

Yi-Chun Chen

818-423-9623 | yi-chun.chen.phd@anderson.ucla.edu | <http://yi-chun-chen.github.io>

EDUCATION

UCLA Anderson School of Management

Sep. 2017 – June 2022 (expected)

Ph.D. in Management (Decisions, Operations and Technology Management)

Advisor: Velibor Mišić

Thesis Committee: Velibor Mišić (chair), Felipe Caro, Charles Corbett, Kumar Rajaram, Christopher Tang

Thesis Title: *Prescribing for the Irrational: A Data-Driven Approach to Modeling Irrational Choice*

Stanford University

Sep. 2014 – May 2017

M.S. in Computational and Mathematical Engineering

National Taiwan University

Sep. 2009 – June 2013

B.S. in Physics (Presidential Awards)

PUBLICATIONS

Research Interests

Consumer choice modeling, behavioral decision making, revenue management, large-scale optimization, data-driven analytics, machine learning.

Under Review / Published Journal Papers

- **Assortment Optimization Under The Decision Forest Model** (2021),
Yi-Chun Chen, Velibor Mišić
Under review in *Operations Research*.
- **Column-Randomized Linear Programs: Performance Guarantees and Applications** (2020),
Yi-Chun Chen, Velibor Mišić
Major revision in *Operations Research*.
- **Decision Forest: A Nonparametric Approach to Modeling Irrational Choice** (2021),
Yi-Chun Chen, Velibor Mišić,
Forthcoming in *Management Science*.
 - Honorable Mention, 2020 INFORMS George E. Nicholson Student Paper Prize.
 - Winner, 2019 INFORMS Decision Analysis Society Student Paper Competition.
 - 2nd Place, 2019 INFORMS Revenue Management and Pricing Section Student Paper Competition.
 - Finalist, 2019 INFORMS Service Science Section Best Paper Competition.
 - **Spotlight Presentation** (16 out of 80+ submissions), 2019 INFORMS Revenue Management and Pricing Conference, Stanford, CA.
- **Learning Discrete Bayesian Networks from Continuous Data** (2017),
Yi-Chun Chen, Tim Wheeler, Mykel Kochenderfer,
Journal of Artificial Intelligence Research, 59, 103-132.
- **Deep Reinforcement Learning for Event-Driven Multi-Agent Decision Processes** (2017),
Kunal Menda, Yi-Chun Chen, Justin Grana, James Bono, Brendan Tracey, Mykel Kochenderfer, David Wolpert,
IEEE Transactions on Intelligent Transportation Systems, 20(4), 1259-1268.

Papers in Preparation

- **Assortment-Context Forest and Product Line Optimization** (2021),
Yi-Chun Chen, Velibor Mišić
Targeted for *Management Science*.

- **A Recursive Partitioning Approach to Non-Compensatory Choice** (2021),
Yi-Chun Chen, Velibor Mišić
Targeted for *Operations Research*.

Peer-reviewed Conference Proceedings

- **Improving Offline Value-Function Approximations for POMDPs by Reducing Discount Factors** (2018),
Yi-Chun Chen, Mykel Kochenderfer, Matthijs Spaan,
IEEE/RSJ International Conference on Intelligent Robots and Systems (IROS).

TEACHING

Master of Business Administration

UCLA Anderson School of Management

Teaching Assistantship

- **MGMT402: Data and Decisions**
 - Instructors: Professor Velibor Mišić and Professor Rakesh Sarin (Fall 2018, Fall 2020)
- **MGMT410: Logistics and Operations Management**
 - Instructors: Professor Christopher Tang (Fall 2019)
- **MGMT240F: Global Supply Chain Management**
 - Instructors: Professor Felipe Caro (Spring 2022, scheduled)

Master of Science in Business Analytics

UCLA Anderson School of Management

Teaching Assistantship

- **MSA408: Operations Analytics**
 - Instructors: Professor Velibor Mišić (Spring 2020)
- **MSA434: Advanced Workshop on Machine Learning**
 - Instructors: Professor Danylo Vashchilenko (Fall 2020)
- **MSA435: Data Visualization**
 - Instructors: Professor Kristian di Gaetano (Fall 2020)
- **MSA407/413: Data Analytics Industry Seminar**
 - Instructors: Professor Felipe Caro (Winter & Spring 2022, scheduled)

Doctoral Program in Management,

UCLA Anderson School of Management

Teaching Assistantship

- **MGMTPHD 242: Foundations of Stochastic Modeling**
 - Instructors: Professor Francisco Castro (Spring 2021)

AWARDS AND HONORS

Dissertation Year Fellowship, UCLA.	2021
Honorable Mention, INFORMS George E. Nicholson Student Paper Prize (Top 5 out of 119+ submissions).	2020
Winner, INFORMS Decision Analysis Student Paper Competition.	2019
Second Place, INFORMS Revenue Management and Pricing Student Paper Competition.	2019
Finalist, INFORMS Service Science Best Paper Competition.	2019
Spotlight Presentation, INFORMS Revenue Management and Pricing Conference (16 out of 80+ submissions).	2019
Four-year Ph.D. Fellowship, UCLA Anderson School of Management.	2017
Presidential Awards, National Taiwan University.	2012, 2013
Financial Mathematics Summer School Fellowship, Academia Sinica, Taiwan.	2013
Dr. Chao-Ting Chang Memorial Research Scholarship, Academia Sinica, Taiwan.	2012

PRESENTATIONS

“Assortment Optimization Under the Decision Forest Model”

- INFORMS Revenue Management and Pricing Conference, Online, June 2021.
- MSOM Annual Conference, Online, June 2021.

“Column-Randomized Linear Programs: Performance Guarantees and Applications”

- INFORMS Annual Conference, Online, Nov. 2020.

“Decision Forest: A Nonparametric Approach to Modeling Irrational Choice”

- INFORMS Annual Conference, Anaheim, CA, Nov. 2021 (scheduled).
- INFORMS Annual Conference, Online, Nov. 2020.
- INFORMS Annual Conference, Seattle, WA, Oct. 2019.
- INFORMS Revenue Management and Pricing Conference, Stanford, CA, June 2019.
- SoCal OR/OM Day, Irvine, CA, May 2019.
- POMS Annual Conference, Washington D.C., May 2019.
- INFORMS Annual Conference, Phoenix, AZ, Nov. 2018.

“Improving Offline Value-Function Approximations for POMDPs by Reducing Discount Factors”

- International Conference on Intelligent Robots and Systems (IROS), Madrid, Spain, Oct, 2018.

“Learning Discrete Bayesian Networks from Continuous Data”

- Stanford ICME Xpo Research Symposium, Stanford, California, May, 2017.

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Director, Taiwanese Student Association, Stanford University.	May 2015 – Apr. 2016
Vice President, Student Association, Department of Physics, National Taiwan University.	July 2012 – June 2013
Captain, Basketball Team, Department of Physics, National Taiwan University.	July 2012 – July 2013

REFERENCES

Velibor Mišić

Assistant Professor
UCLA Anderson School of Management
velibor.misic@anderson.ucla.edu

Christopher Tang

Distinguished Professor and Edward Carter Chair in Business Administration
UCLA Anderson School of Management
chris.tang@anderson.ucla.edu

Charles Corbett

Professor and IBM Chair in Management
UCLA Anderson School of Management
charles.corbett@anderson.ucla.edu

Kumar Rajaram

Professor and William Leonhard Chair in Management
UCLA Anderson School of Management
kumar.rajaram@anderson.ucla.edu

— Last updated: Sep. 28, 2021 —