Lu Li

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Education

Mila - Quebec AI Institute, University of Montreal, Canada — Jan. 2025 – Present

Ph.D. student in Computer Science
Advisor: Pierre-Luc Bacon

Tsinghua University, China — Aug. 2021 – Jul. 2024

Master of Science in Electronic and Information Engineering (Data Science track)
Thesis: *A Study on Overfitting in Deep Reinforcement Learning* (in Chinese)
Advisor: Zhiheng Li

Huazhong University of Science and Technology, China — Sep. 2015 – Jul. 2019

Bachelor of Science in Computer Science and Technology
Advisor: Kun He

Selected Publications

For a complete list of publications, please visit: [my google scholar profile]
(*: indicates equal contribution.)

1. [ICML 2026 spotlight] Guozheng Ma, **Lu Li**, Haoyu Wang, Zixuan Liu, Pierre-Luc Bacon, Dacheng Tao. What Makes Value Learning Efficient in Residual Reinforcement Learning? *Proceedings of the 43rd International Conference on Machine Learning.*[pdf]

2. [Preprint] **Lu Li**, Tianwei Ni, Yihao Sun, and Pierre-Luc Bacon. The Three Regimes of Offline-to-Online Reinforcement Learning. *ICML Workshop on Decision-Making from Offline Datasets to Online Adaptation* ***(Best Paper Award)*** [pdf]

3. [ICML 2025 oral] Guozheng Ma*, **Lu Li***, Zilin Wang, Li Shen, Pierre-Luc Bacon, and Dacheng Tao. Network Sparsity Unlocks the Scaling Potential of Deep Reinforcement Learning. *Proceedings of the 42nd International Conference on Machine Learning, PMLR 267:42009-42029, 2025.* [pdf]

4. [ICLR 2024] Guozheng Ma*, **Lu Li***, Sen Zhang, Zixuan Liu, Zhen Wang, Yixin Chen, Li Shen, Xueqian Wang, and Dacheng Tao. Revisiting Plasticity in Visual Reinforcement Learning: Data, Modules and Training Stages. *In the Twelfth International Conference on Learning Representations*. [pdf]

5. [AAMAS 2024 oral] **Lu Li***, Jiafei Lyu*, Guozheng Ma, Zilin Wang, Zhenjie Yang, Xiu Li, and Zhiheng Li. Normalization Enhances Generalization in Visual Reinforcement Learning. *Proceedings of the 23rd International Conference on Autonomous Agents and Multi-Agent Systems*. [pdf]

Selected Awards

- Best Paper Award, ICML 2026 Workshop on Decision-Making from Offline Datasets to Online Adaptation

Talks

- Invited talk on *The Three Regimes of Offline-to-Online Reinforcement Learning*.
  ICML 2026 DEMO workshop Oral, Seoul, South Korea, July 2026
  RLC 2026 Continual RL workshop Oral, Montreal, Canada, August 2026
- Invited talk on *Network Sparsity Unlocks the Scaling Potential of Deep Reinforcement Learning*.
  ICML 2025 Oral, Vancouver, Canada, July 2025
- Invited talk on *Normalization Enhances Generalization in Visual Reinforcement Learning*.
  AAMAS 2024 Oral, Auckland, New Zealand, May 2024

Skills

- Research: reinforcement learning, deep learning
- Programming Languages: Python, C/C++
- Tools: PyTorch, JAX, Linux, Git, LaTeX, Slurm, distributed training
- Languages: English (full professional), Mandarin Chinese (native)

Academic Services

Conference Reviewer

- Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS) 2025-2026
- International Conference on Learning Representations (ICLR) 2026
- International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML) 2026
- International Conference on Intelligent Robots and Systems (IROS) 2026
- Workshops in NeurIPS, ICLR, ICML, AAAI, RLC