

# Xiaoqian Liu

## CONTACT INFORMATION

1400 Pressler St, MD Anderson Cancer Center  
Houston, TX 77030

E-mail: [xliu31@mdanderson.org](mailto:xliu31@mdanderson.org)  
Website: <https://xiaoqian-liu.github.io/>

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

Numerical Optimization, Statistical Machine Learning, Convex Analysis, Non-convex Regularization, High-dimensional Data Analysis

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

**The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center**, Houston, TX

*Postdoctoral Fellow*

Aug. 2022 - Present

- Mentor: [Prof. Wenyi. Wang](#)

**Argonne National Laboratory**, Lemont, IL

*Research Aide*

Aug. 2021 – July. 2022

*Wallace Givens Associate*

May 2021 – Aug. 2021

- Supervisor: [Dr. Stefan M. Wild](#)

## EDUCATION

**North Carolina State University**, Raleigh, NC

Ph.D., Statistics

2018 – 2022

- Thesis: *Penalization Methods for Structured Data Analysis*
- Adviser: [Prof. Eric C. Chi](#)
- GPA: 4.0/4.0

**Renmin University of China**, Beijing, China

M.S., Statistics

2015 – 2018

- Thesis: *Sparse Principal Component Analysis with Fused Penalty*
- Adviser: Prof. Bo Zhang
- GPA: 3.96/4.0

**China University of Mining and Technology**, Xuzhou, China

B.S., Mathematics and Applied Mathematics

2011 – 2015

- *Cum Laude Graduate of University*
- GPA: 3.94/4.0

## HONORS AND AWARDS

2022 SDSS – Student & Early Career Travel Award, American Statistical Association, 2022  
Student Travel Award, North Carolina Chapter of the American Statistical Association, 2020  
Member of Mu Sigma Rho, National Statistics Honor Society, 2019  
National Scholarship for Graduate Students, Ministry of Education of China, 2017  
First Class Academic Scholarship of University, Renmin University of China, 2015, 2016, 2017  
National Scholarship for Undergraduates, Ministry of Education of China, 2012, 2013, 2014

## PUBLICATIONS

*Published / Accepted*

- [1] **X. Liu**, E. C. Chi, and K. L. Lange. A Sharper Computational Tool for  $L_2E$  Regression. *Technometrics*. Accepted. [arXiv:2203.02993](https://arxiv.org/abs/2203.02993) [stat.ME]
- [2] **X. Liu** and E. C. Chi. Revisiting Convexity-Preserving Signal Recovery with the Linearly Involved GMC Penalty. *Pattern Recognition Letters*, 156:60-66, 2022.

- [3] **X. Liu**, M. Vardhan, Q. Wen, A. Das, A. Randles, and E. C. Chi. An Interpretable Machine Learning Model to Classify Coronary Bifurcation Lesions. In: *The 43rd Annual International Conference of the IEEE Engineering in Medicine & Biology Society (EMBC)*, Oct. 31 – Nov. 4, 2021.
- [4] B. Zhang and **X. Liu**. Sparse Principal Component Analysis with Fused Penalty. *Statistical Research*, 36(4):119–128, 2019.

*Preprints and Submissions*

- [5] **X. Liu**, A. J. Molstad, and E. C. Chi. A Convex-Nonconvex Strategy for Grouped Variable Selection. Submitted. [arXiv:2111.15075 \[stat.ME\]](https://arxiv.org/abs/2111.15075)

*Working Papers*

- [6] **X. Liu**, X. Han, E. C. Chi, and B. Nadler. A Majorization-Minimization Gauss-Newton Method for 1-Bit Matrix Completion.
- [7] **X. Liu** and S. M. Wild. An Adaptive Method for Scalable Derivative-Free Optimization via Random Projections.

PRESENTATIONS  
AND TALKS

- [1] R for Data Science. At: *Biomedical Data Science Workshop & Careers Panel, UCLA*. July 17, 2022. Workshop instructor.
- [2] A Convex-Nonconvex Strategy for Grouped Variable Selection. At: *2022 Symposium on Data Science & Statistics*, June 9, 2022. Refereed presentation.
- [3] A Convex-Nonconvex Strategy for Grouped Variable Selection. *University of California, Los Angeles (OpenMendel Group)*, Nov. 10, 2021. Invited talk.
- [4] A Tutorial on CART Algorithm. *Duke University (Randles Lab)*, Nov. 9, 2021. Invited talk.
- [5] An Interpretable Machine Learning Model to Classify Coronary Bifurcation Lesions. In: *The 43rd Annual International Conference of the IEEE Engineering in Medicine & Biology Society (EMBC)*, Oct. 31 – Nov. 4, 2021. Presentation.
- [6] Randomized Projections in Derivative-Free Optimization. In: *Summer Argonne Student Symposium (SASSy) 2021*, July 30, 2021. Presentation.
- [7] Revisiting Convexity-Preserving Signal Recovery with the Linearly Involved GMC Penalty. In: *International Chinese Statistical Association (ICSA) 2020 Applied Statistics Symposium*, Dec. 14, 2020. E-poster presentation.
- [8] Revisiting Convexity-Preserving Signal Recovery with the Linearly Involved GMC Penalty. In: *Women in Statistics and Data Science Virtual Conference*, Oct. 1, 2020. E-poster presentation.

TEACHING  
EXPERIENCE

**North Carolina State University**, Raleigh, NC

*Teaching Assistant*

- ST779 (Advanced Probability for Statistical Inference) Spring 2022
- ST517 (Applied Statistical Methods) Fall 2021
- ST370 (Probability and Statistics for Engineers) Fall 2018, Spring 2019, Fall 2019

**Renmin University of China**, Beijing, China

*Teaching Assistant*

- Time Series Analysis Fall 2017
- Stochastic Analysis Spring 2016

SOFTWARE	L2E: R package for robust structured regression with $L_2$ criterion.	
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	<p>Reviewer for Journals</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Journal of Computational and Graphical Statistics</li> <li>- Communications in Statistics - Simulation and Computation</li> </ul> <p>Student mentorship</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Lisa Lin (undergraduate), Rice University</li> <li>- Arie (REU), Rice University</li> </ul> <p>Other Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Chair of the <i>High-dimensional Statistics</i> session at 2022 <i>Symposium on Data Science &amp; Statistics</i></li> </ul>	
VOLUNTEER AND LEADERSHIP	<p>Volunteer, <a href="#">The Green Chair Project</a>, Raleigh, NC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Worked as a volunteer using data science skills to help the nonprofit understand the needs of the community (e.g., the number of children that need beds in Wake County) and the impact of the organization (e.g., on educational outcomes).</li> </ul> <p>Volunteer, Alternative Intercultural Service Break, NCSU</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Worked as a volunteer with <a href="#">ABCCM</a> in Black Mountain, NC, including homeless services, gardening and environmental protection services.</li> <li>- Visited and gave presentations in Black Mountain middle and elementary schools to introduce international cultures.</li> </ul> <p>President, University Youth Volunteers Association, CUMT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Organized collaborative volunteer activities among local commonweal organizations in Xuzhou.</li> <li>- Organized the inaugural University Volunteer Forum with five universities and colleges in Xuzhou.</li> </ul>	<p>Sept. 2021 – Dec. 2021</p> <p>Mar. 9 – 17, 2019</p> <p>Jun. 2013 – Jun. 2014</p>