

# Charikleia (Chara) Podimata

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<b>RESEARCH INTERESTS</b>	incentive-aware ML, 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 - Nov. 2022
	Ph.D in Computer Science	
	<i>Dissertation</i> : “Incentive-Aware Machine Learning for Decision Making”	
	<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)	
	GPA: 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> OR/Stat, MIT Sloan	starting Sep. 2023
	<b>Postdoctoral Fellow</b> , UC Berkeley, CA	Aug. 2022 - Jul. 2023
	<b>Research Intern</b> , Google Research NYC	May - Aug., 2021
	<b>Research Intern</b> , Microsoft Research NYC	Feb. - May, 2020
	<b>Research Intern</b> , Microsoft Research NYC	May - Aug., 2019
	<b>Research Assistant</b> , the EconCS group, Harvard University	Jun. 2017 - present
	<b>Business Intern</b> , Google Athens, Greece	
<b>SELECTED HONORS &amp; AWARDS</b>	<b>FODSI Postdoctoral Fellowship</b>	2022-2023
	<b>Siebel Scholarship</b>	2021-2022
	<b>MSR Dissertation Grant</b>	2021-2022
	<b>Selected as part of the Rising Stars in EECS in Berkeley</b>	2020
	<b>Poster Honorary Mention 14th Annual ML Symposium (NYAS)</b>	2020
	<b>Finalist for 2020 Facebook PhD Fellowship (top 4%)</b>	2020
	<b>Spotlight 2nd Place Prize, 13th Annual ML Symposium (NYAS)</b>	2019
	<b>Finalist of the 2019 Microsoft Research PhD Fellowship</b>	2019
	<b>Certificate of Distinction in Teaching</b> , Harvard University	2017, 2018
	<b>Among 5 papers shortlisted for Best Paper Award</b> , EC18	
<b>TUTORIALS</b>	<b>Incentive-Aware Machine Learning: A Tale of Robustness, Fairness, Improvement, and Performativity</b>	
	NeurIPS 2022	Dec. 2022
	<b>Do we incentivize honest effort or gaming in incentive-aware learning?</b>	
	“Optimizing the Efforts of Others” workshop at STOC22 ( <b>invited</b> )	Jun. 2022
	<a href="https://www.charapodimata.com/files/presentations/STOC22-tutorial.pdf">[https://www.charapodimata.com/files/presentations/STOC22-tutorial.pdf]</a>	
	<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 <a href="https://www.benjaminedelman.com/tutorial.html">[https://www.benjaminedelman.com/tutorial.html]</a>	
	<b>Incentive-Compatible and Incentive-Aware Learning</b> , EC20	Jun. 2020
	Co-taught with Nika Haghtalab <a href="https://www.charapodimata.com/EC20-tutorial.html">[https://www.charapodimata.com/EC20-tutorial.html]</a>	
<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, Greece</b>	Fall 2015
	<i>Courses:</i> Introduction to programming (PaZcal), Algorithms and Complexity <i>Instructor:</i> Dimitris Fotakis	
<b>SELECTED TALKS</b>	<b>Information Discrepancy in Strategic Learning</b>	
	TOC4Fairness Online Seminar Series ( <b>invited</b> )	Oct. 2022
	<b>Corruption-Robust Contextual Search</b>	
	Simons institute workshop on “Quantifying Uncertainty” ( <b>invited</b> )	Sep. 2022
	<b>Transparency and Accuracy in Predictive Decision Making: an Introduction to Strategic Prediction</b>	
	Quant Seminar at the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission	Apr. 2022
	<b>Incentive-Aware Machine Learning for Decision-Making</b>	
	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
	CMU’s 5th YinZOR Conference ( <b>plenary talk</b> )	Aug. 2022
	<b>Contextual Search in the Presence of Irrational Agents</b>	
	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	Apr. 2022
<b>Learning Strategy-Aware Linear Classifiers</b> Northeastern University Theory Seminar	Nov. 2019
<b>Learning to Bid Without Knowing your Value</b> Google NYC, Algorithms Seminar.	Jul. 2018
Yahoo! Research NYC, Algorithms Seminar.	Jun. 2018

**PUBLICATIONS**  
(Alphabetical  
Author Order)

**Journals**

**Contextual Search in the Presence of Adversarial Corruptions**  
Akshay Krishnamurthy, Thodoris Lykouris, Chara Podimata, and Robert Schapire  
*Operations Research 2022* (OR22)  
[\[https://arxiv.org/pdf/2002.11650.pdf\]](https://arxiv.org/pdf/2002.11650.pdf)

**Conferences**

**Corruption-Robust Contextual Search through Density Updates**  
Renato Paes Leme, Chara Podimata, and Jon Schneider  
*In Proc. of the 35th Annual Conference on Learning Theory* (COLT22)  
[\[https://arxiv.org/pdf/2206.07528.pdf\]](https://arxiv.org/pdf/2206.07528.pdf)

**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 the Proc. of the 53rd ACM Symposium on Theory of Computing* (STOC21)  
**Operations Research 2022**  
[\[https://arxiv.org/pdf/2002.11650.pdf\]](https://arxiv.org/pdf/2002.11650.pdf)

**Adaptive Discretization for Adversarial Lipschitz Bandits**  
Chara Podimata and Aleksandrs Slivkins  
*In the 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 Conf. 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 AAI 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)

**PROFESSIONAL SERVICE** **PC Member:** EAAMO22, NeurIPS2022, ICML2022, COLT 2020-2022, FAccT2022, WINE 2021, ICML2021 (Best Reviewers Award), NeurIPS 2020-2021 (Best Reviewers Award), IJCAI 2020, Emerging Track on AI for Social Impact (AAAI-20, AAAI-21)

**Journal Refereeing:** Management Science (MS), Transactions of Machine Learning Research (TMLR), Journal of Machine Learning Research (JMLR), IEEE Transactions on Control of Network Systems (TCNS), Theoretical Computer Science (TCS), Theory of Computing Systems (ToCS)

**COMMUNITY SERVICE** **LeT-All, Volunteer Panelist** Oct. 2022  
**EC Mentoring Workshop, Volunteer Panelist** EC 2022  
**LeT-All, Volunteer Teaching Assistant** ALT 2022  
**TA at Nicole Immorlica's session on Peer Review**  
**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