

Research project and supervisor team

Supervisory Team	Dr. Jin CHEN Dr. Qingxin MENG
Short introduction & description of research project	<p>This PhD project is aimed to improve our understanding of start-ups' inter-organizational tie formation using a new method of machine learning i.e., heterogeneous network representative learning. While prior studies have emphasized the importance of social network perspective to predict start-ups' development of inter-organizational ties such as being invested by venture capitalists or joining alliance with large firms, most of them focused on homogeneous and static networks. Relative less attention has been paid to exploring the cross-level network linkages that may drive networks' dynamic evolution and how can cross-level and dynamic networks affect start-ups' likelihood of forming new ties in different contexts. To bridge this critical research gap, this project draws on super-network theory, builds multi-layered networks between people and organizations, and employs heterogeneous network representative learning methods to predict the success of start-ups to form new ties with external partners, being it investment partner or alliance partner. Theoretically, going beyond a single, static network view adopted by prior studies, this project develops a new research paradigm based on a multi-layered and dynamic network view. Practically, this project offers insights for start-ups to better leverage networks for success and provides implications to policy makers to better cultivate start-ups of high potential.</p>
Contact points	Dr. Jin CHEN, jin.chen@nottingham.edu.cn Dr. Qingxin MENG, qingxin.meng@nottingham.edu.cn