

YULAI ZHAO

[Homepage](#) [Google Scholar](#) [DBLP](#) [ORCID](#) [Semantic Scholar](#) [ResearchGate](#) [GitHub](#) [LinkedIn](#)
yulaiz@princeton.edu

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Machine Learning, Reinforcement Learning, general LLMs

EDUCATION

Princeton University, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering 2022 - Present

- Ph.D. in Machine Learning
- Advisor: S. Y. Kung

Tsinghua University, Department of Electronic Engineering 2018 - 2022

- B.Eng. in Electronic Information Science and Technology
- Advisors: Simon S. Du, Hongwei Chen

RESEARCH INTERNSHIPS

Megvii (Face++) Research, Beijing 2019 - 2020

- Worked as a core contributor in developing the *MMDetection3D* framework.
- Mentor: Kwan-Yee Lin

PUBLICATIONS

* denotes equal contribution or alphabetical ordering.

1. **Local Optimization Achieves Global Optimality in Multi-Agent Reinforcement Learning**

Yulai Zhao, Zhuoran Yang, Zhaoran Wang, Jason D. Lee
In International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML) 2023

2. **Blessing of Class Diversity in Pre-training**

Yulai Zhao, Jianshu Chen, Simon S. Du
In International Conference on Artificial Intelligence and Statistics (AISTATS) 2023
(Oral presentation & notable paper, 2% acceptance rate)

3. **Optimizing the Performative Risk under Weak Convexity Assumptions**

Yulai Zhao
In NeurIPS 2022 Workshop on Optimization for Machine Learning

4. **Provably Efficient Policy Gradient Methods for Two-Player Zero-Sum Markov Games**

Yulai Zhao, Yuandong Tian, Jason D. Lee, Simon S. Du
In International Conference on Artificial Intelligence and Statistics (AISTATS) 2022

AWARDS/HONORS

International Conference on Artificial Intelligence and Statistics (AISTATS) Notable Paper 2023

Scholarship of Academic Excellence 2020

Awarded to Tsinghua students ranking top 5 %.

Scholarship of Academic Excellence 2019

Awarded to Tsinghua students ranking top 5 %.

Toyota Scholarship 2019

Awarded to the department's top 3 out of 260+ students.

Top 10 in the *Infinity of Math* Competition 2018

Awarded to students outperforming 150+ participants in the school-wide calculus contest.

PROGRAMMING AND COMPUTING SKILLS

- Proficient: Python (NumPy, PyTorch, pandas)
- Intermediate: MATLAB, C/C++, Kdb+