

Tao Yu

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Education

PhD Student in Computer Science Northeastern University Advisor: Mahsa Derakhshan	Aug 2024 – June 2028 (expected)
M.S. in Data Science Columbia University	Aug 2022 – Dec 2023
B.S. in Mathematics, Honors Program University of California, Los Angeles	Aug 2018 – June 2022

Publications

A Unified Framework for Analysis of Randomized Greedy Matching Algorithms M. Derakhshan, T. Yu ACM Symposium on Theory of Computing	STOC 2026
Improved Approximation For Ranking on General Graphs M. Derakhshan, M. Roghani, M. Saneian, T. Yu ACM-SIAM Symposium on Discrete Algorithms	SODA 2026
A Simple Analysis of Ranking in General Graphs M. Derakhshan, M. Roghani, M. Saneian, T. Yu SIAM Symposium on Simplicity in Algorithms	SOSA 2026

Research Experience

Northeastern University Research Assistant	2024 – Present
• Led analysis of improved approximation guarantees for randomized greedy matching algorithms (RANKING, FRANKING). • Conducted experimental validation and implemented evaluation pipelines using Gurobi.	

Columbia University
Independent Algorithmic Project

- Explored parallel algorithms for Euclidean spanner construction and flow rounding in transshipment problems.

Selected Technical Projects

Adaptive Bitrate Streaming Proxy , Columbia	2023
• Built ABR server proxy in Python to parse and modify HTTP requests and optimize video quality under measured network throughput.	

Dynamic Memory Allocator, UCLA

- Developed memory allocation algorithms (explicit/implicit free lists, segmented/non-segmented) and optimized structures to balance fragmentation and efficiency; top 10% performance in class.

Technical Skills

- Languages: Python, C++
- Tools & Frameworks: Gurobi, LaTeX

Academic Service

- Reviewer: SOSA 2026, FOCS 2025
- Teaching Assistant:
 - Algorithms, Fall 2025, Northeastern University
 - Algorithms for Data Science, Fall 2023, Columbia University