Cheng, Feng

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EDUCATION University of California, Berkeley August 2022 – May 2024

Double Majoring in Mathematics and Statistics (Cumulative\* UC GPA: 3.928/4.0)

Dean's Honors List awarded for fall semester 2022

University of California, Davis September 2020 – June 2022

Majored in Mathematics (Davis GPA: 3.934/4.0)

Dean's Honors List awarded for five quarters

AWARDS Robert Lewis Wasser Memorial Scholarship June 2022

Winner of the UC Davis Robert Lewis Wasser Math Contest

G. Thomas Sallee Prize June 2021

Winner of the UC Davis Spring Math Contest

RESEARCH AND **Polymath Jr. Research Program** on the frog model on trees June 2023 – September 2023 PROJECTS

Under the guidance of Professor Matthew Junge and Professor Si Tang, we submitted a new paper on the frog model to the *Electronic Communications in Probability* (arXiv:2309.14443). The frog model is an interacting particle system of significance in statistical mechanics, and we focused on its setting on the infinite *d*-ary tree.

I was a major research investigator. On the computer-assisted proof and numerical computation side, I notably improved the upper bounds on the phase transition threshold  $\sup_{d\geq m} p_d$ . On the theoretical side, I rigorously proved the strict monotonicity of a related threshold  $q_d$  in d. More information can be found on the arXiv preprint and at the GitHub repository fredcheng02/frog-model.

In January 2024, I led my group members to present at the AMS-PME poster session and the AMS Polymath Jr. special session at the JMM in San Francisco.

**Independent Study** on high-dimensional probability May 2023 – September 2023

Read Roman Vershynin's *High-Dimensional Probability* under the guidance of my machine learning professor, Nikita Zhivotovskiy. The graduate-level book focuses on concentration results in high dimensions, with important implications to areas of data science and statistical learning theory.

**Directed Reading Program** on generating functions October 2021 – May 2022

The Directed Reading Program is an undergraduate self-study program under a graduate mentor. In my group, I studied generating functions based on Herbert Wilf's book *Generating functionology*. Generating functions form an important topic in combinatorics that connects counting and recurrence problems to power series. I presented my reading result at the end of the academic year before other groups, graduate students, and teachers.

**Pioneer Research Program** on extremal graph theory

July 2019 – September 2019

Conducted research and wrote an expository thesis on the fundamentals of extremal graph theory under professor Carl Yerger from Davidson College; received an A grade

<sup>\*</sup>Berkeley and Davis GPAs are automatically combined.

## COURSEWORK AND KNOWLEDGE

## **Probability & Statistics:**

- probability theory & stochastic processes
  - including introductions to probabilistic methods in combinatorics, MCMC, mixing times, high-dimensional probability, and random matrices
- mathematical statistics & linear models
- machine learning
- causal inference
- information theory
- game theory

## Mathematics:

- 1st year graduate measure theory, general topology, & functional analysis
- single & multivariable real analysis
- complex analysis
- advanced linear algebra
- groups, rings, fields, and Galois theory
- algebraic topology
- combinatorics & graph theory
- number theory
- ordinary differential equations

**Math-related Philosophy and Logic**: proof-theoretic and model-theoretic results in PL and FOL; metalogic results in recursion and computability theory; philosophy of mathematics

**SKILLS** 

**Programming**: R (including tidyverse & shiny), SageMath, Python, Wolfram Mathematica, SQL, C, Java, basic shell scripting

**Tools**: Linux command line, regular expressions, Git, Microsoft Office, LATEX & LYX **Languages**: Mandarin Chinese (native), English (fluent)

PERSONAL INTERESTS

philosophy, classical music, literature, astronomy