, WINE 2025, IJTCS-FAW 2025, IJTCS-FAW 2023 (Track chair of Multi-Agent Learning, Track chair of Conscious AI), IJTCS-FAW 2022 (Track chair of Conscious AI), IJTCS 2021 (Track chair of Conscious AI)

Conference Reviewer

AISTATS 2025 & 2026, ESA 2025, NeurIPs 2024 & 2025, STACS 2025, ICLR 2025, ITCS 2025, SODA 2025, FOCS 2024, ISAAC 2023, STOC 2023, WINE 2020

Journal Reviewer

Journal of Combinatorial Optimization, Theoretical Computer Science, SIAM Journal on Computing (SICOMP)

Workshop Organizer

AI for Mechanism Design and Strategic Decision Making (AIMS) @ ICLR 2026 Workshop

Volunteer

Conferences: IJTCS-FAW 2021 & 2022 & 2023, IJTCS-FAW 2022, WINE 2021, IJTCS 2021

Workshops and Forums: Mathematical Foundations of the Internet and Blockchain Economics Workshop (Student organizer), The 2nd Cybereconomy and Game Theory Forum in China.

TALKS

Learning a Stackelberg Leader's Incentive from Optimal Commitments

- The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, NC, USA, Jan. 2026
- Max Planck Institute for Intelligent Systems, Tübingen, Germany, Nov. 2025
- INFORMS Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA, USA, Oct. 2025
- King's College London, London, UK, Sept. 2025
- London School of Economics, London, UK, Sept. 2025
- Imperial College Business School, London, UK, Sept. 2025
- Foundations of AI Seminar, University of Warwick, Warwick, UK, Sept. 2025
- The 1st UK Workshop for Junior Researchers in Economics and Computation (JECCO UK 2025), Edinburgh, UK, Jun. 2025
- Junior Game Theory Seminar of Parisians, Paris, France, Mar. 2025
- Mathematical Foundations of Internet and Blockchain Economics Workshop, Sanya, China, Jan. 2025

Are Bounded Contracts Learnable and Approximately Optimal?

- University of Oxford, Oxford, UK, Jun. 2025
- FOAM Seminar, University of Amsterdam, Amsterdam, Netherlands, Apr. 2025
- 15th Day on Computational Game Theory, Tilburg, Netherlands, Apr. 2025
- INFORMS Annual Meeting, Seattle, WA, USA, Oct. 2024
- City University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong, China, Aug. 2024
- CCF 2024 Annual Conference on Computational Economics, Wuxi, China, Jul. 2024

Coordinated Dynamic Bidding in Repeated Second-Price Auctions with Budgets

- EC'24 Workshop - "Frontiers of Online Advertising: Autobidding, GenAI, and Beyond", New Haven, USA, Jul. 2024
- Female Forum, International Joint Conference on Theoretical Computer Science – Frontier of Algorithmic Wisdom (IJTCS-FAW 2023), Macau, China, Aug. 2023

Optimal Private Payoff Manipulation against Commitment in Extensive-Form Games

- GAMES 2024, the 7th World Congress of the Game Theory Society, Beijing, China, Aug. 2024
- CCF 2023 Annual Conference on Computational Economics (CCF CE 2023), Macau, China, Aug. 2023
- 2023 IJCAI Young Elite Symposium (IJCAI-Young 2023), Shanghai, China, Jul. 2023
- Young Ph.D. Forum, IJTCS-FAW' 22, Hong Kong, China, Aug. 2022
- Complexity & Algorithm Workshop. Jiangsu, China, Aug. 2022

Learning to Manipulate a Commitment Optimizer

- 3rd CCF Theoretical Computer Science Excellent Young Ph.D. forum, Shandong, China, Sept. 2022

On the Convergence of Fictitious Play: A Decomposition Approach

- 31st International Joint Conference on Artificial Intelligence and the 25th European Conference on Artificial Intelligence (IJCAI-ECAI 2022), Jul. 2022