

Jia Chen

Tallahassee, Florida | (949)207-4858 | clocean666@gmail.com | <https://www.linkedin.com/in/jia-chen-7a1a6036/>
<https://jjlearning.org/>

Research Goals

With an interdisciplinary background spanning **physics, economics, and instructional technology**, I am seeking a Ph.D. position focused on improving the efficiency and returns of investments in innovative projects. My goal is to **analyze and integrate factors from multiple disciplines** to enhance project performance and to strengthen the long-term outcomes of individuals, organizations, and society.

This diverse academic and professional experience has shaped a central research agenda: **to explore and develop data-driven solutions in three interconnected areas** that advance innovation, optimize investment returns, and promote sustainable organizational growth.

I am particularly interested in three interrelated areas:

- **Bridging Innovation and Commercialization**

My goal is to identify the key factors for valuation of innovation, help learners experience the full process of innovation—from technological creation to commercialization. I am particularly drawn to collaborative learning experiences, such as **hackathons, design sprints, and other intensive events that emphasize real-world problem-solving** and creative teamwork. I hope to explore methods and data-informed strategies which enhance innovation outcomes and improve returns on investment in emerging technologies for all stakeholders.

- **Algorithms for Performance and Return Optimization**

A major challenge in both economics and education research is the difficulty of comparing outcomes across different contexts, as each situation follows a unique trajectory influenced by underlying trends and stochastic components. Drawing on my training in **physics, economics, data modeling, and decision science**, I aim to **investigate causal relationships** and **design predictive algorithms** and **data-driven frameworks** capable of isolating reliable effects from stochastic variation, providing robust, evidence-based tools for evaluation and decision-making.

- **Artificial Intelligence and Computational Modeling:**

I am eager to develop and apply AI-based applications and computational tools to support behavior analytics and performance prediction. I enjoy examining causal relationships among variables and constructing models that reveal how different factors interact to influence financial returns and organizational performance. During my studies in the ISLT master's program, I developed several Python-based programs, and I hope to build on this foundation by expanding my work in AI-driven analytical methods—including behavior analysis, commercial activity simulation, and predictive modeling.

Education

Florida State University , Tallahassee, FL, USA	2024-2025
<i>Master of Science in Instructional Systems & Learning Technologies</i>	December 2025
<i>GPA 4.0</i>	

Bocconi University , Milan, Italy	2011-2013
<i>Master of Philosophy (M.Phil.) in Economics</i>	October 2012
<i>PhD program, awarded a full scholarship. Interrupted by accident. Permitted as an audit student, attending second-year Economics PhD courses without credit (2012-2013).</i>	

Sun Yat-sen University , Guangzhou, China	2009-2011
<i>Lingnan-MIT Sloan Jointed International Master of Business Administration (MBA)</i>	December 2011
<i>GPA: 3.44</i>	
<i>Bocconi University exchange program (2010-2011).</i>	
<i>Dissertation: Research on the Influencing Factors and Characteristics of Gold Price</i>	

Work Experience

Independent ESG Project: Energy-Efficient Residential Construction 2018 – 2022

- Applied for land permission, prepared skills and knowledge for construction (2018).
- Led the design, planning, and construction of a 6,000 sq. ft. energy-saving home using Cold-formed thin-wall steel prefabricated technology.
- Managed a full-scale project including organizing a builder team, establishing a supply chain, and supervising all on-site construction.
- Engineered and installed a self-sustaining 40KW/h solar panel and energy storage power supply system.
- Successfully navigated the entire process from securing land permission to final inspection, demonstrating strong project management, problem-solving, and leadership skills.

Fund Manager Shenzhen WuYue Wealth Fund Management Company, Shenzhen 2016 – 2017

- Managed a 3 million RMB fund, primarily investing in futures and stocks.
- Achieved a 30% return on futures market investments in the first six months.
- Proactively left the position to conduct extensive research and refine investment strategies, demonstrating a strong commitment to continuous skill development and strategic improvement.

Investment Advisor Tianfeng Security & PingAn Insurance, Guangzhou 2014 – 2016

- Provided expert investment advice and financial planning to private investors.
- Recommended a portfolio of financial products to align with clients' risk tolerance and long-term goals.

Founder, Sales and Project manager Guangzhou Shi Ji Scientific Instrument Co. Ltd (SGTECH). 2004 – 2011

- Founded a scientific instrument company, managing all aspects of business development, client relations, and sales strategy.
- Managed and completed over 100 projects as a consulting-style salesman and project manager for clients in the food, healthcare, cosmetic, and electronics industries. My clients included HACCP-certified factories, and University labs.
- Provided more than 5 years consulting and instruments services for He Bei Mauri Food Co.Ltd.
- Orchestrated communication with thousands of clients and negotiated contracts with hundreds of manufacturers.
- Imported instruments from the U.S. and Europe. Covered brands such as Nori, Electro-lite, Cryomech, BEEI, Lasos, Buchi, Sigma, Julabo and others.
- Established a private lab to explore process for making food emulsion.

Inspector CCIC-Canadian Standards Association (CSA), Guangzhou 2000 – 2002

- Inspected over 1,000 factories of electronic devices to ensure compliance with international safety standards.
- Developed a strong familiarity with the international safety standards framework and the auditing process.

Research Experience

Data Analytics and Machine Learning for Financial Applications

- Developed a stock investment profit calculator using Python, demonstrating skills in algorithmic development and financial modeling. 2025
- Created a program to autonomously control computer operations by recognizing specific visual elements on the display, enabling automated task execution. 2025
- Created a trading indicators program with TongDaXin code, which was successfully applied in the China stock and futures market within a private investment company. 2016

Sustainable Systems and ESG Research 2018-2022

- Led the design and construction of a 6,000 sq ft energy-saving house using pre-fabricated cold-formed steel technology.
- Designed and integrated a 40KW/h solar panel and energy storage system, contributing to research on sustainable energy solutions and their practical application in residential construction.
- Designed, researched, and prototyped a UV Ozone cleaner, demonstrating skills in product development and engineering.

Financial Market Analysis and Consulting 2013-2017

- Conducted comprehensive research and analysis of the Chinese financial market, including the stock, corporate bond, and real estate factors. 2013-2017
- Predicted a significant increase in implicit risk within the real estate market after 2015 and made an implacable

investment strategy by investing in independent ESG house, protect the investment return under downturn of Chinese market. 2016

- Interviewed over 50 private investors to gather insights on investment needs, market perceptions, and economic outlook. 2008-2011

Laboratory engineering and Consulting

2008-2011

- Lab Liquid Nitrogen Plant Project in Mongolia. Successfully secured and commissioned the first Cryomech Lab Liquid Nitrogen Plant for Mongolia Custom in Ulaanbaatar. Managed the entire project lifecycle, including technical consulting, bidding, import procedures, and on-site installation and commissioning services. 2010
- Established a private nano-emulsion research laboratory with BEEI's Nano DeBEE, explored process for making food and cosmetics emulsions. 2008

Presentations and Conferences

Presentation on Financial Knowledge and Investment Strategies, Zhengzhou and Guangzhou, China 2016

Technical Presentation on Lab Liquid Nitrogen Plant for Mongolian Customs Laboratory, Ulaanbaatar 2011

Technical Presentation on Cryomech Liquid Nitrogen Plant for the Institute of Biomedical Engineering, Chinese Academy of Medical Science 2010

Teaching and Instructional Experience

Training builders for the whole process of constructing Energy-efficient house 2019-2021

Financial Consulting and Investment Advising for Private Investors 2014-2017

Training researchers for instruments operation and adjustment 2005-2011

Awards and Honors

PhD Student Scholarship, Bocconi University 2011

Third Prize in the National Mathematical Olympiad. 1995

First Prize in the Henan Provincial Mathematical Olympiad, Second Prizes in the Henan Provincial Physics, Chemistry Olympiad. 1994-1995

Henan Provincial Youth Table Tennis Training Squad member and top-3 player in my high school. 1994-1996

Certifications and Skills

CFA Program: Level 3 Candidate (Exam scheduled for February 2026), Passed Level 2

Instructional Design and Technology Certificate

Technical: Python, RStudio, VS Code, Tableau, Office, MATLAB, Canva, Replit, Audacity, Animate, LMS (Canvas), Miro

IELTS (2023): 7 | GRE (2025): Verbal 161 Math 170 Writing 3.5

Extracurricular Activities

Student Life Officer, Department of Physics 1996–2000

- Facilitated a smooth campus experience for all 96 Physics students by managing daily deliveries, organizing holiday celebrations, and distributing canteen coupons.
- Received annual re-election to this position through a class-wide vote.

Director of Student Life, Physics Department Student Union 1997–1998

- Organized and hosted department-wide student celebrations and networking events with other departments.
- Managed a team of student union members to support and enhance student campus life.

Vice President, MBA Student Association 2010

- Planned and executed student celebrations and networking events.
- Served as a liaison to connect MBA students with companies and external organizations.