Yu-Chia Chen

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EDUCATION University of Washington, Seattle, WA

Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering, 3.92/4.00

Sep 2016 - present

National Taiwan University, Taipei, Taiwan

B.S. in Physics, 3.72/4.20

Sep 2011 - Jun 2015

KNOWLEDGE & SKILLS

Research areas

· Manifold learning, Unsupervised learning, Geometric data analysis

Technical skills

• Python, MATLAB, JavaScript, C++, PHP, Shell scripts, SQL, Latex

WORK EXPERIENCE

Microsoft Research, Redmond, WA

Research Intern

Jun 2018 – Sep 2018

- Proposed an novel approach to model large scale dynamic networks based on stochastic block model [C.1].
- Extended the model to study causal impact on networks.

University of Washington, Seattle, WA

Teaching assistant

Jan 2017 – Dec 2017

Course taught: Fundamentals of Electrical Engineering, Discrete Time Linear Systems, Devices And Circuits I,
Digital Signal Processing (graduate level course)

Psychological Warfare Group of M.N.D., Taipei, Taiwan

Front-end Developer.

Aug 2015 - Jul 2016

- Developed a cloud-based file exchanging platform, which enable user to search, view and share streaming media.
- Technology used: JavaScript (react.js), HMTL/CSS.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Geometric Data Analysis Group, University of Washington

Apr 2017 – present

Advisor: professor Marina Meilă.

- Studying large scale manifold learning algorithms and geometric data analysis.
- With applications to experimental data of molecular dynamics and materials science.

Research Projects

Selecting the independent coordinates of manifolds with large aspect ratios.

- Criterion based subset selection algorithm for finding independent coordinates that produce smooth embedding [P.1].
- Low computational overhead in combinatorial search space.

Randomized graph Laplacian construction algorithm for large scale manifold learning.

- · Random projection based partitioning scheme in efficiently constructing approximate neighbor graph.
- Generate well conditioned graph Laplacian which lends itself to fast and simple eigen-solvers.

Leveraging semi-supervised learning with intrinsic geometric information.

- Embed geometric information (graph laplacian) in the kernel of Gaussian process
- Predict the energy and potential reaction coordinates of molecules dynamics data.

Kernel bandwidth estimation by minimizing manifold deformation.

- Minimize the distortion as a function of kernel bandwidth of the manifold constructed by local tangent spaces.
- Find optimal kernel bandwidth for constructing high quality graph laplacian.

Photonics Lab, University of Washington

Sep 2016 – Dec 2016

Advisor: professor Lih Lin.

- · Investigated high accuracy mass sensing using Nanostructure-enhanced laser tweezers integrated MEMS
- Worked on the stem cell trapping and patterning assisted by laser tweezers [C.2].

Semiconductor Laboratory, National Taiwan University

Feb 2014 - Jun 2015

Advisor: professor Yang-Fang Chen.

- Investigated bio-photonics devices with wide spectrum range [J.1].
- Studied Perovskite and CdTe core shell quantum dots assisted random laser in bio-inspired materials [J.2].

PUBLICATIONS Conference papers

- [C.1] Yu-Chia Chen, Avleen Bijral, and Juan Lavista Ferres. On Dynamic Network Models and Application to Causal Impact. In Proceedings of the 25TH ACM SIGKDD Conference on Knowledge Discovery & Data Mining. ACM, 2019. (To appear)
- [C.2] Peifeng Jing, Kosuke Winston, Yu-Chia Chen, Benjamin S Freedman, and Lih Y Lin. Patterning and colonizing stem cells with optical trapping. In *Optical Trapping Applications*, pages OtM4E–2. Optical Society of America, 2017

Journal papers

- [J.1] Yu-Chia Chen, Cih-Su Wang, Tsung-Yuan Chang, Tai-Yuan Lin, Hsiu-Mei Lin, and Yang-Fang Chen. Ultraviolet and visible random lasers assisted by diatom frustules. *Optics express*, 23(12):16224–16231, 2015
- [J.2] Cih-Su Wang, Chi-Shung Liau, Tzu-Ming Sun, Yu-Chia Chen, Tai-Yuan Lin, and Yang-Fang Chen. Biologically inspired band-edge laser action from semiconductor with dipole-forbidden band-gap transition. *Scientific reports*, 5:8965, 2015

Preprints & workshop papers

- [P.1] Yu-Chia Chen and Marina Meilă. Selecting the independent coordinates of manifolds with large aspect ratios. *arXiv preprint arXiv:1907.01651*, 2019
- [P.2] Yu-Chia Chen, Dominique Perrault-Joncas, Marina Meilă, and James McQueen. Improved Graph Laplacian via Geometric Self-Consistency. NIPS Workshop on NIPS Highlights (MLTrain), Learn How to code a paper with state of the art frameworks, Long Beach, CA, December 2017.

HONORS & AWARDS

Taipower Academic Scholarship

May 2012 & May 2013

Second prizes in the Physics Scholastic Ability Contest, Kaohsiung, Taiwan

Dec 2010

LANGUAGES Mandarin: Native.

English: Fluent.

REFERENCES Marina Meilă

Department of Statistics, University of Washington mmp2@uw.edu

Avleen Bijral

Microsoft Corporation avbijral@microsoft.com

Les Atlas

Department of Electrical & Computer Engineering, University of Washington atlas@u.washington.edu

Yang-Fang Chen

Department of Physics, National Taiwan University, yfchen@phys.ntu.edu.tw