Violet (Xinying) Chen

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Carnegie Mellon University

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EDUCATION Carnegie Mellon University

Pittsburgh, PA

Ph.D. in Operations Research

(Expected) May 2022

Dissertation: Fairness Methods in Optimization and Artificial Intelligence

Committee: Hoda Heidari, John Hooker (chair), Fatma Kılınç-Karzan, Alec Morton M.S. in Operations Research May 2019

Georgia Institute of Technology

Georgia, GA

B.S. in Applied Mathematics
B.S. in Business Administration

May 2017 May 2017

RESEARCH

Fairness and Ethics of Artificial Intelligence, Data-driven Optimization, Preference

INTERESTS Learning

PUBLICATIONS

Published Papers

Combining Leximax Fairness and Efficiency in a Mathematical Programming Model, V. Chen, J.N. Hooker. European Journal of Operational Research. 2021. A Just Approach Balancing Rawlsian Leximax Fairness and Utilitarianism, V. Chen, J.N. Hooker. AAAI/ACM Conference on AI, Ethics, and Society. 2020.

Papers under Review

A Guide to Formulating Equity and Fairness in an Optimization Model, V. Chen, J.N. Hooker. *Submitted to Annals of Operations Research. August 2021.*

Preprints in Preparation

Online Convex Optimization Perspective for Learning from Dynamically Revealed Preferences, V. Chen, F.Kılınç-Karzan. ArXiv: 2008.10460. *Target submission: October 2021*.

Welfare-based Fairness through Optimization, V. Chen, J.N. Hooker. ArXiv: 2102.00311. *Target submission: December 2021.*

Working Papers

Block Coordinate Descent Methods for Training Fair SVMs, V. Chen. **Eliciting Dynamic Moral Preferences**, V. Chen, H. Heidari, D. Leben, J. Williams.

HONORS AND Egon Balas Award for Best Student Paper in Operations Research March 2019

AWARDS William Larimer Mellon Fellowship August 2017–May 2022

PRESENTATIONS Fairness through Optimization in Artificial Intelligence Applications

INFORMS Annual Meeting, Anaheim, CA (Scheduled) October 2021

Formulate, Achieve and Understand Welfare-based Fairness

CMU Fairness, Accountability, Transparency and Ethics July 2021 Summer Series, Virtual

Online Convex Optimization Perspective for Learning from Dynamically Revealed Preferences

INFORMS Annual Meeting, Virtual November 2020

Combining Leximax Fairness and Efficiency in a Mathematical Programming Model

Poster, AAAI/ACM Conference on AI, Ethics, February 2020 and Society, New York, NY
INFORMS Annual Meeting, Seattle, WA October 2019

TEACHING Instructor, Carnegie Mellon University

EXPERIENCE **Operations Management**, 70-371

Hybrid, Spring 2020

Undergraduate core course. Key topics: process analysis, queuing theory, inventory model, supply chain, operations strategy.

Designed course materials; taught bi-weekly lectures; prepared homework and exams; transitioned course into virtual format with live lectures.

Teaching quality evaluation: 4.19/5.

21 out of 24 enrolled students responded.

Teaching Assistant, Carnegie Mellon University

Optimization, 45-751 Virtual, Spring 2021 (as Head TA); Fall 2019 *MBA core course.* Key topics: linear programming, network models, integer programming, nonlinear programming.

Guided and coordinated TA grading and office hour; prepared and graded homework and exams.

Probability and Statistics, 45-750/46-880 Virtual, Fall 2020; Hybrid, Fall 2019 *MBA/MSBA core course*. Key topics: random variables, normal distribution, hypothesis testing, regression, inference.

Prepared homework solutions; designed bi-weekly online quizzes; led office hours. **Business Networks**, 45-951 Virtual, Fall 2020

MBA elective. Key topics: social networks, auctions in networks, information networks, information cascade.

Verified homework and guizzes; led office hours.

Linear Programming, 47-834

Fall 2019, Fall 2018

PhD core course. Key topics: linear optimization modeling, theory and algorithms. Graded homework and exams; gave substitute lecture on column generation; led office hours.

Convex Optimization, 47-851

Spring 2019

PhD core course. Key topics: duality, structured conic optimization, algorithms for large-scale convex optimization.

Graded homework; led office hours.

Optimization for Business, 70-257

Spring 2019

Undergraduate core course. Key topics: linear programming, network models, dynamic programming, integer programming.

Taught weekly recitations; prepared and graded homework and exams.

ACTIVITIES

Mechanism Design for Social Good (MD4SG) working group Fall 2021–Present

on Discrimination and Equality in Algorithmic Decision-making
CMU Fairness, Ethics, Accountability.
Fall 2019–Present

CMU Fairness, Ethics, Accountability, and Transparency Reading Group, Hybrid

ACM FAccT 2021 Doctoral Consortium, Virtual

March 2021

SERVICES Ad-Hoc Journal and Conference Review

INFORMS Journal on Computing, NeurIPS 2021, ICML 2021, CP 2021

Conference and Panel Organizing

YinzOR 2021 Student Conference, Virtual

August 2021

Organization committee, job market panel moderator

CMU Women in Academia Panel, Virtual

December 2020

Organization committee chair

YinzOR 2019 Student Conference, Pittsburgh, PA

August 2019

Conference co-chair

Professional Organization

INFORMS Education Strategy Committee

October 2019–Present

CMU INFORMS Chapter

President

June 2020–June 2021

Board member

June 2020–Present

SKILLS **Programming**: Gurobi, Mosek, Python, C++, MATLAB

Languages: English (native), Chinese (native), Japanese (proficient)

REFERENCES John Hooker, Ph.D.

T.Jerome Holleran Professor of Business Ethics and Social Responsibility

Professor of Operations Research

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Fatma Kılınç-Karzan, Ph.D.

Associate Professor of Operations Research

Tepper School of Business, Carnegie Mellon University

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Hoda Heidari, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor, Machine Learning Department and the Institute for Software Research

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