

TANSHENG ZHU

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EDUCATION

Tsinghua University <i>Ph.D. Student in Computer Science, Institute for Interdisciplinary Information Sciences</i> Advisor: Prof. Jian Li	Aug. 2025 – Present Beijing, China
Shanghai Jiao Tong University <i>B.S. (Honors) in Mathematics and Applied Mathematics, Minor in Finance, Zhiyuan College</i> Advisor: Prof. Zhenli Xu	Aug. 2021 – June 2025 Shanghai, China
The Chinese University of Hong Kong <i>Exchange Student Junior Research Assistant, Department of Mathematics</i> Advisor: Prof. Fenglei Fan	Jan. 2024 – Sept. 2024 Hong Kong, China

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Scaling Limits of Infinitely Deep Neural Networks Advisor: Prof. Fenglei Fan, The Chinese University of Hong Kong	Jan. 2024 – Aug. 2025
• Established the theoretical framework of neural networks with infinite depth and finite width by weakly dependent random processes.	
• Analyzed the Gaussian process behavior and neural tangent kernels of infinitely deep networks, and leveraged the ergodic theory to interpret the width-depth equivalence of neural networks.	
Density-based Exploration Strategy for Scalable Bayesian Optimization Advisor: Prof. Zhenli Xu, Shanghai Jiao Tong University	Apr. 2024 – June 2025
• Proposed the Bayesian optimization by kernel regression and density-based exploration (BOKE) algorithm, which generalized the count-based exploration to Bayesian optimization, and proved its global convergence	
• Conducted experiments to verify its competitive performance in space-filling design and optimization.	
Monte-Carlo Tree Search in Continuous Action Spaces via Kernel Regression Advisor: Prof. Zhenli Xu, Shanghai Jiao Tong University	Nov. 2022 – Apr. 2024
• Proposed the BOKR-MCTS algorithm to leverage Monte-Carlo tree search into continuous state-action spaces.	
• Conducted experiments to show its computational efficiency and competitive performance in online planning tasks.	

HONORS AND AWARDS

Shanghai Outstanding Graduate (Top 1%)	June 2025
Outstanding Bachelor Thesis Award , Shanghai Jiao Tong University (Top 1%)	June 2025
Zhiyuan Distinguished Scholarship , Shanghai Jiao Tong University (30 winners annually)	June 2025
Zhiyuan Outstanding Leader Scholarship , Shanghai Jiao Tong University (25 winners annually)	Dec. 2022
A-class Academic Excellence Scholarship , Shanghai Jiao Tong University (Top 1%)	Dec. 2022
Winning Prize in S.-T. Yau College Student Mathematics Contest, Appl. & Comp. Mathematics Track	May 2024
Finalist Winner in Mathematical Contest in Modeling (Top 3% of 18000+ teams)	May 2024
1st Prize in Shanghai Region of Chinese Mathematics Competitions	Nov. 2023
1st Prize in Huashu Cup National Mathematical Contest in Modeling (solo winner)	Aug. 2023
1st Prize in Chinese High School Mathematics League	Oct. 2020

PUBLICATIONS

- [1] S. Wang*, Y. Dong*, R. Chang*, **T. Zhu***, Y. Sun, K. Lyu, and J. Li, *When bias pretends to be truth: How spurious correlations undermine hallucination detection in LLMs*, 2025. arXiv: 2511.07318 [cs.CL], Under Review.
- [2] **T. Zhu**, H. Zhou, K. Jin, X. Xu, Q. Yuan, and L. Ji, *Bayesian optimization by kernel regression and density-based exploration*, 2025. arXiv: 2502.06178 [math.OC], Under Review.
- [3] K. Jin, **T. Zhu**, H. Zhou, X. Xu, Q. Yuan, and L. Ji, “Bayesian-optimized progressive widening via kernel regression for Monte Carlo tree search in continuous action spaces,” *IFAC-PapersOnLine*, vol. 59, no. 20, pp. 1291–1296, 2025, 23rd IFAC Symposium on Automatic Control in Aerospace (ACA 2025).

COURSE PROJECTS

Dendritic Computing with Bilinear Rules and Artificial Neural Networks <i>Topic Course III</i> (95/100), lectured by Prof. Douglas Zhou	Fall 2023
• Constructed bilinear rules of dendrite integration from theory to practice. Implemented artificial neural network models hLN and DBNN to fit real neuron data, and discussed the limitation of ANN’s parametric space.	
Solving Differential Equations with Deep Learning <i>Foundations of Data Science</i> (97/100), lectured by Prof. Xiaoqun Zhang and Prof. Zhi-Qin John Xu	Fall 2023
• Implemented the framework of physics-informed neural network (PINN) for both direct and inverse problems. Analyzed the components of prediction error and improved them by incorporating more physics information.	
Modeling and Optimization of Biological Transport Networks <i>Topic Course II</i> (99/100), lectured by Prof. Dan Hu	Spring 2023
• Analyzed the dynamics of the biological transport network. Implemented different optimization algorithms, and explained the entangled-network phenomenon of results based on the spectrum of the graph Laplacian matrix.	
Computational Mean-field Optimal Control <i>Numerical Methods for ODEs and PDEs</i> (96/100), lectured by Prof. Lei Li	Spring 2023
• Studied a class of reaction-diffusion equation mean-field information dynamics. Implemented the primal-dual hybrid gradient algorithm to solve the concerned saddle point problem.	

SKILLS

Programming Languages: Python, Matlab, C/C++	
Toolkits: NumPy, SciPy, Sklearn, Skopt, CVXPY, COPT, Pandas, Statsmodels, PyTorch, Numba	
Leadership: Leadership Team Member, <i>Mathematical Modelling Association of SJTU</i> Class President, <i>Zhiyuan College, Shanghai Jiao Tong University</i>	2022 – 2024 2021 – 2023

REFERENCES

- Jian Li**, lijian83@mail.tsinghua.edu.cn
Professor, Tsinghua University, Beijing, China.
- Zhenli Xu**, xuzl@sjtu.edu.cn
Professor, Shanghai Jiao Tong University, Shanghai, China.
- Fenglei Fan**, fenglfan@cityu.edu.hk
Assistant Professor, City University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong, China.