Yan Leng

Employment_

2020-present Assistant Professor in the Department of Information, Risk and Operations Management at the McCombs School of Business at The University of Texas at Austin

- Core member in the Machine Learning Laboratory at The University of Texas at Austin
- Research affiliate at the Misinformation & AI at The University of Texas at Austin
- Research affiliate at the MIT Media Lab

Education _

Ph.D. Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), Cambridge, MA, USA

2017-2020 **Human Dynamics Group** at MIT Media Lab

Master of Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), Cambridge, MA, USA

Science Computer Science at Electrical Engineering and Computer Science Department

Master of Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), Cambridge, MA, USA

Science Transportation Engineering at Civil and Environmental Engineering Department

Bachelor of Beijing (Northern) Jiaotong University, Beijing, China

Engineering Transportation Engineering at the Traffic and Transportation Department

Computational Mathematics at the School of Science

ournals_

- [1] Yan Leng*, Dominiquo Santistevan*, and Alex Pentland. Understanding Collective Regularity in Human Mobility as a Familiar Stranger Phenomenon. Scientific Reports (2021). *Equal contribu-
- [2] Yan Leng, Yujia Zhai, Shaojing Sun, Yifei Wu, Jordan Selzer, Sharon Strover, Anfan Chen, Hezhao Zhang, and Ying Ding Analysis of Misinformation During the COVID-19 Outbreak in China: Cultural, Social and Political Entanglements. *IEEE Transactions on Big Data* (2021).
- [3] Yan Leng, Haris Koutsopolous, and Jinhua Zhao. Leveraging Individual and Collective Regularity to Profile and Segment User Locations from Mobile Phone Data. ACM Transactions on Management Information Systems (TMIS) (2021).
- [4] Dhaval Adjodah, Yan Leng, Shi Kai Chong, P. M. Krafft, Esteban Moro, and Alex Pentland. Accuracy-Risk Trade-Off Due to Social Learning in Crowd-Sourced Financial Predictions. Entropy (2021).
- [5] Yan Leng, Yehonatan Yella, Rodrigo Ruiz, and Alex Pentland. Contextual Centrality: Going Beyond Network Structure. Scientific Reports (2020).
- [6] Xiaobing Liu, Xuedong Yan, Feng Liu, Rui Wang, and Yan Leng. A Trip-specific Model for Fuel Saving Estimation and Subsidy Policy Making of Carpooling Based on Empirical Data. Applied Energy (2019).
- [7] Shaokuan Chen, Yan Leng, Baohua Mao, and Shuang Liu. Integrated Weight-based Multi-criteria Evaluation on Transfer in Large Transport Terminals: A Case Study of the Beijing South Railway Station. Transportation Research Part A: Policy and Practice (2014).

Conference. proceedings

- [1] Emanuele Rossi, Federico Monti, Yan Leng, Michael Bronstein and Xiaowen Dong. Learning to infer structures of network games. International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML), 2022.
- [2] Yan Leng, Xiaowen Dong, and Alex Pentland. Learning Quadratic Games on Networks. International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML), 2020.

Book chapters

- [1] Bakker, Michiel A., Daoud A. Piracha, Patricia J. Lu, Keis Bejgo, Mohsen Bahrami, Yan Leng, Jose Balsa-Barreiro et al. Measuring Fine-grained Multidimensional Integration Using Mobile Phone Metadata: the Case of Syrian Refugees in Turkey. *Guide to Mobile Data Analytics in Refugee Scenarios*, pp. 123-140. Springer, Cham, 2019.
- [2] **Yan Leng**, Xiaowen Dong, Esteban Moro, and Alex Pentland. The Rippling Effect of Social Influence via Phone Communication Network." In *Complex Spreading Phenomena in Social Systems*, pp. 323-333. Springer, Cham, 2018.

Under review _____

- [1] Junyu Cao* and **Yan Leng***. Adaptive Acquisition Tree for Recommendations with Optimality Guarantees on Short-form Video Platforms. Major revision at *Management Science*. * Equal contribution.
- [2] Yan Leng, Xiaowen Dong, Esteban Moro, and Alex Pentland. Long Range Social Influence in Phone Communication Network. Major revision at *Information Systems Research*.
- [3] **Yan Leng** and Drew Dimmery. Calibration of Heterogeneous Treatment Effects in Random Experiments. Major revision at *Information Systems Research*.
- [4] Yan Leng, Tara Sowriraja and Alex Pentland. Measuring Social Influence Within and Across Multi-dimensional Homophilous Communities. Major revision at *IEEE Transactions on Knowledge and Data Engineering*.
- [5] **Yan Leng**, Rodrigo Ruiz, Xiao Liu. Geometric deep learning based recommender system and an interpretable decision support system. Reject & resubmit at *Marketing Science*.
- [6] Junyu Cao* and **Yan Leng***. Adaptive Data Acquisition for Personalized Recommender Systems with Optimality Guarantees on Short-Form Video Platforms. Reject & resubmit at *Management Science*. * Equal contribution.

Awards and _

honors

- Feb 2022 National Science Foundation (NSF) CRII Award.
- Dec 2021 Marketing Science Institute Grant Award.
- June 2021 Second prize in Informs Revenue Management and Pricing Data-driven Challenge (2021).
- May 2021 McCombs BBA Faculty Honor Roll (Teaching Award).
- March 2021 UT-Austin McCombs Research Excellence Grant.
 - Sep 2018 Russel Sage Foundation Grant Award.
 - Nov 2016 MIT IDEAS Global Challenge.
 - Nov 2016 MIT Sandbox Innovation Fund.
 - Aug 2016 Harvard Sustainability Grant.

Teaching __

Fall 2020 MIS304 Introduction to problem solving and programming (average rating 4.75/5). Won IROM faculty honor roll teaching award.

Invited talks _____

- 2022 **Learning to infer structures of network games** at Deep Exploration of non-Euclidean Data with Geometric and Topological Representation Learning by Banff International Research Station.
- Interpretable recommender system With heterogeneous information: a geometric deep learning perspective at ICLR Geometrical and Topological Representation Learning workshop, University of Pittsburgh.

- 2019, 2020, 2021 Learning strategic interaction from individual actions: A game-theoretic approach at the Northwestern Institute on Complex Systems at Northwestern University, Machine Learning in Finance Workshop by Columbia University, Alan Turing Institute, University of Washington Data Science Seminar, Carnegie Mellon University.
 - 2020 Analysis of misinformation during the COVID-19 outbreak in China: cultural, social and political entanglements at the IDeaS Center at Carnegie Mellon University, UT Austin Disinformation *Group at the Good Systems.*
 - 2019, 2020 Collective behaviors on networks at C2Smart Center at New York University, and Summer Institute in Computational Social Science at Oxford.
 - 2019 Observational causal inference with network information at Graph Exploitation Symposium by MIT Lincoln Lab.
 - 2018 **Social Bayesian decision-making** on the 52nd Conference on Information Sciences and Systems (CISS)

Services _

Organized events Local chair for WITS (2021), Summer Institute of Computational Social Science (Beijing, 2021), Computational Social Science for Impact (CSS4Impact) (2020), Summer Institute of Computational Social Science (Boston, 2019).

Referee for Management Science, Information Systems Research, MIS Quarterly, ACM Transactions on Manmanagement venues agement Information Systems, ICIS, CIST, HICSS.

Referee for CS venues NeurIPS, ICML, ICLR, IEEE Transactions on Big Data.

Program committee KDD Conference Workshop on Data-driven Humanitarian Mapping (2020,2021), INFORMS Workshop on Data Science (2020, 2021).