

# Charikleia (Chara) Podimata

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<https://www.charapodimata.com>

<b>RESEARCH INTERESTS</b>	Learning in the presence of strategic agents, decision making under uncertainty, online learning, mechanism design, topics at the interface of CS, Economics & ML	
<b>EDUCATION</b>	<b>Harvard University</b> , Cambridge, MA	Aug. 2016 - present
	Ph.D Computer Science <i>Advisor</i> : Yiling Chen	
	<b>National Technical University of Athens</b> , Greece	Sept. 2010 - Jan. 2016
	Diploma Electrical Engineering and Computer Science (5-year joint degree) <i>GPA</i> : 9.47/10 <i>Thesis</i> : “Approximations of Liquid Welfare for Combinatorial Auctions” <i>Advisor</i> : Dimitris Fotakis	
<b>RESEARCH EXPERIENCE</b>	<b>Research Intern</b> , Google Research NYC	May - August, 2021
	<i>Mentor</i> : Renato Paes Leme	
	<b>Research Intern</b> , Microsoft Research NYC	February - May, 2020
	<i>Mentor</i> : Aleksandrs Slivkins	
	<b>Research Intern</b> , Microsoft Research NYC	May - August, 2019
	<i>Mentor</i> : Jennifer Wortman Vaughan	
	<b>Research Assistant</b> , the EconCS group, Harvard University	June 2017 - present
<b>SELECTED HONORS &amp; AWARDS</b>	<b>MSR Dissertation Grant</b>	2021-2022
	Selected as part of the Rising Stars in EECS in Berkeley	2020
	Poster Honorary Mention 14th Annual ML Symposium (NYAS)	2020
	Finalist for 2020 Facebook PhD Fellowship (top 4%)	2020
	Spotlight 2nd Place Prize, 13th Annual ML Symposium (NYAS)	2019
	Finalist of the 2019 Microsoft Research PhD Fellowship	2019
	Certificate of Distinction in Teaching, Harvard University	2017, 2018
<b>TUTORIALS</b>	<b>Algorithms for Incentive-Aware Learning</b>	
	Full-day course in the University of Zurich summer school ( <b>invited</b> )	June 2021
	<b>How to Achieve Both Transparency and Accuracy in Predictive Decision Making: an Introduction to Strategic Prediction</b> , FAccT2021	March 2021
	Co-taught with Benjamin Edelman and Yonadav Shavit <a href="https://www.benjaminedelman.com/tutorial.html">[https://www.benjaminedelman.com/tutorial.html]</a>	
	<b>Incentive-Compatible and Incentive-Aware Learning</b> , EC20	June 2020
	Co-taught with Nika Haghtalab <a href="https://www.charapodimata.com/EC20-tutorial.html">[https://www.charapodimata.com/EC20-tutorial.html]</a>	
<b>PUBLICATIONS (Alphabetical Author Order)</b>	<b>Adaptive Discretization for Adversarial Lipschitz Bandits</b> Chara Podimata and Aleksandrs Slivkins <i>In the Proc. of the 34th Annual Conference on Learning Theory</i> (COLT2021) <a href="https://arxiv.org/pdf/2006.12367.pdf">[https://arxiv.org/pdf/2006.12367.pdf]</a>	

### **Contextual Search in the Presence of Irrational Agents**

Akshay Krishnamurthy, Thodoris Lykouris, Chara Podimata, and Robert Schapire  
*In the Proc. of the 53rd ACM Symposium on Theory of Computing (STOC2021)*  
*Major Revision at Operations Research*  
[\[https://arxiv.org/pdf/2002.11650.pdf\]](https://arxiv.org/pdf/2002.11650.pdf)

### **Learning Strategy-Aware Linear Classifiers**

Yiling Chen, Yang Liu, and Chara Podimata  
*In Proc. of the 34th Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS2020)*  
[\[https://arxiv.org/pdf/1911.04004.pdf\]](https://arxiv.org/pdf/1911.04004.pdf)

### **No-Regret and Incentive-Compatible Online Learning**

Rupert Freeman, David Pennock, Chara Podimata, and Jennifer Wortman Vaughan  
*In Proc. of the 37th International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML2020)*  
**Poster Presentation Honorary Mention 14th Annual ML Symposium (NYAS).**  
[\[https://arxiv.org/pdf/2002.08837.pdf\]](https://arxiv.org/pdf/2002.08837.pdf)

### **Strategyproof Linear Regression in High Dimensions: An Overview**

Yiling Chen, Chara Podimata, Ariel D. Procaccia, and Nisarg Shah  
*ACM SIGEcom Exchanges (Research Letter). Invited*  
[\[https://www.sigecom.org/exchanges/volume\\_17/1/CHEN.pdf\]](https://www.sigecom.org/exchanges/volume_17/1/CHEN.pdf)

### **A Bridge between Liquid and Social Welfare in Combinatorial Auctions with Submodular Bidders**

Dimitris Fotakis, Kyriakos Lotidis, and Chara Podimata  
*In Proc. of the 33rd AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence (AAAI-19)*  
[\[https://arxiv.org/pdf/1809.01803v1.pdf\]](https://arxiv.org/pdf/1809.01803v1.pdf)

### **Learning to Bid Without Knowing your Value**

Zhe Feng, Chara Podimata, and Vasilis Syrgkanis  
*In Proc. of the 19th ACM Conference on Economics and Computation (EC '18)*  
**Spotlight award 2nd place prize at the 13th Annual ML Symposium (NYAS).**  
[\[https://arxiv.org/abs/1711.01333\]](https://arxiv.org/abs/1711.01333)

### **Strategyproof Linear Regression in High Dimensions**

Yiling Chen, Chara Podimata, Ariel D. Procaccia, and Nisarg Shah  
*In Proc. of the 19th ACM Conference on Economics and Computation (EC '18)*  
**Among the 5 shortlisted papers for the Best Paper Award**  
[\[https://arxiv.org/pdf/1805.10693.pdf\]](https://arxiv.org/pdf/1805.10693.pdf)

## **Working Papers**

### **Information Discrepancy in Strategic Learning**

Yahav Bechavod, Chara Podimata, Zhiwei Steven Wu, and Juba Ziani  
[\[https://arxiv.org/pdf/2103.01028.pdf\]](https://arxiv.org/pdf/2103.01028.pdf)

## **TALKS**

**Adaptive Discretization for Adversarial Lipschitz Bandits**  
COLT2021

August 2021

**Contextual Search in the Presence of Irrational Agents**  
2021 INFORMS Annual Meeting, Anaheim, CA  
STOC2021

October 2021  
July 2021

**No-Regret and Incentive-Compatible Online Learning**

ICML2020 July 2020

**Learning Strategy-Aware Linear Classifiers**

NeurIPS2020 December 2020  
2020 INFORMS Annual Meeting, Online. **(Invited)** November 2020  
Northeastern University Theory Seminar. **(Invited)** November 2019  
Workshop on Algorithms for Learning and Economics July 2019

**A Bridge between Liquid and Social Welfare in Combinatorial Auctions with Submodular Bidders**

AAAI2019 February 2019

**Learning to Bid Without Knowing your Value**

13th Annual Machine Learning Symposium (NYAS). **Spotlight Talk** March 2019  
2018 INFORMS Annual Meeting, Phoenix, Arizona. **Invited** November 2018  
Google NYC, Algorithms Seminar. **Invited** July 2018  
Yahoo! Research NYC, Algorithms Seminar. **Invited** June 2018

**Strategyproof Linear Regression in High Dimensions**

EC2018 June 2018

**PROFESSIONAL SERVICE** **PC Member:** ALT 2022, WINE 2021, ICML2021 (Expert Reviewer), NeurIPS 2020-2021, COLT 2020-2021, IJCAI 2020, Emerging Track on AI for Social Impact (AAAI-20, AAAI-21)

**Journal Refereeing:** Journal of Machine Learning Research (JMLR), Management Science (MS), Theoretical Computer Science (TCS), Theory of Computing Systems (ToCS)

**Conference Sub-Refereeing:** ICALP 2021, STOC 2021, ALT 2021, ITCS 2021, SODA 2021, WINE 2020, FOCS 2020, EC 2020, NeurIPS 2019, ICML 2019, SODA 2019, WINE 2018-2019, SOSA 2019

**Organizer of the EconCS Seminar,** Harvard University Fall '17 - Spring '18

**PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE** **Business Intern, Google, Greece** Feb. 2016 - Aug. 2016  
*Host:* Ilias Sousis

*Projects:* Campaign optimization, account management, creation of tools for extracting data for the greek online advertising market.

**TEACHING** **Teaching Fellow, Harvard University** Fall 2017, Fall 2018, Fall 2020

*Course:* Introduction to Optimization (AM121)

*Instructor (2017, 2018):* Yiling Chen

*Instructor (2020):* Yiling Chen & Margo Levine

**Teaching Assistant, NTUA, Greece** Fall 2015

*Courses:* Introduction to programming (PaZcal), Algorithms and Complexity

*Instructor:* Dimitris Fotakis

**COMMUNITY SERVICE** **Google Serve, Athens, Greece, Volunteer** June 2016

*Project:* Building a playground for refugee kids in the refugee camp (Elaionas, Greece)

**Organizing 1st Girls Day event at Google, Greece** Mar. 2016

As part of my participation at Women@Google

**Instructor at Code it Like a Girl, Athens, Greece** May 2015 - Sep. 2016

Code it Like a Girl is a volunteering start-up teaching coding to women of all ages.

**Free tutoring for children of impoverished families, Athens, Greece 2012-2014**