

# Yecheng (Jason) Ma

## Curriculum Vitae

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## Education

- PhD **University of Pennsylvania**, Philadelphia, PA. *Computer Science*, 2020 - present.  
GPA: 4.0, Advisor: Osbert Bastani, Dinesh Jayaraman
- A.B **Harvard University**, Cambridge, MA. *Computer Science, minor in Math*, 2020.  
In-Major GPA: 3.94, GPA: 3.85, Highest Honors in Computer Science, Advisor: David Parkes

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## Publications

### Conference

- 2021 **Yecheng Jason Ma**, Dinesh Jayaraman, Osbert Bastani.  
Conservative Offline Distributional Reinforcement Learning  
*Neural Processing Information Systems (NeurIPS), 2021*
- 2021 **Yecheng Jason Ma**, Jeevana Priya Inala, Dinesh Jayaraman, Osbert Bastani.  
Likelihood-Based Diverse Sampling for Trajectory Forecasting  
*International Conference on Computer Vision (ICCV), 2021.*
- 2021 Simon Shen, **Yecheng Jason Ma**, Omer Gottesman, Finale Doshi-Velez.  
State Relevance for Off-Policy Evaluation  
*International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML), 2021*

### Preprint

- 2021 **Yecheng Jason Ma\***, Andrew Shen\*, Osbert Bastani, Dinesh Jayaraman.  
Conservative and Adaptive Penalty for Model-Based Safe Reinforcement Learning  
*NeurIPS Deep RL Workshop, 2021*  
*NeurIPS Safe and Robust Control Workshop, 2021*  
*In submission.*
- 2021 Jeevana Priya Inala, **Yecheng Jason Ma**, Xin Zhang, Osbert Bastani.  
Safe Human-Interactive Control via Shielding  
*ICML Workshop on Human-AI Collaboration in Sequential Decision-Making, 2021.*  
*In submission.*
- 2021 **Yecheng Jason Ma**, Justin Moore, Geoff Pleiss, Dinesh Jayaraman, Jacob Gardner.  
What Matters More and When: Epistemic or Aleatoric Uncertainty?  
*In submission.*

### Thesis

- 2020 **Yecheng Jason Ma.**  
From Adversarial Imitation Learning to Robust Batch Imitation Learning  
**Thomas Temple Hoopes Prize for Outstanding Undergraduate Thesis**

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## Awards

- 20' Harvard Thomas Temple Hoopes Prize for Outstanding Undergraduate Thesis
- 20' Harvard College Highest Honors in Computer Science
- 18', 19' Harvard College Research Program Research Grant Recipient

S18', S-F19' Harvard Distinction in Teaching Award (Math 23, Stat 111, CS281)

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## Teaching

Fall 2019 (Graduate) Advanced Machine Learning (CS 281), Head Teaching Fellow  
Spring 2019 Introduction to Statistical Inference (Stat 111), Teaching Fellow  
Spring 2018 Linear Algebra and Real Analysis (Math 23), Course Assistant

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## Mentorship

Fall 2020 - Andrew Shen, University of Melbourne  
Fall 2020 - Aryan Singh, University of Pennsylvania

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## Service

Fall 2021 - Penn CIS Doctoral Association Chair  
Fall 2021 - Penn Engineering Doctoral Advisory Board Member  
Fall 2020 Penn CIS PhD Application-Support Program Mentor  
2019-2020 Harvard EconCS RL Reading Group Organizer  
2018-2019 Harvard Bureau of Study Council Peer Tutor

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## Industry Experience

2019 **AQR Capital Management LLC**, Research Intern  
2018 **Citadel LLC**, Software Engineering Intern

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## CourseWork

Graduate Courses Machine Learning, Learning Theory, Bayesian Machine Learning, Graph Neural Network, Optimization, Batch Reinforcement Learning, Probability, Statistical Inference, Sequential Decision Making, Network Algorithms