

Charikleia (Chara) Podimata

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RESEARCH INTERESTS Learning in the presence of strategic agents, Mechanism Design and Data Science, Online Learning, Topics on the Interface of Computer Science, Economics & Machine Learning

EDUCATION **Harvard University**, Cambridge, MA Aug. 2016 - present
Ph.D Computer Science
Advisor: Yiling Chen

National Technical University of Athens, Greece Sept. 2010 - Jan. 2016
BSc Electrical Engineering and Computer Science (5-year joint degree)
GPA: 9.47/10
Thesis: “Approximations of Liquid Welfare for Combinatorial Auctions”
Advisor: Dimitris Fotakis

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE **Research Intern**, Microsoft Research NYC May - August, 2019
Mentor: Jenn Wortman Vaughan
Research Assistant, the EconCS group, Harvard University June 2017 - present
Research Assistant, NTUA, Greece CoReLab, 2014-2016

PUBLICATIONS (Alphabetical Author Order) **Strategyproof Linear Regression in High Dimensions: An Overview**
Yiling Chen, Chara Podimata, Ariel D. Procaccia and Nisarg Shah
ACM SIGEcom Exchanges (Research Letter). **Invited**

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).
Preliminary version appeared at NIPS '17 Workshop on Learning under the presence of strategic behavior [\[https://arxiv.org/abs/1711.01333\]](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
Preliminary version appeared at NIPS '17 Workshop on Learning under the presence of strategic behavior. [\[https://arxiv.org/pdf/1805.10693.pdf\]](https://arxiv.org/pdf/1805.10693.pdf)

Preprints

Grinding the Space: Learning to Classify Against Strategic Agents

Yiling Chen, Yang Liu and Chara Podimata

Workshop in Learning in Presence of Strategic Agents, EC '19.

TALKS

Grinding the Space: Learning to Classify Against Strategic Agents

Workshop on Algorithms for Learning and Economics

July 2019

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

The 33rd AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence

February 2019

Learning to Bid Without Knowing your Value

2018 INFORMS Annual Meeting, Phoenix, Arizona. **Invited**

November 2018

Google NYC, Algorithms Seminar. **Invited**

July 2018

Yahoo! Research NYC, Algorithms Seminar. **Invited**

June 2018

13th Annual Machine Learning Symposium (NYAS). **Spotlight Talk** March 2019

Strategyproof Linear Regression in High Dimensions

The 19th ACM Conference on Economics and Computation

June 2018

Harvard EconCS, Open House

March 2018

Harvard EconCS Seminar

March 2018

HONORS & AWARDS

Spotlight Presentation 2nd Place Prize, 13th Annual Machine Learning Symposium (NYAS) 2019

Finalist of the 2019 Microsoft Research PhD Fellowship 2019

Certificate of Distinction in Teaching, Harvard University 2017, 2018

Harvard Scholarship to attend Grace Hopper Celebration 2017

Scholarship to attend CRA-W grad cohort 2017

Harvard Scholarship to attend Grace Hopper Celebration 2016

Harvard PhD Fellowship 2016

NTUA “**Thomaidio**” Award for highest GPA in the year 2015 – 2016

NTUA “**KARY**” Award for highest GPA in the year 2014 – 2015

NTUA “**Christos Papakyriakopoulos**” Award for GPA 10/10 in all math courses

Eurobank “A great moment for education” for graduating first from high school in the Nationwide Examination

General Secretariat of Youth, Greece “Youth Getting to Know Europe” for highest GPA in High School

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

Course: Introduction to Optimization (AM121)

Instructor: Yiling Chen

Teaching Assistant, NTUA, Greece Fall 2015
Courses: Introduction to programming (PaZcal), Algorithms and Complexity
Instructor: Dimitris Fotakis

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE **Reviewer:** SODA '19, WINE '18, SOSA '19
Organizer of the EconCS Seminar, Harvard University Fall '17 - Spring '18

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 aiming to bring computers and coding closer to women of all ages
Free Preparation for the Greek Nationwide Examination for children of impoverished families, Athens, Greece 2012-2014

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES Theatrical Group of NTUA, Athens, Greece 2012 - 2016
Blood Donor 2012 - present
Guitar Diploma 2009
Martial Arts (TaeKwon-Do) 2009
President of the Student School Board 2008 - 2010