# YI-CHUN AKCHEN, formerly YI-CHUN CHEN

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University College London (UCL) School of Management	Aug 2023 – Present
Assistant Professor of Operations and Technology	
Education	
UCLA Anderson School of Management Ph.D. in Management (advisor: Velibor Mišić) and Postdoctoral Fellow (mentor: Felipe Caro)	Sep 2017 – Jun 2023
<b>Stanford University</b> M.S. in Computational and Mathematical Engineering (advisor: Mykel Kochenderfer)	Sep 2014 – Apr 2017
National Taiwan University B.S. in Physics	Sep 2009 – Jun 2013
Publications	
Working Papers	
<b>"On Size Substitution and Its Role in Assortment and Inventory Planning"</b> with Felipe Caro Minor revision in <i>Manufacturing &amp; Service Operations Management</i>	
<b>"Assortment Optimization Under The Decision Forest Model"</b> with Velibor Mišić Minor revision in Manufacturing & Service Operations Management	
Refereed Journal Papers	
"Consider or Choose? The Role and Power of Consideration Sets" with Dmitry Mitrofanov Management Science (forthcoming)	
<ul> <li>Finalist, Service Science Best Cluster Paper Competition, INFORMS, 2024.</li> </ul>	
"Column-Randomized Linear Programs: Performance Guarantees and Applications" with Velibor Mišić	
Operations Research (2025), 73(3): 1366-1383.	
<b>"Decision Forest: A Nonparametric Approach to Modeling Irrational Choice"</b> with Velibor Mišić	
<ul> <li>Management Science (2022), 68(10): 7065-7791</li> <li>Honorable Mention, George E. Nicholson Student Paper Prize, INFORMS, 2020.</li> <li>Winner, Decision Analysis Society Student Paper Competition, INFORMS, 2019.</li> </ul>	

with Kunal Menda, Justin Grana, James Bono, Brendan Tracey, Mykel Kochenderfer, David Wolpert IEEE Transactions on Intelligent Transportation Systems (2019), 20(4): 1259-1268

"Learning Discrete Bayesian Networks from Continuous Data" with Tim Wheeler, Mykel Kochenderfer Journal of Artificial Intelligence Research (2017), 59: 103-132.

# "Improving Offline Value-Function Approximation for POMDPs by Reducing Discount Factors"

with Mykel Kochenderfer, Matthijs Spaan

IEEE/RSJ International Conference on Intelligent Robots and Systems (2018)

#### TEACHING

UCL School of Management Decision Science, BSc in Management Science. Statistics for Business Research, MSc in Management.	2026 2023, 2024
Awards and Honors	
Finalist, INFORMS Service Science Best Cluster Paper Award.	2024
Dreze Dissertation Award, UCLA Anderson.	2022
Dissertation Year Fellowship, UCLA.	2021
Honorable Mention, INFORMS George E. Nicholson Student Paper Prize.	2020
Winner, INFORMS Decision Analysis Student Paper Award.	2019
Second Place, INFORMS Jeff McGill Revenue Management and Pricing Student Paper Award.	2019
Finalist, INFORMS Service Science Best Cluster Paper Award.	2019
Spotlight Presentation, INFORMS Revenue Management and Pricing Conference.	2019
Ph.D. Fellowship, UCLA Anderson.	2017
Presidential Awards, National Taiwan University.	2012, 2013
Chau-Ting Chang Memorial Fellowship, Institute of Atomic and Molecular Sciences, Taiwan.	2012

### Talks

Invited Seminars	
Tilburg University (School of Economics and Management)	2025 (scheduled)
City St George's, University of London (Bayes Business School)	2025
National Chengchi University (College of Commerce)	2025
Imperial College London (Control and Optimisation Seminar)	2025
Conferences and Workshops	
Durham Early Career Scholars Workshop	2025
INFORMS Annual Meeting	2018 - 2025
MSOM Conference	2021, 2024, 2025
INFORMS Revenue Management and Pricing Conference	2019, 2021, 2024
European Technology and Operations Management Day	2024
INFORMS Optimization Conference	2022
POMS Conference	2019
Southern California OR/OM Day	2019

### **PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES**

## Peer Review and Judging Activities

Journal reviewer, Management Science, Operations Research, Manufacturing & Service Operations Management, Production and Operations Management, Computational Management Science, and Naval Research Logistics.

Review Panelist, INFORMS Harvey J. Greenberg Research Award.	2025
Reviewer, MSOM Student Paper Competition.	2023 - 2025
Professional Society Roles	
Co-organizer, London Operations Research Day (LORD).	2025
Council member, INFORMS Decision Analysis Society.	2024, 2025

#### LANGUAGES

Mandarin (native), English (fluent), Turkish (beginner).