# Yansong Li (Jack)

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### **EDUCATION**

Ph.D. in Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering	06/2025 ( <i>Expected</i> )
University of Illinois Chicago, Chicago, IL	
Advisor: Shuo Han	
Thesis: Combining Model-Based and Model-Free Reinforcement Learning	
Bachelor in Department of Mathematics	07/2020
Southern University of Science and Technology, Shenzhen, China	
Advisor: Luchuan Liu	

#### **RESEARCH INTERESTS**

Reinforcement Learning; Game Theory; Learning Theory; Optimization and Control; Large Language Model;

### **PUBLICATIONS**

\*: Corresponding author. †: equal contribution

#### **Peer-Reviewed Conference Publications**

- [1] Yu Wu, Yansong Li<sup>†</sup>, Zeyu Dong<sup>†</sup>, Nitya Sathyavageeswaran, and Anand D. Sarwate, "Learning to help in multi-class settings", in *Submitted to The Thirteenth International Conference on Learning Representations*, under review (score: 8, 6, 6, 6), 2024.
- [2] Zeyu Dong, Yimin Zhu, **Yansong Li**, Kevin Mahon, and Yu Sun\*, "Generalizing end-to-end autonomous driving in real-world environments using zero-shot LLMs", in *8th Annual Conference on Robot Learning*, 2024.
- [3] Yansong Li\* and Shuo Han, "Efficient collaboration with unknown agents: Ignoring similar agents without checking similarity", in *Proceedings of the 23rd International Conference on Autonomous Agents and Multiagent Systems, AAMAS 2024, Auckland, New Zealand, May 6-10, 2024*, Mehdi Dastani, Jaime Simão Sichman, Natasha Alechina, and Virginia Dignum, Eds., International Foundation for Autonomous Agents and Multiagent Systems / ACM, 2024, pp. 2363–2365. DOI: 10.5555/ 3635637.3663161.

- [4] **Yansong Li**<sup>\*</sup> and Shuo Han, "Solving strongly convex and smooth stackelberg games without modeling the follower", in *American Control Conference, ACC 2023, San Diego, CA, USA, May 31 June 2, 2023*, IEEE, 2023, pp. 2332–2337. DOI: 10.23919/ACC55779.2023.10156010.
- [5] Yansong Li\* and Shuo Han, "Accelerating model-free policy optimization using model-based gradient: A composite optimization perspective", in *Learning for Dynamics and Control Conference*, *L4DC 2022, 23-24 June 2022, Stanford University, Stanford, CA, USA*, Roya Firoozi, Negar Mehr, Esen Yel, Rika Antonova, Jeannette Bohg, Mac Schwager, and Mykel J. Kochenderfer, Eds., ser. Proceedings of Machine Learning Research, vol. 168, PMLR, 2022, pp. 304–315.

#### Preprints

- [1] Xiaoxuan Liang, Wuyang Zhang, Hong Zhou, Zhaolong Wei, Sicheng Zhu, **Yansong Li**, Rui Yin, Jiantao Yuan, and Jeremy Gummeson, "Sonicmesh: Enhancing 3d human mesh reconstruction in vision-impaired environments with acoustic signals", in *Submitted to CVPR 2025*, under review, 2025.
- [2] Zhuohang Yu, Ling An, **Yansong Li**, Yu Wu, Zeyu Dong, Zhangdi Liu, Le Gao, Zhenyu Zhang, and Chichun Zhou, *Eapcr: A universal feature extractor for scientific data without explicit feature relation patterns*, 2024. arXiv: 2411.08164 [cs.LG].
- [3] **Yansong Li**\*†, Zeyu Dong<sup>†</sup>, Ertai Luo, Yu Wu, Shuo Wu, and Shuo Han, *When to trust your data: Enhancing dyna-style model-based reinforcement learning with data filter*, 2024. arXiv: 2410.12160 [cs.LG].
- [4] **Yansong Li**\*†, Zeyu Dong<sup>†</sup>, and Shuo Han, "Bayes-Optimal, Robust, and Distributionally Robust Policies for Uncertain MDPs", *preprint*, Oct. 2024. DOI: 10.25417/uic.27138990.v1.
- [5] **Yansong Li**\*, Zeyu Dong, and Shuo Han, "Removing Redundant Partner Policies May Be Unnecessary for Ad Hoc Teamwork", *preprint*, Oct. 2024. DOI: 10.25417/uic.27139116.v1.
- [6] Da Shen\*, Nian Liu<sup>†</sup>, **Yansong Li**<sup>†</sup>, Duolei Wang, and Leiyu He, *Goldfish Scheme: A Scheme Interpreter with Python-Like Standard Library*. LIII NETWORK, 2024.

### INTERNS

#### **Reseach Interns**

LLM in End-To-End Autonomous Driving05/2024-08/2024Stony Brook UniversityAdvisor: Dantong YuCORL has accepted our work as a conference paperEnderson

Learning to Help in Multi-Class Classifications and Markov Decision Processes08/2024-NowRutgers UniversityAdvisor: Anand D. SarwateSubmitted to ICLR 2025, Score: 8, 6, 6, 6

### Industry Experiences

Maintainer: Scheme Interpreter & GNU T\_{E\!}X\_{MACS}/Mogan

LIII NETWORK (An open-source company)

Founder: Da Shen; Co-founder & COO: Yansong Li

I am one of the co-founders and COO of LIII NETWORK, an open-source company that develops Goldfish Scheme: a Scheme interpreter with Python-like standard library functionalities. Goldfish Scheme is the foundation of GNU T<sub>E</sub>X<sub>MACS</sub>/Mogan, a WYSIWYG T<sub>E</sub>X-like editor we developed. GNU T<sub>E</sub>X<sub>MACS</sub>/Mogan can type equations 10 times faster than  $\[Mathbb{MTE}]$ X.

### **RESEARCH EXPERIENCES**

### Combining model-based & model-free reinforcement learning.

Project Organizer & Corresponding Author

We develop two algorithms that leverage gradient information from an estimated model to accelerate model-free training. The experiments are conducted on an additive nonlinear system with a linear estimated model (published in *L4DC*) and in the mujoco environment with a Gaussian estimated model (under review for *AAAI* and *ICLR*).

### Renaissance of Literate Programming in the Era of LLMs

Project Organizer & Corresponding Author

We developed a Scheme interpreter with Python-like standard library using literate programming. Most of the code is generated by LLMs by using the literate programming document as prompts. The technical report is available at https://github.com/LiiiLabs/goldfish/releases/download/v17.10.9/Goldfish.pdf, and the prompt engineering paper is under ICML review.

### AI agent that can effectively collaboration with human

Project Organizer & Corresponding Author

We utilize stochastic game theory and Stackelberg game formulation. In our setting, human agents are not assumed to be rational, and their utility functions are unknown. Based on these constraints, we develop two algorithms: one for Stackelberg games and another for stochastic games, both designed to facilitate AI-human collaboration. Experiments are conducted in the Overcooked-AI environment. The results have been published in the *ACC* and the *AAMAS* extended abstract. Additionally, two papers extending this formulation to partial observations are available as open-access preprints and are currently under review.

# LLM for end-to-end autonomous driving

Coauthor

We develop a hybrid system that leverages a large language model (LLM) to provide high-level instructions at low frequency, enhancing the generalization capability of a high-frequency onboard controller running on an iPhone for autonomous driving. This design mitigates the high-latency challenges of LLMs, making our experiments the first real-world implementation of LLMs in this context. The results have been published in the *CORL*. Ongoing research has been submitted to *CVPR* and is currently under review.

# **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

Southern University of Science and Technology: MA213-16

Calculus I (Tutorial, Fall 2020)

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05/2024-Now

09/2020-Now

10/2024-Now

11/2021-2024/05

05/2024-Now

MA101B Online Lecture Online Lecture LIII NETWORK: Online Lecture Online Lecture

**OPEN SOURCE COMMUNITY** 

### GNU T<sub>E</sub>X<sub>MACS</sub>/Mogan

Maintainer

A WYSIWYG editor that can type equations 10 times faster than  $\mathbb{E}T_{E}X$ . See "A quick tour of  $T_{E}X_{MACS}$ " for a 3-minute short introduction. Plugins I developed (vim-like keybindings and algorithm2e package) can be found in Jack's Github.

#### **Goldfish Scheme**

Maintainer

A Scheme interpreter based on S7 Scheme and C++. This interpreter matches the speed and simplicity of S7 Scheme while offering improved support for Microsoft Windows. In Goldfish Scheme, we have implemented the complete set of features from R7RS and included many functionalities inspired by the Python standard library. Goldfish Scheme will be the foundation for GNU  $T_{\rm EXMACS}$ /Mogan in the future.

**SDPA-Python Documentation** *Contributor* 

### **PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

#### Reviewer

**Journals** Science China Information Sciences

#### Conferences

International Conference on Learning Representations (ICLR) IEEE Conference on Decision and Control (CDC) International Conference on Identification, Information and Knowledge in the Internet of Things (IIKI)

### **INVITED TALKS**

- 1. "Bayes-Optimal, Robust, and Distributionally Robust Policies for Uncertain MDPs", RINGS informal seminar, Rutgers University-New Brunswick, 08/2024.
- 2. "Efficient Collaboration with Unknown Agents: Ignoring Similar Agents without Checking Similarity", Digital Economy Lecture, Beijing Normal University & Hong Kong Baptist University United International College, 10/2023.
- 3. "Solving Strongly Convex and Smooth Stackelberg Games Without Modeling the Follower", 2023 American Control Conference, San Diego, 06/2023.

Mathematical Analysis (Tutorial, Spring 2019) Control Theory and Optimization (Summer 2021) RL and Game Theory (Summer 2023)

Academic Writing With Mogan (Fall 2024) SICP (Fall 2024)

09/2022-Now

07/2024-Now

07/2022-Now