Jien Weng Lai

Product Manager & Researcher

Jien Weng, Product Manager & Researcher working on Web3 payments, business transformation, and applied AI research.

laijienweng@gmail.com | jienweng.github.io/cv

LinkedIn | GitHub | X | Google Scholar | ORCID

Experience

CryptoRails

Feb 2026 - Present

Product Manager: coordinates an engineering team, maintains the product backlog, and runs delivery for multi-chain crypto payment and wallet infrastructure.

Independent Consulting

Apr 2026 - Present

Independent Consultant & Product Manager: business transformation, Web3 product management, proprietary AI research, and data/ML training

Quandatics

Apr 2026 - Present

Contractor: Business Transformation Consultant

View reference

Quandatics Academy

Jun 2026 - Present

Contractor: Data Science & Machine Learning Trainer

View reference

Monash University Malaysia

Dec 2025 - Present

Research Assistant: develops wastewater treatment plant prediction models using RNNs, Transformers, and Markov chain methods on time-series sensor data. Works on the Monash Water Platform, including the CitizenFlood Android app and operator dashboard.

View reference

ACTBuilder

Jul 2025 - Present

Technical Consultant: supports technical documentation, builds a knowledge wiki, maintains the website, and helps set up Python environments.

Great Eastern Life Assurance

Oct 2024 - Jan 2025

Finance Analyst - Data Engineer Intern

View reference

Education

UTAR

Oct 2022 - Oct 2025

BSc (Hons), First Class Honours · Applied Mathematics with Computing

View reference

UTAR

Oct 2021 - Oct 2022

Foundation · Science

View reference

Awards

KPJ Healthcare K.R.A.F.T. Challenge 2025

Nov 2025

Top 12

Talentbank Boardroom Challenge 2025

Nov 2025

Future Founder Award, Top 15 Finalist

CodeNection Hackathon 2025

Oct 2025

Mentor

4th International Process Control Competition

Aug 2025

Best Visualisation Award

View reference

PayHack 2025

Aug 2025

Consolation Prize

Alibaba Cloud AI Hackathon 2025

May 2025

Top 13 Finalist

Hack The Future

May 2025

Best Presenter

JomHack Varsity Challenge 2025

Apr 2025

Participant

Universiti Malaya Hackathon 2025

Apr 2025

4th runner-up

20th LIAM Structured Workshop

Dec 2024

Best Presenter Award, Best Team Award

View reference

PayHack 2024

Dec 2024

Semi-finalist

Data Science Digital Race 2024

Oct 2024

Finalist

Certifications

Agile Project Management

Issued Sep 2026 | Google

View credential

Google Project Management

Issued Sep 2026 | Google

View credential

AWS Cloud Practitioner Essentials

Issued Aug 2026 | Amazon Web Services (AWS)

View credential

Databricks Fundamentals

Issued Apr 2026 | Databricks

Capital Market Essentials Programme

Issued Oct 2025 | Securities Industry Development Corporation (SIDC)

View credential

Front End Development

Issued Jan 2025 | freeCodeCamp

View credential

NVIDIA Deep Learning

Issued Dec 2024 | NVIDIA

View credential

IBM Data Science

Issued Oct 2024 | IBM

View credential

Google Data Analytics

Issued Jun 2024 | Google

View credential

NLP for Machine Learning

Issued Jun 2024 | LinkedIn Learning

View credential

Grants

Kuok Foundation Scholar

Oct 2024

Undergraduate scholarship awarded by the Kuok Foundation.

HuaZong Education Fund

Apr 2024

Study grant awarded by the HuaZong Education Fund.

KIT Foundation Scholarship

May 2023

Scholarship awarded by the KIT Foundation.

UTAR Scholarships for Top Achievers

Oct 2022

Merit-based tuition scholarship for academic performance at UTAR.

UTAR Scholarships for Top Achievers (Pre-U)

Oct 2021

Merit-based tuition scholarship for the UTAR Foundation programme.

Open Source

SymPy

12 Mar 2026 | PR #29376: add type annotations to warning helpers

Added type annotations to SymPy's warning helpers. Reviewed and merged into SymPy master.

View reference

Volunteering

Mentor & Judge, KitaHack 2026

Mar 2026 | Google Developer Groups on Campus Malaysia

Mentored participating teams and judged project submissions.

Hackathon Mentor

Oct 2025 | CodeNection

Mentored student teams throughout the hackathon.

Memberships

Kuok Foundation

2025 - Present | Kuok Foundation Scholar

Member of the Kuok Foundation scholars community.

Publications

Separating spatial support and observation effects in satellite rainfall monitoring over Malaysia

Aug 2026

Authors: Jien Weng Lai

Venue: Environmental Monitoring and Assessment · Springer Nature

Status: Manuscript resubmission · Original Research Article

Satellite rainfall products are often evaluated with gauges that sample different periods and spatial supports. We assessed daily IMERG Final V07 rainfall over Malaysia from October 2015 to September 2025, separating regional rainfall patterns from gauge-footprint and gauge-to-footprint effects. IMERG can screen regional rainfall patterns, but local high-intensity verification remains gauge-dependent.

The Primacy of Information Design Over Algorithm Selection in Multi-Agent Cooperation

Apr 2026

Authors: Jien Weng Lai, Wei Lun Tan, Ying Loong Lee and Ming Fai Chow

Venue: IEEE Social Computation

Status: Under review

A full-factorial experiment in the Public Goods Game shows that information regime and incentive strength explain 85.8% of cooperation-rate variance; algorithm choice accounts for just 3.8%. Agents with the least information cooperate most (83% versus 42% under full observation), attributable to state-space compression. TreeSHAP and Shapley-variance decomposition confirm information structure, not algorithm selection, as the primary design lever for cooperation.

Optimal Execution with Alpha Signals

Apr 2026

Authors: Jien Weng Lai

Venue: SSRN

Status: Published

Studies optimal trade execution strategies that incorporate predictive alpha signals, bridging market microstructure theory with practical quantitative trading.

View reference