

# Da Wei (David) Zheng

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PhD candidate researching algorithms and data structures involving geometry and graphs.

## Education

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- **University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign (GPA: 3.99)** Champaign, IL  
*PhD Computer Science (Theory)* Aug 2020 - (expected) May 2025  
**Advisor:** Timothy Chan
- **University of British Columbia** Vancouver, BC  
*MSc Computer Science (Theory)* Sep 2018 - Aug 2020  
**Advisor:** William Evans  
**Thesis:** Scheduling queries to moving entities to certify many are distant from a region
- **University of British Columbia** Vancouver, BC  
*BSc Combined Honours Mathematics and Computer Science* Sep 2014 - May 2018

## Internships

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- **Nuro** Mountain View, CA  
*PhD Intern, "Occlusion-aware autonomous driving"* May 2022 - Aug 2022
- **Google LLC** Mountain View, CA  
*Software Engineering Intern, "Querying payments change history"* May 2018 - Aug 2018
- **Facebook Inc.** Menlo Park, CA  
*Software Engineering Intern, "Integrating VMs in container service"* Jun 2017 - Sep 2017
- **Dr. Daniel Coomb's Applied Mathematics Lab** University of British Columbia  
*USRA Research intern, "Graph based clustering for data analysis"* May 2016 - Aug 2016

## Publications

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- **(SODA 2024)** Timothy M. Chan, Pingan Cheng, and Da Wei Zheng. An optimal algorithm for higher-order voronoi diagrams in the plane: The usefulness of nondeterminism. In David P. Woodruff, editor, *Proceedings of the 2024 ACM-SIAM Symposium on Discrete Algorithms, SODA 2024, Alexandria, VA, USA, January 7-10, 2024*, pages 4451–4463. SIAM, 2024.
- **(SODA 2024)** Yi-Jun Chang and Da Wei Zheng. Fully scalable massively parallel algorithms for embedded planar graphs. In David P. Woodruff, editor, *Proceedings of the 2024 ACM-SIAM Symposium on Discrete Algorithms, SODA 2024, Alexandria, VA, USA, January 7-10, 2024*, pages 4410–4450. SIAM, 2024.
- **(ICALP 2023)** Monika Henzinger, Paul Liu, Jan Vondrák, and Da Wei Zheng. Faster submodular maximization for several classes of matroids. In Kousha Etessami, Uriel Feige, and Gabriele Puppis, editors, *50th International Colloquium on Automata, Languages, and Programming, ICALP 2023, July 10-14, 2023, Paderborn, Germany*, volume 261 of *LIPIcs*, pages 74:1–74:18. Schloss Dagstuhl - Leibniz-Zentrum für Informatik, 2023.
- **(IPCO 2023)** Da Wei Zheng and Monika Henzinger. Multiplicative auction algorithm for approximate maximum weight bipartite matching. In Alberto Del Pia and Volker Kaibel, editors, *Integer Programming and Combinatorial Optimization - 24th International Conference, IPCO 2023, Madison, WI, USA, June 21-23, 2023, Proceedings*, volume 13904 of *Lecture Notes in Computer Science*, pages 453–465. Springer, 2023.

- **(SODA 2023)** Timothy M. Chan and Da Wei Zheng. Simplex range searching revisited: How to shave logs in multi-level data structures. In Nikhil Bansal and Viswanath Nagarajan, editors, *Proceedings of the 2023 ACM-SIAM Symposium on Discrete Algorithms, SODA 2023, Florence, Italy, January 22-25, 2023*, pages 1493–1511. SIAM, 2023.
- **(SODA 2023)** Sarel Har-Peled and Da Wei Zheng. Halving by a thousand cuts or punctures. In Nikhil Bansal and Viswanath Nagarajan, editors, *Proceedings of the 2023 ACM-SIAM Symposium on Discrete Algorithms, SODA 2023, Florence, Italy, January 22-25, 2023*, pages 1385–1397. SIAM, 2023.
- **(SODA 2022)** Timothy M. Chan and Da Wei Zheng. Hopcroft’s problem, log-star shaving, 2d fractional cascading, and decision trees. In Joseph (Seffi) Naor and Niv Buchbinder, editors, *Proceedings of the 2022 ACM-SIAM Symposium on Discrete Algorithms, SODA 2022, Virtual Conference / Alexandria, VA, USA, January 9 - 12, 2022*, pages 190–210. SIAM, 2022.
- **(SoCG 2022)** Jack Spalding-Jamieson, Brandon Zhang, and Da Wei Zheng. Conflict-Based Local Search for Minimum Partition into Plane Subgraphs. In Xavier Goaoc and Michael Kerber, editors, *38th International Symposium on Computational Geometry (SoCG 2022)*, volume 224 of *Leibniz International Proceedings in Informatics (LIPIcs)*, pages 72:1–72:6, Dagstuhl, Germany, 2022. Schloss Dagstuhl – Leibniz-Zentrum für Informatik.
- **(SoCG 2021)** Paul Liu, Jack Spalding-Jamieson, Brandon Zhang, and Da Wei Zheng. Coordinated motion planning through randomized k-opt (CG challenge). In Kevin Buchin and Éric Colin de Verdière, editors, *37th International Symposium on Computational Geometry, SoCG 2021, June 7-11, 2021, Buffalo, NY, USA (Virtual Conference)*, volume 189 of *LIPIcs*, pages 64:1–64:8. Schloss Dagstuhl - Leibniz-Zentrum für Informatik, 2021.
- **(SoCG 2021)** Da Wei Zheng, Jack Spalding-Jamieson, and Brandon Zhang. Computing low-cost convex partitions for planar point sets with randomized local search and constraint programming (CG challenge). In Sergio Cabello and Danny Z. Chen, editors, *36th International Symposium on Computational Geometry, SoCG 2020, June 23-26, 2020, Zürich, Switzerland*, volume 164 of *LIPIcs*, pages 83:1–83:7. Schloss Dagstuhl - Leibniz-Zentrum für Informatik, 2020.

## Awards

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| • NSERC PGS-D Scholarship                    | 2022-2025 |
| • NSERC Undergrad Summer Research Award      | 2016      |
| • Trek Excellence Scholarship                | 2015      |
| • Stanley M Grant Scholarship in Mathematics | 2015      |
| • Chancellor’s Scholar Award                 | 2014      |
| • BC Provincial Scholarship                  | 2014      |

## Teaching

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- **Department of Computer Science** University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign  
*Teaching Assistant*  
 – CS 374 - Algorithms and Models of Computation *Aug 2021 - Apr 2022*
- **Department of Computer Science and Mathematics** University of British Columbia  
*Instructor*

- CPSC 490 - Problem Solving in Computer Science *Jan 2017 - Apr 2017*
- Teaching Assistant*
- CPSC 420 - Advanced Algorithms and Data Structures *Sep 2018 - May 2019*
- CPSC 221 - Algorithms and Data Structures *Jun 2016 - Apr 2017*
- MATH 180 - Differential Calculus with Physical Applications *Sep 2015 - Dec 2015*

## Other

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- **Competitive Programming** University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign  
*Coach*
  - *Coach* - Ran local practices, problem discussion, and coached teams. *Aug 2022 - now*
- **Competitive Programming Club** University of British Columbia  
*Coach and Participant*
  - *Coach* - Ran local practices, problem discussion, and coached teams. *Sep 2017 - Dec 2020*
    - Coached team to 1st in PacNW 2019, 2nd PacNW 2020. 25th place in ICPC WF 2020. Qualified for ICPC WF 2021
    - Created questions and hosted the UBC Programming Contest 2019 and 2020.
  - *Participant* - Worked as a team of three in competitions. *Jan 2015 - Jul 2019*
    - 1st place in PacNW 2018 and 41st place in ICPC World Finals 2019 in Porto.
    - 3rd place in PacNW 2017 and 56th place in ACM-ICPC World Finals 2018 in Beijing.
- **UBC Math Circle** University of British Columbia  
*Organizer - weekly lectures and problems for high school students.* *Sep 2017 - Nov 2017*
- **Capture the Flag (CTF) Competitions** Maple Bacon (UBC) & SIGPwny (UIUC)  
*Participant* *Aug 2021 - Sept 2022*