Tianhao Wang Last update: June 2024

CONTACT Information

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EMPLOYMENT Research Assistant Professor, Toyota Technological Institute at Chicago 2024 – present

EDUCATION Ph.D. in Statistics and Data Science, Yale University

2018 - 2024

• Advisor: Prof. Zhou Fan

M.A. in Statistics (en route), Yale University

2018 - 2021

B.S. in Mathematics, University of Science and Technology of China (USTC) 2014 – 2018

• B.E. in Computer Science (dual)

EXPERIENCE Student researcher, Google DeepMind

09/2023 - 11/2023

Research intern, Google DeepMind

06/2023 - 08/2023

Publications and

Preprints

(*: equal contribution)

- 1. Heejune Sheen, Siyu Chen, Tianhao Wang, and Harrison H. Zhou. "Implicit Regularization of Gradient Flow on One-Layer Softmax Attention". Available at arXiv:2403.08699.
- 2. Angeliki Giannou, Liu Yang, Tianhao Wang, Dimitris Papailiopoulos, and Jason D. Lee. "How well can Transformers emulate in-context Newton's method?" Available at arXiv:2403.03183.
- 3. Xinyi Zhong*, Tianhao Wang*, and Zhou Fan. "Approximate Message Passing for orthogonally invariant ensembles: Multivariate non-linearities and spectral initialization". *Information and Inference*, to appear. Available at arXiv:2110.02318.
- 4. Siyu Chen, Heejune Sheen, Tianhao Wang, and Zhuoran Yang. "Training dynamics of multi-head softmax attention for in-context learning: emergence, convergence, and optimality". Conference on Learning Theory (COLT), 2024. Available at arXiv:2402.19442.
- 5. Zhou Fan, Roy R. Lederman, Yi Sun, Tianhao Wang, Sheng Xu. "Maximum likelihood for high-noise group orbit estimation and single-particle cryo-EM". *The Annals of Statistics*, 2024. Available at arXiv:2107.01305.
- 6. Tianhao Wang, Xinyi Zhong, and Zhou Fan. "Universality of Approximate Message Passing algorithms and tensor networks". *The Annals of Applied Probability*, to appear. Available at arXiv:2206.13037.
- 7. Runzhe Wang, Sadhika Malladi, Tianhao Wang, Kaifeng Lyu, and Zhiyuan Li. "The Marginal Value of Momentum for Small Learning Rate SGD". *International Conference on Learning Representations (ICLR)*, 2024. Available at arXiv:2307.15196.
- 8. Zhou Fan, Yi Sun, Tianhao Wang, Yihong Wu. "Likelihood landscape and maximum likelihood estimation for the discrete orbit recovery model". *Communications on Pure and Applied Mathematics*, 2023. Available at arXiv:2004.00041.
- 9. Ruitu Xu, Yifei Min, and Tianhao Wang. "Noise-adaptive Thompson sampling for linear contextual bandits". In Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS), 2023.
- 10. Yifei Min, Jiafan He, Tianhao Wang, Quanquan Gu. "Cooperative multi-agent reinforcement learning: Asynchronous communication and linear function approximation". *International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML)*, 2023. Available at arXiv:2305.06446.

- 11. Ruitu Xu, Yifei Min, Tianhao Wang, Michael I. Jordan, Zhaoran Wang, Zhuoran Yang. "Finding regularized competitive equilibria of heterogeneous agent macroeconomic models via reinforcement learning". *International Conference on Artificial Intelligence and Statistics (AISTATS)*, 2023. Available at arXiv:2303.04833.
- 12. Zhiyuan Li, Tianhao Wang, Dingli Yu. "Fast mixing of stochastic gradient descent with normalization and weight decay". In Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS), 2022.
- 13. Zhiyuan Li*, Tianhao Wang*, Jason D. Lee, Sanjeev Arora. "Implicit bias of gradient descent on reparametrized models: on equivalence to mirror descent". *In Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS)*, 2022. Available at arXiv:2207.04036.
- 14. Jiafan He*, Tianhao Wang*, Yifei Min*, Quanquan Gu. "A simple and provably efficient algorithm for asynchronous federeted linear bandits". In Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS), 2022. Available at arXiv:2207.03106.
- 15. Yifei Min, Tianhao Wang, Ruitu Xu, Zhaoran Wang, Michael I. Jordan, Zhuoran Yang. "Learn to match with no regret: Reinforcement learning in Markov matching market". *In Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS)*, 2022 (Oral). Available at arXiv:2203.03684.
- 16. Yifei Min, Jiafan He, Tianhao Wang, Quanquan Gu. "Learning stochastic shortest path with linear function approximation". *International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML)*, 2022. Available at arXiv:2110.12727.
- 17. Zhiyuan Li, Tianhao Wang, Sanjeev Arora. "What happens after SGD reaches zero loss?

 A mathematical framework". *International Conference on Learning Representations*(ICLR), 2022 (Spotlight). Available at arXiv:2110.06914.
- 18. Pamela L Valentino, Tianhao Wang, Veronika Shabanova, Vicky Lee Ng, John C Bucuvalas, Amy G Feldman, Regino P Gonzalez-Peralta, Nitika Arora Gupta, Tamir A Miloh, Saeed Mohammad, Erika Pace, Shikha S Sundaram, Nada A Yazigi, Kyle Soltys, Society of Pediatric Liver Transplantation (SPLIT). "North American biliary stricture management strategies in children post liver transplant: multicenter analysis from the SPLIT Registry". Liver Transplatation, 2021.
- 19. Yifei Min*, Tianhao Wang*, Dongruo Zhou, Quanquan Gu. "Variance-aware off-policy evaluation with linear function approximation". In Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS), 2021. Available at arXiv:2106.11960.
- Tianhao Wang*, Dongruo Zhou*, Quanquan Gu. "Provably efficient reinforcement learning with linear function approximation under adaptivity constraints". In Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS), 2021. Available at arXiv:2101.02195.
- Pan Xu*, Tianhao Wang*, Quanquan Gu. "Continuous and discrete-time accelerated stochstic mirror descent for strongly convex functions". *International Conference on Ma*chine Learning (ICML), 2018.
- 22. Pan Xu*, Tianhao Wang*, Quanquan Gu. "Accelerated stochastic mirror descent: From continuous-time dynamics to discrete-time algorithms". *International Conference on Artificial Intelligence and Statistics (AISTATS)*, 2018.

Honors and Awards

• Leonard F. Savage Prize for best written work

Yale, 2024

• Conference Travel Fellowship

Yale, 2023

• Student Poster Competition Award

Rutgers University, 2023

- At Conference on Recent Advances in Statistics and Data Science

• NeurIPS 2022 top reviewer

NeurIPS, 2022

• Wedworth W. Clarke Fellowship

Yale, 2021

• ICML 2018 travel award

ICML, 2018

• Huang Yu Memorial Scholarship

USTC, 2017

INVITED TALKS AND SEMINARS	• Joint Statistical Meetings	08/2024
	• University of Notre Dame, ACMS Colloquium	02/2024
	• UIUC, Statistics Seminar	02/2024
	• Columbia University, Statistics Seminar	01/2024
	• UCSD, Halıcıoğlu Data Science Institute, Special Seminar S	eries 01/2024
	• UC Davis, Statistics Seminar	01/2024
	• UCSD, Department of Mathematics Colloquium	12/2023
	• INFORMS Annual Meeting	10/2023
	 Universality of Approximate Message Passing algorithms and tensor networks 	
	• International Conference on Machine Learning	07/2022
	 Learning stochastic shortest path with linear function approximation 	
	 Implicit bias of gradient descent on reparameterized models 	
TEACHING EXPERIENCE	Teaching assistant, Yale University	
	• High-Dimensional Phenomena in Statistics and Learning	Spring 2023
	• Intermediate Machine Learning	Spring 2022
	• Statistical Inference	Fall 2020, Fall 2021
	• Information Theory	Spring 2021
	• Probability and Statistics	Fall 2019
	• Stochastic Processes	Spring 2019, Spring 2020
Service	Journal reviewer for	
	IEEE Thomas stions on Information Theory	

- $\bullet~$ IEEE Transactions on Information Theory
- The Annals of Statistics

Conference reviewer for

- AISTATS 2022, 2023, 2024
- ECML 2023
- ICLR 2023, 2024
- ICML 2022, 2023, 2024
- IEEE ITW 2023
- NeurIPS 2022, 2023