

Education

- 2023 – Now **📌 Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, Hong Kong**
PhD in Computer Science and Engineering
Co-Supervised by Amir Goharshady & Dimitris Papadopoulos
Research Interest: Cryptography, Theoretical Computer Science.
- 2021 – 2023 **📌 Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, Hong Kong**
Master of Philosophy in Computer Science and Engineering
Supervisor: Amir Goharshady
GPA: 3.88/4.0
- 2017 – 2021 **📌 Tsinghua University, Beijing**
Bachelor of Automation
GPA: 3.81/4, GPA Ranking: 17/168
- 2019 Fall **📌 National University of Singapore, Singapore**
Visiting Undergraduate Researcher
GPA: 4.0/4

Research Publications




1. Abidha V., Barakbayeva T., **Cai, Z.**, & Goharshady, A. (2024). Gas-efficient decentralized random beacons. In IEEE ICBC.
2. Barakbayeva T., **Cai, Z.**, & Goharshady, A. (2024). SRNG: an efficient decentralized approach for secret random number generation. In IEEE ICBC.
3. **Cai, Z.**, Farokhnia, S., Goharshady, A., & Hitarth, S. (2023). Asparagus: Automated synthesis of parametric gas upper-bounds for smart contracts. In OOPSLA.
4. Ballweg, J., **Cai, Z.**, & Goharshady, A. (2023). PureLottery: Fair leader election without decentralized random number generation. In IEEE Blockchain.
5. **Cai, Z.**, & Goharshady, A. (2023). Trustless and bias-resistant game-theoretic distributed randomness. In IEEE ICBC.
6. **Cai, Z.**, & Goharshady, A. (2023). Game-theoretic Randomness for Proof-of-Stake. In MARBLE.
7. He, X., **Cai, Z.**, Wei, W., Zhang, Y., Mou, L., Xing, E., & Xie, P. (2021). Towards visual question answering on pathology images. In ACL.

Miscellaneous Experience



Awards and Achievements

- 2023 **📌 Hong Kong PhD Fellowship**
📌 Young Researcher, 10th Heidelberg Laureate Forum
📌 Research Travel Grant, HKUST



Miscellaneous Experience (continued)

- 2019  **Honor of Academic Excellency**, Tsinghua University.
Awarded to top 10% students.
- 2018  **Honor of Academic Excellency**, Tsinghua University.
- 2016  **1st Level in National High School Mathematics League**, the Chinese Mathematical Society.
Ranked within the top 2% in the province of Anhui.



Extracurricular Experience

- Dec 2019 - May 2021  President of iOS Club, Tsinghua University.
- Aug 2018 - Aug 2019  Leader of the Students' Association of Science and Technology (Competition Branch), Department of Automation, Tsinghua University.

Teaching

- 2024 Spring, TA  **Hong Kong University of Science and Technology**
COMP 4541: Blockchains, Cryptocurrencies and Smart Contracts
- 2022 Spring & Fall, TA  **Hong Kong University of Science and Technology**
COMP 2012: Object-Oriented Programming and Data Structures

Skills

- Languages  Native in Mandarin Chinese, proficient in English (TOEFL:106, GRE:158+170).
- Coding  C/C++, Python, MATLAB, JAVA, PyTorch, HTML, \LaTeX , ...