

Thomy Phan

Curriculum Vitae

Contact Information

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Research Interests

Multi-Agent Systems, Reinforcement Learning, Optimization

Education

- 2018 – 2023 **Ph.D. in Computer Science, LMU Munich, Germany**
- Thesis: “*Emergence and Resilience in Multi-Agent Reinforcement Learning*”
 - Thesis committee: Claudia Linnhoff-Popien, Sven Koenig, Long Tran-Thanh
 - Based on work published at AAMAS, AAAI, IJCAI, NeurIPS, and ICML
- 2015 – 2017 **M.Sc. in Computer Science, LMU Munich, Germany**
- Focus on artificial intelligence, data science, and autonomous systems
 - Master thesis: “*EVADE: Emergent Value Function Approximation for Distributed Environments*”
 - Supervision: Claudia Linnhoff-Popien, Lenz Belzner
 - Results published at AAMAS 2018 as a **full conference paper**
- 2011 – 2015 **B.Sc. in Computer Science, Munich University of Applied Sciences, Germany**
- Collaborative study program (duales Studium) with the City of Munich
 - Focus on software development and image processing
 - Bachelor thesis: “*Quantification and Feature Extraction of 3D Single-Molecule Switching Microscopy Data*”
 - Supervision: Alfred Nischwitz, Joerg Bewersdorf
 - Practical work done at Bewersdorf Lab, Yale University
 - Results published in Cell 2016 as a **journal paper (cover story)**

Research Experience

- 2025 – Present **Junior Professor, University of Bayreuth, Germany**
- Heading the Chair of Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning.
- 2023 – 2025 **Postdoctoral Scholar, UC Irvine & USC, CA, USA**
- Advisor: Sven Koenig
 - Focus on combinatorial optimization via multi-agent learning and reasoning.
- 2018 – 2023 **Research Assistant, LMU Munich, Germany**
- Advisor: Claudia Linnhoff-Popien
 - Focus on emergence and resilience in multi-agent systems.
- 2015 **Visiting Scholar in Research (3 Months), Yale University, New Haven, CT, USA**
- Advisor: Joerg Bewersdorf
 - Focus on data analysis and feature extraction of cellular structures in super-resolution microscopy data. Co-authored publication in Cell 2016 (cover story).

Honors and Awards

- 2025 **KIT YIG Prep Pro Fellowship (Offered), Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT), Germany**
Funded postdoctoral position for the KIT Young Investigator Group Preparation Program.

- 2025 **Outstanding Reviewer (Top 10%), Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS)**, San Diego, CA, USA
Listed at <https://neurips.cc/Conferences/2025/ProgramCommittee>
- 2025 **IJCAI Certificate of Appreciation**, International Joint Conference on Artificial Intelligence (IJCAI), Montreal, Canada
Recognition for serving as an emergency reviewer (see community activities below).
- 2024 **GI Dissertation Award Nomination 2023**, German Informatics Society (GI), Dagstuhl, Germany
Nominated candidate of LMU Munich with an invited talk at Dagstuhl. My dissertation is listed in an honorary collection in the *Lecture Notes in Informatics* published at <https://dl.gi.de/collections/8a89b931-32cf-4a39-97a9-dc0630d5ace3>.
- 2024 **Premier Paper of AAMAS 2024**, Journal of the International Foundation for Autonomous Agents and Multi-Agent Systems (JAAMAS)
Invitation to submit an extended version of our AAMAS 2024 paper “Confidence-Based Curriculum Learning for Multi-Agent Path Finding” (main author). Preprint at <https://www.researchsquare.com/article/rs-5427877/v1>
- 2024 **CRA Travel Grant for the CCC Artificial Intelligence/Operations Research Workshop III**, Computing Community Consortium (CCC), Washington, DC, USA
Invitation and financial support from the Computing Research Association (CRA).
- 2024 **ICAART 2024 – Springer Selection**, Lecture Notes in Artificial Intelligence
Invitation to submit an extended version of our ICAART 2024 paper “Multi-Agent Quantum Reinforcement Learning using Evolutionary Optimization” (co-author). Published at https://link.springer.com/chapter/10.1007/978-3-031-87327-0_3
- 2023 **Outstanding Reviewer (Top 10%), Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS)**, New Orleans, LA, USA
Listed at <https://neurips.cc/Conferences/2023/ProgramCommittee>
- 2022 **Premier Paper of AAMAS 2022**, Journal of the International Foundation for Autonomous Agents and Multi-Agent Systems (JAAMAS)
Invitation to submit an extended version of our AAMAS 2022 paper “Emergent Cooperation from Mutual Acknowledgment Exchange” (main author). Published at <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s10458-024-09666-5>
- 2022 **Highlight Paper at the Workshop on Ad Hoc Teamwork**, International Joint Conference on Artificial Intelligence (IJCAI), Vienna, Austria
Recognition of our AAMAS 2022 paper “Emergent Cooperation from Mutual Acknowledgment Exchange” (main author) with an invited talk. More details at <https://sites.google.com/view/ad-hoc-teamwork/waht-2022>
- 2022 **Outstanding Reviewer (Top 10%), International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML)**, Baltimore, MD, USA
Listed at <https://icml.cc/Conferences/2022/Reviewers>
- 2021 **ICAART 2021 – Springer Selection**, Lecture Notes in Artificial Intelligence
Invitation to submit an extended version of our ICAART 2021 paper “SAT-MARL: Specification Aware Training in Multi-Agent Reinforcement Learning” (co-author). Published at https://link.springer.com/chapter/10.1007/978-3-031-10161-8_1
- 2019 **DAAD Travel Grant for AAMAS 2019**, German Academic Exchange Service, Montreal, Canada
- 2016 **Best Bachelor Award**, Rohde & Schwarz GmbH & Co. KG, Munich, Germany
- 2016 **Award for an Outstanding Bachelor Thesis in the Field of Image Processing**, Stemmer Imaging GmbH, Munich, Germany
- 2012 – 2017 **Scholarship**, German Academic Scholarship Foundation, Munich, Germany
In Germany, the top 0.5% of university or high school students get selected for funding.

Research Projects

2024 – 2025	Causal Foundations of Decision-Making and Learning , <i>National Science Foundation</i> , Los Angeles, CA, USA Research on causal reinforcement learning and planning together with Columbia University.
2023 – 2025	AI4OPT – AI Institute for Advances in Optimization , <i>National Science Foundation</i> , Los Angeles, CA, USA Research on combinatorial optimization via multi-agent learning and reasoning together with the Georgia Institute of Technology.
2023	Dependability of Machine Learning in Industrial Robotics , <i>Siemens AG</i> , Munich, Germany Research on robust machine learning in industrial robotics. <u>Assisted acquisition</u> .
2022 – 2024	Intelligent and Cognitive Systems , <i>Bavarian Ministry of Economic Affairs, Regional Development, and Energy</i> , Munich, Germany Research on emergence in multi-agent learning together with Fraunhofer IKS. <u>Assisted acquisition</u> .
2022	Validation and Verification of Modular Machine Learning Systems , <i>Siemens AG</i> , Munich, Germany Research on modular machine learning. <u>Assisted acquisition</u> .
2020 – 2021	Dependable MLOps in Industrial Environments , <i>Siemens AG</i> , Munich, Germany Research on adaptive testing in MLOps systems. <u>Assisted acquisition</u> .
2019	Dependability of Machine Learning in Industrial Environments , <i>Siemens AG</i> , Munich, Germany Research on resilience in multi-agent reinforcement learning.
2018	Coevolution in Machine Learning Based Industrial Environments , <i>Siemens AG</i> , Munich, Germany Research on scenario coevolution in reinforcement learning.
2018 – 2023	InnoMI – Innovation Center Mobile Internet , <i>Bavarian Ministry of Economic Affairs, Regional Development, and Energy</i> , Munich, Germany Research on innovative mobile and distributed systems.

Selected Publications

Conferences

		Extended abstracts (≤ 3 pages) with a full conference or journal version are not listed.
2026	[C22]	Truncated Counterfactual Learning for Anytime Multi-Agent Path Finding <u>Thomy Phan</u> , Shao-Hung Chan, and Sven Koenig. AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence (AAAI), 2026. To appear. Oral Presentation .
	[C21]	Spatially Grouped Curriculum Learning for Multi-Agent Path Finding <u>Thomy Phan</u> and Sven Koenig. AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence (AAAI), 2026. To appear.
2025	[C20]	Anytime Multi-Agent Path Finding with an Adaptive Delay-Based Heuristic <u>Thomy Phan</u> , Benran Zhang, Shao-Hung Chan, and Sven Koenig. AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence (AAAI), pages 23286–23294, 2025. Oral Presentation (less than 5%, out of 12,957 papers) .
	[C19]	Counterfactual Online Learning for Open-Loop Monte Carlo Planning <u>Thomy Phan</u> , Shao-Hung Chan, and Sven Koenig. AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence (AAAI), pages 26651–26658, 2025.
2024	[C18]	Adaptive Anytime Multi-Agent Path Finding using Bandit-Based Large Neighborhood Search <u>Thomy Phan</u> , Taoan Huang, Bistra Dilkina, and Sven Koenig. AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence (AAAI), pages 17514–17522, 2024.

- [C17] **Confidence-Based Curriculum Learning for Multi-Agent Path Finding**
Thomy Phan, Joseph Driscoll, Justin Romberg, and Sven Koenig.
International Conference on Autonomous Agents and Multiagent Systems (**AAMAS**), pages 1558–1566, 2024. [Premier Paper of AAMAS 2024 with an invitation to the Journal on Autonomous Agents and Multi-Agent Systems \(JAAMAS\)](#).
- [C16] **Multi-Agent Quantum Reinforcement Learning Using Evolutionary Optimization**
Michael Kölle, Felix Topp, Thomy Phan, Philipp Altmann, Jonas Nüßlein, Claudia Linnhoff-Popien.
International Conference on Agents and Artificial Intelligence (**ICAART**), pages 71–82, 2024. [ICAART 2024 — Springer Selection with an invitation to the Lecture Notes in Artificial Intelligence](#). Co-mentored bachelor student work.
- 2023 [C15] **Attention-Based Recurrence for Multi-Agent Reinforcement Learning under Stochastic Partial Observability**
Thomy Phan, Fabian Ritz, Philipp Altmann, Maximilian Zorn, Jonas Nüßlein, Michael Kölle, Thomas Gabor, and Claudia Linnhoff-Popien.
International Conference on Machine Learning (**ICML**), pages 27840–27853, 2023.
- [C14] **CROP: Towards Distributional-Shift Robust Reinforcement Learning using Compact Reshaped Observation Processing**
Philipp Altmann, Leonard Feuchtinger, Fabian Ritz, Jonas Nüßlein, Claudia Linnhoff-Popien, and Thomy Phan.
International Joint Conference on Artificial Intelligence (**IJCAI**), pages 3414–3422, 2023.
- 2022 [C13] **Emergent Cooperation from Mutual Acknowledgment Exchange**
Thomy Phan, Felix Sommer, Philipp Altmann, Fabian Ritz, Lenz Belzner, and Claudia Linnhoff-Popien.
International Conference on Autonomous Agents and Multiagent Systems (**AAMAS**), pages 1047–1055, 2022. [Highlight Paper at the IJCAI Workshop on Ad Hoc Teamwork 2022](#) and [Premier Paper of AAMAS 2022 with an invitation to the Journal on Autonomous Agents and Multi-Agent Systems \(JAAMAS\)](#).
- [C12] **Towards Anomaly Detection in Reinforcement Learning (Blue Sky Ideas)**
Robert Müller, Steffen Illium, Thomy Phan, Tom Haider, and Claudia Linnhoff-Popien.
International Conference on Autonomous Agents and Multiagent Systems (**AAMAS**), pages 1799–1803, 2022.
- 2021 [C11] **VAST: Value Function Factorization with Variable Agent Sub-Teams**
Thomy Phan, Fabian Ritz, Lenz Belzner, Philipp Altmann, Thomas Gabor, and Claudia Linnhoff-Popien.
Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems (**NeurIPS**), pages 24018–24032, 2021.
- [C10] **Resilient Multi-Agent Reinforcement Learning with Adversarial Value Decomposition**
Thomy Phan, Lenz Belzner, Thomas Gabor, Andreas Sedlmeier, Fabian Ritz, and Claudia Linnhoff-Popien.
AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence (**AAAI**), pages 11308–11316, 2021.
- [C9] **SAT-MARL: Specification Aware Training in Multi-Agent Reinforcement Learning**
Fabian Ritz, Thomy Phan, Robert Müller, Thomas Gabor, Andreas Sedlmeier, Marc Zeller, Jan Wieghardt, Reiner Schmid, Horst Sauer, Cornel Klein, and Claudia Linnhoff-Popien.
International Conference on Agents and Artificial Intelligence (**ICAART**), pages 28–37, 2021. [ICAART 2021 — Springer Selection with an invitation to the Lecture Notes in Artificial Intelligence](#).
- 2020 [C8] **Learning and Testing Resilience in Cooperative Multi-Agent Systems**
Thomy Phan, Thomas Gabor, Andreas Sedlmeier, Fabian Ritz, Bernhard Kempter, Cornel Klein, Horst Sauer, Reiner Schmid, Jan Wieghardt, Marc Zeller, and Claudia Linnhoff-Popien.
International Conference on Autonomous Agents and Multiagent Systems (**AAMAS**), pages 1055–1063, 2020.
- [C7] **A Quantum Annealing Algorithm for Finding Pure Nash Equilibria in Graphical Games**
Christoph Roch, Thomy Phan, Sebastian Feld, Robert Müller, Thomas Gabor, Carsten Hahn, and Claudia Linnhoff-Popien.
International Conference on Computational Science (**ICCS**), pages 488–501, 2020.

- 2019 [C6] **Memory Bounded Open-Loop Planning in Large POMDPs using Thompson Sampling**
Thomy Phan, Lenz Belzner, Marie Kiermeier, Markus Friedrich, Kyrill Schmid, and Claudia Linnhoff-Popien.
AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence (**AAAI**), pages 7941–7948, 2019.
- [C5] **Adaptive Thompson Sampling Stacks for Memory Bounded Open-Loop Planning**
Thomy Phan, Thomas Gabor, Robert Müller, Christoph Roch, and Claudia Linnhoff-Popien.
International Joint Conference on Artificial Intelligence (**IJCAI**), pages 5607–5613, 2019.
- [C4] **Subgoal-Based Temporal Abstraction in Monte-Carlo Tree Search**
Thomas Gabor, Jan Peter, Thomy Phan, Christian Meyer, and Claudia Linnhoff-Popien.
International Joint Conference on Artificial Intelligence (**IJCAI**), pages 5562–5568, 2019.
- [C3] **Distributed Policy Iteration for Scalable Approximation of Cooperative Multi-Agent Policies (Extended Abstract)**
Thomy Phan, Kyrill Schmid, Lenz Belzner, Thomas Gabor, Sebastian Feld, and Claudia Linnhoff-Popien.
International Conference on Autonomous Agents and Multiagent Systems (**AAMAS**), pages 2162–2164, 2019.
- [C2] **Scenario Co-Evolution for Reinforcement Learning on a Grid World Smart Factory Domain**
Thomas Gabor, Andreas Sedlmeier, Marie Kiermeier, Thomy Phan, Marcel Henrich, Monika Pichlmair, Bernhard Kempter, Cornel Klein, Horst Sauer, Reiner Schmid, and Jan Wieghardt.
Genetic and Evolutionary Computation Conference (**GECCO**), pages 898–906, 2019.
- 2018 [C1] **Leveraging Statistical Multi-Agent Online Planning with Emergent Value Function Approximation**
Thomy Phan, Lenz Belzner, Thomas Gabor, and Kyrill Schmid.
International Conference on Autonomous Agents and Multiagent Systems (**AAMAS**), pages 730–738, 2018.

Journals

- 2025 [J8] **Generative Curricula for Multi-Agent Path Finding via Unsupervised and Reinforcement Learning**
Thomy Phan, Timy Phan, and Sven Koenig.
Journal of Artificial Intelligence Research (JAIR). 82, pages 2471–2534, 2025.
- [J7] **Architectural Influence on Variational Quantum Circuits in Multi-Agent Reinforcement Learning: Evolutionary Strategies for Optimization**
Michael Kölle, Karola Schneider, Sabrina Egger, Felix Topp, Thomy Phan, Philipp Altmann, Jonas Nüßlein, and Claudia Linnhoff-Popien.
Agents and Artificial Intelligence, pages 50–79, 2025. [Invited from ICAART 2024](#).
- 2024 [J6] **Emergent Cooperation from Mutual Acknowledgment Exchange in Multi-Agent Reinforcement Learning**
Thomy Phan, Felix Sommer, Fabian Ritz, Philipp Altmann, Jonas Nüßlein, Michael Kölle, Lenz Belzner, and Claudia Linnhoff-Popien.
Autonomous Agents and Multi-Agent Systems (JAAMAS), 38(34), 2024. [Invited from AAMAS 2022](#).
- [J5] **Discriminative Reward Co-Training**
Philipp Altmann, Fabian Ritz, Maximilian Zorn, Michael Kölle, Thomy Phan, Thomas Gabor, and Claudia Linnhoff-Popien.
Neural Computing and Applications (NCAA), 2024.
- 2022 [J4] **Specification Aware Multi-Agent Reinforcement Learning**
Fabian Ritz, Thomy Phan, Robert Müller, Thomas Gabor, Andreas Sedlmeier, Marc Zeller, Jan Wieghardt, Reiner Schmid, Horst Sauer, Cornel Klein, and Claudia Linnhoff-Popien.
Agents and Artificial Intelligence, pages 3–21, 2022. [Invited from ICAART 2021](#).
- 2021 [J3] **Productive Fitness in Diversity-Aware Evolutionary Algorithms**
Thomas Gabor, Thomy Phan, and Claudia Linnhoff-Popien.
Natural Computing, 20(3): 363–376, 2021.

- 2020 [J2] **The Scenario Coevolution Paradigm: Adaptive Quality Assurance for Adaptive Systems**
 Thomas Gabor, Andreas Sedlmeier, **Thomy Phan**, Fabian Ritz, Marie Kiermeier, Lenz Belzner, Bernhard Kempter, Cornel Klein, Horst Sauer, Reiner Schmid, Jan Wieghardt, Marc Zeller, and Claudia Linnhoff-Popien.
International Journal on Software Tools for Technology Transfer (STTT), 22(4): 457–476, 2020.
- 2016 [J1] **Ultra-High Resolution 3D Imaging of Whole Cells (Cover Story)**
 Fang Huang, George Sirinakis, Edward S Allgeyer, Lena K Schroeder, Whitney C Duim, Emil B Kromann, **Thomy Phan**, Felix E Rivera-Molina, Jordan R Myers, Irnov Irnov, Mark Lessard, Yongdeng Zhang, Mary Ann Handel, Christine Jacobs-Wagner, C Patrick Lusk, James E Rothman, Derek Toomre, Martin J Booth, and Joerg Bewersdorf.
Cell, 166(4): 1028–1040, 2016. [Cover Story](#).

Workshops

Workshop papers with a conference or journal version are not listed.

- 2020 [W2] **The Holy Grail of Quantum Artificial Intelligence: Major Challenges in Accelerating the Machine Learning Pipeline**
 Thomas Gabor, Leo Sükel, Fabian Ritz, **Thomy Phan**, Lenz Belzner, Christoph Roch, Sebastian Feld, and Claudia Linnhoff-Popien.
International Workshop on Quantum Software Engineering (Q-SE) at ICSE 2020, pages 456–461, 2020.
- [W1] **A Distributed Policy Iteration Scheme for Cooperative Multi-Agent Policy Approximation**
Thomy Phan, Lenz Belzner, Kyrill Schmid, Thomas Gabor, Fabian Ritz, Sebastian Feld, and Claudia Linnhoff-Popien.
Adaptive and Learning Agents Workshop (ALA) at AAMAS, 2020.

Community Activities

Organizing Committee

- 2019 International Symposium on Applied Artificial Intelligence (ISAAI). More details at <https://digitaleweltmagazin.de/digicon-2019/symposium/>

Action Editor

- 2024 – Present *Transactions on Machine Learning Research (TMLR)*

Program Committee/Reviewer

- 2026 International Conference on Autonomous Agents and Multiagent Systems (AAMAS)
 2024 – 2026 International Conference on Learning Representations (ICLR)
 2021 – 2026 AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence (AAAI)
 2025 Journal of Artificial Intelligence Research (JAIR)
 2022 – 2025 Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS)
 2022 – 2025 International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML)
 2023 – 2025 International Joint Conference on Artificial Intelligence (IJCAI)
 2024 – 2025 International Conference on Automated Planning and Scheduling (ICAPS)
 2025 International Conference on Artificial Intelligence and Statistics (AISTATS)
 2024 *Journal on Autonomous Agents and Multi-Agent Systems (JAAMAS)*
 2024 *Artificial Intelligence Journal (AIJ)*
 2021 *PLOS ONE Journal*

Talks

Invited Talks

- 09/2024 **Towards Scalable Optimization via Multi-Agent Reinforcement Learning**, *Workshop on Quantum Algorithm Design Automation at IEEE QCE*, Montreal, Canada (virtual)
More details at <https://sites.google.com/view/ieee-qada/schedule>
- 06/2024 **Towards Scalable Optimization via Multi-Agent Reinforcement Learning**, *Interactive Visualization and Intelligence Augmentation Lab (IVIA)*, ETH Zürich (virtual), Switzerland
Invited talk at the IVIA-lab headed by Prof. Mennatallah El-Assady.
- 07/2022 **Emergent Cooperation from Mutual Acknowledgment Exchange**, Workshop on Ad Hoc Teamwork at IJCAI 2022 (virtual)
Highlight presentation of our AAMAS 2022 paper “*Emergent Cooperation from Mutual Acknowledgment Exchange*” (main author). More details at <https://sites.google.com/view/ad-hoc-teamwork/waht-2022>
- 06/2021 **Stability in AI-Systems**, Digitale Stadt München e.V., Germany (virtual)
DigiTalk event on Safe Intelligence of the Digital City Association of Munich. More details at <https://digitalestadtmuenden.de/event/safe-intelligence/>
- 12/2020 **“Künstliche Intelligenz: Wie lernen Roboter?”**, Gymnasium Berchtesgaden, Germany (virtual)
P-seminar talk for high school students and the Junior Science Café. I received an invitation because of my successful talk at the Unitag event of LMU Munich in 2019 (see below).
- 03/2019 **Building Autonomous Systems with AI**, University of Augsburg, Germany
AI workshop for students of the Software Engineering Elite Graduate Program in Bavaria.

Presentations at Conferences as the Main Author

- 02/2025 **Anytime Multi-Agent Path Finding with an Adaptive Delay-Based Heuristic**, Philadelphia, PA, USA
AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence (AAAI).
- 02/2024 **Adaptive Anytime Multi-Agent Path Finding Using Bandit-Based Large Neighborhood Search**, Vancouver, Canada
AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence (AAAI).
- 07/2023 **Attention-Based Recurrence for Multi-Agent Reinforcement Learning under Stochastic Partial Observability**, Honolulu, Hawaii, USA
International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML).
- 05/2022 **Emergent Cooperation from Mutual Acknowledgment Exchange**, virtual
International Conference on Autonomous Agents and Multiagent Systems (AAMAS).
- 12/2021 **VAST: Value Function Factorization with Variable Agent Sub-Teams**, virtual
Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS).
- 02/2021 **Resilient Multi-Agent Reinforcement Learning with Adversarial Value Decomposition**, virtual
AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence (AAAI).
- 05/2020 **Learning and Testing Resilience in Cooperative Multi-Agent Systems**, virtual
International Conference on Autonomous Agents and Multiagent Systems (AAMAS).
- 08/2019 **Adaptive Thompson Sampling Stacks for Memory Bounded Open-Loop Planning**, Macao, China
International Joint Conference on Artificial Intelligence (IJCAI).
- 05/2019 **Distributed Policy Iteration for Scalable Approximation of Cooperative Multi-Agent Policies**, Montreal, Canada
International Conference on Autonomous Agents and Multiagent Systems (AAMAS).

- 02/2019 **Memory Bounded Open-Loop Planning in Large POMDPs using Thompson Sampling**, Honolulu, Hawaii, USA
AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence (AAAI).
- 07/2018 **Leveraging Statistical Multi-Agent Online Planning with Emergent Value Function Approximation**, Stockholm, Sweden
International Conference on Autonomous Agents and Multiagent Systems (AAMAS).

Other Talks

- 2019 **Unitag – “Künstliche Intelligenz: Wie lernen Roboter?”**, LMU Munich, Germany
University event for gifted high school students from Upper Bavaria.

Teaching

[University of Bayreuth, Germany](#)

2025 – Present **INF 117: Knowledge-Based Systems (5 ECTS)**

- Bachelor's lecture on symbolic AI methods (search, logic, planning)
- Main instructor

[University of Southern California, USA](#)

1.0 unit corresponds to 1 presence hour per week.

Spring 2024 **CSCI 599: Autonomous Decision-Making (4.0 Units) [Self-Developed]**

- Lecture on reinforcement learning, planning, and multi-agent systems
- Main instructor
- Syllabus and registration count provided at
<https://classes.usc.edu/term-20241/course/csci-599/>

Spring 2024 **CSCI 499: Foundations of Multi-Agent Systems (Guest Lecture)**

- Lecture on multi-agent algorithms and applications given by Prof. Sven Koenig
- Guest lecturer for two sessions on multi-agent reinforcement learning
- Syllabus and registration count provided at
<https://classes.usc.edu/term-20241/course/csci-499/>

2023 – 2024 **Student Mentoring (1.0 – 2.0 Units)**

Topic overview at https://thomyphan.github.io/teaching/directed_research/

- 1 bachelor project with one publication at AAAI 2025 (+ Oral Presentation and AAAI Student Travel Grant)

[LMU Munich, Germany](#)

2019 – 2023 **Autonomous Systems (6 ECTS) [Self-Developed]**

- Practical course for 12 – 18 master students on planning and reinforcement learning
- Main instructor until summer semester 2022
- Syllabus and registration count for summer semester 2022 provided at
<https://uni2work.ifi.lmu.de/course/S22/IfI/ASP>

2019 – 2023 **Working Group “Artificial Intelligence” (No ECTS)**

- Voluntary seminar for more than 100 students on current AI topics
- Main instructor
- Syllabus and registration count for summer semester 2022 provided at
<https://uni2work.ifi.lmu.de/course/S22/IfI/AIAG>

Winter 2022 **Computational Intelligence (Guest Lecture)**

- Lecture on intelligent optimization algorithms given by Dr. Thomas Gabor
- Guest lecturer for one session on multi-agent optimization
- Syllabus and registration count provided at
<https://uni2work.ifi.lmu.de/course/W22/IfI/CoIn>

2018 – 2019 **Mobile and Distributed Systems (6 ECTS)**

- Practical course for 12 – 18 master students on mobile app development and on-device machine learning
- Assisting instructor

2018 – 2023 **Student Mentoring (15 – 30 ECTS)**

Topic overview at https://thomyphan.github.io/teaching/student_theses/

- 1 PhD student with publications at IJCAI 2023 and NCAAA 2024
- 26 master theses with publications at IJCAI 2019, AAMAS 2022 (+ Recognition as an AAMAS Premier Paper and a Highlight Paper at the IJCAI 2022 Workshop on Ad Hoc Teamwork), and JAAMAS 2024
- 24 bachelor theses with one student admitted to the *Max Planck Research School for Intelligent Systems (IMPRS-IS)* program for outstanding PhD students (supported by my recommendation letter)
- 8 individual research projects with one publication at GECCO 2019