

# Charikleia (Chara) Podimata

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<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 in Computer Science	
	<i>Dissertation</i> : “Incentive-Aware Machine Learning”	
	<i>Advisor</i> : Yiling Chen	
	<b>National Technical University of Athens</b> , Greece	Sept. 2010 - Jan. 2016
	Diploma in 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>EMPLOYMENT</b>	<b>Assistant Professor</b> , MIT Sloan School of Management	starting Sep. 2023
	Group: Operations Research and Statistics	
	<b>Postdoctoral Researcher</b> , UC Berkeley, CA	Aug. 2022 - Jul. 2023
	“Foundations of Data Science Institute” Fellowship	
	<b>Research Intern</b> , Google Research NYC	May - Aug., 2021
	<i>Mentor</i> : Renato Paes Leme	
	<b>Research Intern</b> , Microsoft Research NYC	Feb. - May, 2020
	<i>Mentor</i> : Aleksandrs Slivkins	
	<b>Research Intern</b> , Microsoft Research NYC	May - Aug., 2019
	<i>Mentor</i> : Jennifer Wortman Vaughan	
	<b>Research Assistant</b> , the EconCS group, Harvard University	Jun. 2017 - present
<b>SELECTED HONORS &amp; AWARDS</b>	<b>Siebel Scholarship</b>	2021-2022
	<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>Incentivizing Effort via Strategic Classification</b>	
	TheoryFest workshop at STOC22 ( <b>invited</b> )	Jun. 2022
	<b>Algorithms for Incentive-Aware Learning</b>	
	Full-day course in the University of Zurich summer school ( <b>invited</b> )	Jun. 2021
	<b>How to Achieve Both Transparency and Accuracy in Predictive Decision Making: an Introduction to Strategic Prediction</b> , FAccT21	Mar. 2021

Co-taught with Benjamin Edelman and Yonadav Shavit  
[\[https://www.benjaminedelman.com/tutorial.html\]](https://www.benjaminedelman.com/tutorial.html)

**Incentive-Compatible and Incentive-Aware Learning**, EC20 Jun. 2020  
Co-taught with Nika Haghtalab  
[\[https://www.charapodimata.com/EC20-tutorial.html\]](https://www.charapodimata.com/EC20-tutorial.html)

**PUBLICATIONS** **Corruption-Robust Contextual Search through Density Updates**  
(Alphabetical Renato Paes Leme, Chara Podimata, and Jon Schneider  
Author Order) *In Proc. of the 35th Annual Conference on Learning Theory* (COLT22)

**Information Discrepancy in Strategic Learning**  
Yahav Bechavod, Chara Podimata, Zhiwei Steven Wu, and Juba Ziani  
*In Proc. of the 39th International Conference on Machine Learning* (ICML22)  
[\[https://arxiv.org/pdf/2103.01028.pdf\]](https://arxiv.org/pdf/2103.01028.pdf)

**Contextual Search in the Presence of Irrational Agents**  
Akshay Krishnamurthy, Thodoris Lykouris, Chara Podimata, and Robert Schapire  
*In Proc. of the 53rd ACM Symposium on Theory of Computing* (STOC21)  
*Under review after Major Revision at Operations Research*  
[\[https://arxiv.org/pdf/2002.11650.pdf\]](https://arxiv.org/pdf/2002.11650.pdf)

**Adaptive Discretization for Adversarial Lipschitz Bandits**  
Chara Podimata and Aleksandrs Slivkins  
*In Proc. of the 34th Annual Conference on Learning Theory* (COLT21)  
[\[https://arxiv.org/pdf/2006.12367.pdf\]](https://arxiv.org/pdf/2006.12367.pdf)

**Learning Strategy-Aware Linear Classifiers**  
Yiling Chen, Yang Liu, and Chara Podimata  
*In Proc. of the 34th Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems* (NeurIPS20)  
[\[https://arxiv.org/pdf/1911.04004.pdf\]](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* (ICML20)  
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* (AAAI19)  
[\[https://arxiv.org/pdf/1809.01803v1.pdf\]](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* (EC18)  
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* (EC18)  
Among the 5 shortlisted papers for the Best Paper Award  
[\[https://arxiv.org/pdf/1805.10693.pdf\]](https://arxiv.org/pdf/1805.10693.pdf)

## Preprints

### TALKS

**Transparency and Accuracy in Predictive Decision Making: an Introduction to Strategic Prediction**  
Quant Seminar at the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission Apr. 2022

**Incentive-Aware Machine Learning for Decision-Making**  
University of Michigan, IOE Department Jan. 2022  
MIT Sloan, OR/Stat Group Jan. 2022  
Cornell, ORIE Department Jan. 2022  
USC Marshall, OM Group Jan. 2022  
Stanford GSB, OIT Group Jan. 2022  
CMU Tepper, OR Group Feb. 2022  
TTIC Feb. 2022  
UChicago, Data Science + CS Feb. 2022  
Northeastern, CS Department Feb. 2022  
Cornell, Information Science Department Feb. 2022  
Columbia, IEOR Department Feb. 2022  
Yale, Stats and Data Science Feb. 2022  
UC Berkeley, Statistics Department Mar. 2022  
MIT EECS, AI + D Mar. 2022  
US General Services Administration Data Science Seminar May 2022  
Second Congress of Greek Mathematicians (Athens, Greece) Jul. 2022

**Adaptive Discretization for Adversarial Lipschitz Bandits**  
COLT21 Aug. 2021  
2022 INFORMS Annual Meeting, Indianapolis, IN Oct. 2022

**Contextual Search in the Presence of Irrational Agents**  
2021 INFORMS Annual Meeting, Anaheim, CA Oct. 2021  
STOC21 Jul. 2021  
Cornell Young ORIE Researchers Workshop Oct. 2021  
BU Algorithms and Theory Seminar Oct. 2021  
NEU Theory Lunch Nov. 2021  
Stanford Information Systems Laboratory Colloquium Jan. 2022  
Amazon Ads April 2022

**No-Regret and Incentive-Compatible Online Learning**  
ICML20 Jul. 2020

**Learning Strategy-Aware Linear Classifiers**

	NeurIPS20	Dec. 2020
	2020 INFORMS Annual Meeting, Online.	Nov. 2020
	Northeastern University Theory Seminar.	Nov. 2019
	<b>Workshop on Algorithms for Learning and Economics</b>	Jul. 2019
	<b>A Bridge between Liquid and Social Welfare in Combinatorial Auctions with Submodular Bidders</b>	
	AAAI19	Feb. 2019
	<b>Learning to Bid Without Knowing your Value</b>	
	13th Annual Machine Learning Symposium (NYAS).	Mar. 2019
	2018 INFORMS Annual Meeting, Phoenix, Arizona.	Nov. 2018
	Google NYC, Algorithms Seminar.	Jul. 2018
	Yahoo! Research NYC, Algorithms Seminar.	Jun. 2018
	<b>Strategyproof Linear Regression in High Dimensions</b>	
	EC18	Jun. 2018
<b>PROFESSIONAL SERVICE</b>	<b>PC Member:</b> NeurIPS2022, ICML2022, COLT 2020-2022, WINE 2021, ICML2021 (Expert Reviewer, <b>Best Reviewers Award</b> ), NeurIPS 2020-2021 ( <b>Best Reviewers Award</b> ), IJCAI 2020, Emerging Track on AI for Social Impact (AAAI-20, AAAI-21)	
	<b>Journal Refereeing:</b> Transactions of Machine Learning Research (TMLR), Journal of Machine Learning Research (JMLR), Management Science (MS), IEEE Transactions on Control of Network Systems (TCNS), Theoretical Computer Science (TCS), Theory of Computing Systems (ToCS)	
	<b>Conference Sub-Refereeing:</b> EC 2022, 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	
	<b>Organizer of the EconCS Seminar</b> , Harvard University	Fall '17 - Spring '18
<b>PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE</b>	<b>Business Intern, Google</b> , Greece	Feb. 2016 - Aug. 2016
	<i>Host:</i> Ilias Sousis	
	<i>Projects:</i> Campaign optimization, account management, creation of tools for extracting data for the greek online advertising market.	
<b>TEACHING</b>	<b>Teaching Fellow, Harvard University</b>	Fall 2017, Fall 2018, Fall 2020
	<i>Course:</i> Introduction to Optimization (AM121)	
	<i>Instructor (2017, 2018):</i> Yiling Chen	
	<i>Instructor (2020):</i> Yiling Chen & Margo Levine	
	<b>Teaching Assistant, NTUA</b> , Greece	Fall 2015
	<i>Courses:</i> Introduction to programming (PaZcal), Algorithms and Complexity	
	<i>Instructor:</i> Dimitris Fotakis	
<b>COMMUNITY SERVICE</b>	<b>EC Mentoring Workshop</b> , <i>Volunteer Panelist</i>	EC 2022
	<b>LeT-All</b> , <i>Volunteer Teaching Assistant</i>	ALT 2022
	TA at Nicole Immorlica's session on Peer Review	

**Google Serve, Athens, Greece, Volunteer** Jun. 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