ZIHAN CHAI

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EDUCATION

University of Texas at Austin — Austin, TX
Ph.D. student in Information, Risk, and Operations Management — Expected 2028

Hamilton College — Clinton, NY
B.A. in Classical Studies and Mathematics with Departmental Honors and Magna Cum Laude. — 2019-2023
GPA: 3.9

Budapest Semesters in Mathematics — Budapest, Hungary
Study abroad program in Mathematics, graduated with honors. — 2022 Jan -Aug

HONORS

William W. and Ruth F. Cooper Endowed Presidential Fellowship in Business, *UT Austin* — Sep 2024

- Awarded for academic excellence in Business Studies

Samuel Fisher Babbitt Kirkland College Fellowship, *Hamilton College* — May 2023

- Awarded to female graduates who best exemplify the spirit of individual learning that was associated with Kirkland College, to assist them in meeting expenses of the first year costs in pursuit an advanced degree.

Elihu Root Fellowship, *Hamilton College* — May 2023

- Awarded to selected graduates who have shown high achievement and special aptitude for research in one or more of the departments of science and who plan to pursue graduate study in science.

Member of Phi Beta Kappa, *Hamilton College* — Jan 2023

- Elected for outstanding academic performance with an emphasis on the breadth of engagement in the liberal arts and sciences.

Member of Eta Sigma Phi, *Hamilton College* — May 2023

- Elected for excellency in the study of Classical languages.

Oren Root Prize Scholarship, *Hamilton College* — Aug 2021

- Awarded to the two juniors who have the best record in mathematics

RESEARCH

I am currently actively working towards my first research project in my PhD career.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE (PRIOR TO PHD)

Polymath Jr. REU Program — Jun 2022 - Aug 2022
Polymath Jr. — *Online*

- Selected to participate based on strong academic standing in Mathematics
- Engaged in research on rainbow configuration in graphs

- Proved 4-cycle, 5-cycle, and 6-cycle are 4-rainbow-uncommon, 5-rainbow-uncommon, and 6-rainbow-uncommon, respectively
- Collaborated with researchers across disciplines at multiple global institutions

RAMMP REU   Jun 2021 - Aug 2021
NYC Alliance   *Online*

- 1 of 8 students selected
- Worked under Dr. Jorgenson to generalize Dirac delta function to the discrete line
- Developed strong research and problem solving skills

WORK EXPERIENCE

Teaching Assistant   Aug 2023 - May 2025
Hamilton College Mathematics and Statistics Department   *Clinton, New York*

- Read and evaluated written assignments for various courses
- Clarified possible confusions and questions from students
- Managed assignments and exam submissions

Senior Data Science Tutor   Aug 2022 - May 2025
Hamilton College Burke Library & IT Services   *Clinton, New York*

- Provide programming support to undergraduates in R, Python and SQL
- Supply individualized tutoring in statistical inferences and data analysis for academic departments

Research Tutor   Aug 2021 - May 2023
Hamilton College Burke Library & IT Services   *Clinton, New York*

- Provide support for research, digital assignments, and projects
- Collaborate with other departments of the library to assist in creation and delivery of multimedia projects
- Communicate effectively with broad range of students, faculty and staff

LANGUAGE SKILLS

English	Fluent
Mandarin/Simplified Chinese	Native
Ancient Greek	Proficient in Reading and Translating
Ancient Latin	Intermediate in Reading and Translating
Japanese	Intermediate in Speaking and Listening
Hungarian	Beginner