Jiayu Kamessi Zhao

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APPOINTMENT

Assistant Professor July 2026 - Present
Operations, Information, and Technology Area, Graduate School of Business
Stanford University, Stanford, CA

EDUCATION

Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), Cambridge, MA 2020 - 2025
Ph.D. in Operations Research
GPA: 5.0/5.0 Advisor: Daniel Freund

Columbia University, New York, NY 2016 - 2020
B.S. in Operations Research
Summa Cum Laude

PUBLICATIONS AND PREPRINTS

"Stay, Reposition, or Recharge: Battery-Aware Operation of Robotaxi Fleets," with Philipp Afèche and Saif Benjaafar. Available at SSRN.

"The Value of a Little Flexibility in Stable Matching," with Daniel Freund and Sébastien Martin. Under Review at **Operations Research**, 2026. Available at SSRN 6208698.

- **27th ACM Conference on Economics and Computation (EC'26)**

"Two-sided Flexibility in Platforms," with Daniel Freund and Sébastien Martin.
Major Revision at **Operations Research**, 2026. Available at Arxiv 2404.04709.

- **MIT ORC Best Student Paper Award**, 2024

"On the Power of Delayed Flexibility: Balls, Bins, and a Few Opaque Promotions," with Daniel Freund and Chamsi Hssaine.
Major Revision at **Operations Research**, 2026. Available at Arxiv 2306.01968.

"On the Supply of Autonomous Vehicles in Platforms," with Daniel Freund and Ilan Lobel. 2025. **Manufacturing & Service Operations Management** 28(2):496-516.

- **25th ACM Conference on Economics and Computation (EC'24)**
- Accepted for presentation at **2024 MSOM Supply Chain Management SIG**

"Overbooking with Bounded Loss," with Daniel Freund. 2022.
Mathematics of Operations Research 48(3): 1344-1363.

- **22nd ACM Conference on Economics and Computation (EC'21)**

WORK IN PROGRESS

"Supply, Compete, or Coordinate? Dual-Channel Design for Autonomous Vehicles," with Zhen Lian.

"Robotaxis as Capacity Expansion: Certification-Based Pricing and Matching," with Xuchen Liu, Huiwen Jia and Siqian Shen.

EXPERIENCES

Waymo, Mountain View, CA 2025 - 2026
Postdoctoral Researcher at the Marketplace and Supply Optimization Team

- Designed Waymo's first optimization program for vehicle positioning; developed a batch-optimization framework for real-time control of the autonomous fleet

Uber Technologies, Inc., San Francisco, CA Summer 2023 & 2024
Applied Scientist Intern at Uber Eats Eater Realtime Pricing (ERTP) Team

- Improved Uber Eats' real-time pricing optimization; enhanced the real-time acceptance rate model and the chained supply model for mitigating surge demand

MIT ORC, Cambridge, MA 2020 - 2025
Research Assistant Supervisor: Daniel Freund

Simons Institute for the Theory of Computing, UC Berkeley, CA Fall 2022
Participant of the Data-Driven Decision Processes Program

Columbia IEOR Department, New York, NY 2018 - 2020
Research Assistant Supervisors: Jay Sethuraman, Soulaymane Kachani.

TEACHING

Stanford University, Stanford, CA
OIT 247: Optimization and Simulation Modeling - Accelerated (MBA) Autumn 2026

MIT, Cambridge, MA
TA for *15.761: Operations Management* (MBA) Spring 2022, 2023, 2024
TA for *15.S25: Experience in Operations Research* (PhD) Summer 2022

Columbia University, New York, NY
TA for *Math 2030: Ordinary Differential Equations* (Undergrad) Fall 2018
TA for *IEOR E3658: Probability for Engineers* (Undergrad) Fall 2018

SELECTED TALKS

"Stay, Reposition, or Recharge: Battery-Aware Operation of Robotaxi Fleets"
- INFORMS Annual Meeting, Nov 2026, San Francisco
- Lyft Rideshare Seminar Series, Oct 2026, San Francisco
- MSOM Conference, Jul 2026, Cambridge

"The Value of a Little Flexibility in Stable Matching"
- INFORMS APS Conference, Jul 2025, Atlanta

"On the Power of Delayed Flexibility: Balls, Bins, and a Few Opaque Promotions"
- Marketplace Innovation Workshop, May 2025, Virtual

"Two-sided Flexibility in Platforms"
- UC Berkeley eMERGE Seminar Series, Mar 2026, Berkeley
- INFORMS Annual Meeting, Oct 2025, Atlanta
- INFORMS APS Conference, Jul 2025, Atlanta
- University of British Columbia, Imperial College, London Business School, University College London, National University of Singapore, New York University, University of Toronto, Duke University, Stanford University, Columbia University
- INFORMS Annual Meeting, Oct 2024, Seattle
- Inaugural OM Rookiepalooza at Kellogg, Oct 2024, Evanston
- MIT ORC Fall Seminar Series, Nov 2024, Cambridge
- RMP Conference, Jul 2024, Los Angeles
- MSOM Conference, Jul 2024, Minneapolis
- Marketplace Innovation Workshop, May 2024, Virtual

- MIT LIDS Student Conference, Feb 2024, Cambridge
- Xi'an Jiaotong University, Jan 2024, Xi'an, China
- Shanghai University of Finance and Economics, Dec 2023, Shanghai, China

"On the Supply of Autonomous Vehicles in Platforms"

- Ivey Business School, Mar 2026, London, Canada
- Guest lecture for *INDENG 150: Production Systems* and *INDENG 250: Production and Logistics Models*, Nov 2025, Berkeley
- MIT Operations Management Seminar, Oct 2024, Cambridge
- MSOM Conference Supply Chain Management SIG, Jun 2024, Minneapolis
- INFORMS Annual Meeting, Oct 2023, Phoenix
- Cornell Young Researchers Workshop, Oct 2023, Ithaca
- MSOM Conference, Jun 2023, Montreal, Canada
- INFORMS Annual Meeting, Oct 2022, Indianapolis
- Marketplace Innovation Workshop, May 2023, Virtual

"Overbooking with Bounded Loss"

- EC'21, Jul 2021, Virtual
- INFORMS Annual Meeting, Oct 2021, Virtual
- ORC Student Seminar, Apr 2022, Cambridge

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Reviewer for *Management Science*, *Operations Research*, *Manufacturing & Service Operations Management*	2025 - Present
Reviewer for the ACM STOC Conference	2026
Reviewer for the ACM EC Conference	2025-2026
Reviewer for the MSOM Conference	2025
MIT ORC Seminar Series student coordinator	Fall 2023
MIT Operations Management Seminar student co-organizer	2021 - 2023

HONORS AND AWARDS

Dan & Eva Roos Thesis Award	2025
MIT ORC Best Student Paper Award	2024
The Sebastian B. Littauer Award, Columbia University	2020
Tau Beta Pi Honor Society, Columbia University (NY Chapter)	2018 - 2020
The Dean's List, Columbia University,	2016 - 2020
C.P. Davis Scholar, Columbia University	2016