

YUXIN CHEN

PHD · CONTROL · ROBOTICS · MACHINE LEARNING

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SUMMARY

The primary objective of my research endeavors is centered around developing trustworthy and safe-guaranteed interactive autonomous agents (e.g., autonomous vehicles, mobile robots, robot manipulators) that can perceive and comprehend the physical world, engage with their surroundings, collaborate with humans and other agents to better serve the society. My specific focus lies in enhancing the robustness and safety of learning-based autonomous robot systems. I have been pursuing interdisciplinary research in cutting-edge domains including deep learning, reinforcement learning, explainable AI, optimization, and control theory.

EDUCATION

University of California, Berkeley

PH.D. MECHANICAL ENGINEERING (CONTROL)

- Advisor: Prof. Masayoshi Tomizuka
- Minors: Machine Learning, Optimization

Berkeley, CA

Aug 2022 – May 2027

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

M.S. ROBOTICS

- Advisor: Prof. Ram Vasudevan

Ann Arbor, MI

Aug 2020 – May 2022

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

B.S.E. AEROSPACE ENGINEERING (SUMMA CUM LAUDE)

- Minor: Computer Science

Ann Arbor, MI

Sep 2018 – May 2020

Shanghai Jiao Tong University

B.S. MECHANICAL ENGINEERING

Shanghai, China

Sep 2016 – Aug 2020

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

University of California, Berkeley

GRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCHER

Faculty member: Prof. Masayoshi Tomizuka

Affiliation: Mechanical Systems Control (MSC) Laboratory & Berkeley AI Research (BAIR) & Berkeley DeepDrive (BDD)

Berkeley, CA

Aug 2022 – Present

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

GRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCHER

Faculty member: Prof. Ram Vasudevan

Affiliation: Robotics and Optimization for the Analysis of Human Motion (ROAHM) Laboratory

Ann Arbor, MI

May 2020 – Jul 2022

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH ASSISTANT

Faculty member: Prof. Ella Atkins & Prof. Brent Gillespie

Affiliation: Autonomous Aerospace Systems (A2SYS) Laboratory & HAPTIX Laboratory

Ann Arbor, MI

Oct 2018 – May 2020

WORKING EXPERIENCE

Zoox, Inc.

SOFTWARE ENGINEERING INTERN. (MENTOR: RICK ZHANG)

- Developed real-time motion planning algorithms for autonomous vehicle in uncertain environments with complex traffic conditions
- Conducted vehicle tests at Stanford Linear Accelerator Center (SLAC) National Accelerator Laboratory

Foster City, CA

May 2021 – Aug 2021

Honda R&D Americas, LLC

STUDENT MEMBER, MULTIDISCIPLINARY DESIGN PROGRAM (MENTOR: TYLER NAES)

- Developed a graph neural networks (GNN) model to provide traffic/weather forecast for the on-board navigation system
- Designed the Human-Machine Interface (HMI) of the navigation system on an Acura RLX-5 host vehicle

Ann Arbor, MI

Jan 2021 – Dec 2021

ZF (China) Investment Co., Ltd

SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT & TESTING INTERN.

- Built the CANoe user interface with CAPL and tested the networks for the ECU test platform of Aston Martin
- Wrote test cases in CANoe and tested the Active Kinematics Control (AKC) system for Porsche 992 in CANape

Shanghai, China

Jan 2018 – Mar 2018

PUBLICATIONS

Journal

- [1] P. Ewen, A. Li, **Y. Chen**, S. Hong and R. Vasudevan, "These Maps are Made for Walking: Real-Time Terrain Property Estimation for Mobile Robots," *IEEE Robotics and Automation Letters (RA-L)*, vol. 7, no. 4, pp. 7083-7090, 2022.

Conference Proceeding

- [1] **Y. Chen**, C. Tang, R. Tian, C. Li, J. Li, M. Tomizuka and W. Zhan, "Quantifying Agent Interaction in Multi-Agent Reinforcement Learning for Cost-efficient Generalization," *Proceedings of the 2024 International Conference on Autonomous Agents and Multiagent Systems (AAMAS)*, 2024.
- [2] P. Ewen, J. -P. Sleiman, **Y. Chen**, W.C. Lu, M. Hutter and R. Vasudevan, "Generating Continuous Motion and Force Plans in Real-Time for Legged Mobile Manipulation," *2021 IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation (ICRA)*, pp. 4933-4939, 2021.
- [3] M. Romano, **Y. Chen**, O. Marshall, and E. Atkins, "Nailed it: Autonomous Roofing with a Nailgun-Equipped Octocopter," *AIAA Aviation 2021 Forum*, pp. 3211, 2021.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

GRADUATE STUDENT INSTRUCTOR (INSTRUCTOR: PROF. RAM VASUDEVAN)
Self-Driving Cars: Perception and Control (ROB 535)

Ann Arbor, MI
Aug 2021 – Dec 2021

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

COURSE ASSISTANT (INSTRUCTOR: PROF. DMITRY BERENSON)
Motion Planning (EECS 598)

Ann Arbor, MI
Jan 2021 – Apr 2021

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

COURSE ASSISTANT (INSTRUCTOR: ELLA ATKINS)
Introduction to Aerospace Systems (AERO 201)

Ann Arbor, MI
Aug 2019 – Dec 2019

ACADEMIC SERVICES

Journal Reviewer

- IEEE Robotics and Automation Letters (RA-L) 2021

Conference Reviewer / Program Committee

- IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation (ICRA) 2024
- IEEE/RSJ International Conference on Intelligent Robots and Systems (IROS) 2023
- IEEE International Automated Vehicle Validation Conference (IAVVC) 2023

AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

- 2020 **Outstanding Graduates of Shanghai (top 3%),** Ministry of Education of Shanghai
- 2020 **Capstone Design Gold Award (top 1%),** Shanghai Jiao Tong University
- 2020 **James B. Angell Scholar,** University of Michigan
- 2019 **Roger King Scholarship,** University of Michigan
- 2018 **Longey-SJTU Global Elite Scholarship,** Shanghai Jiao Tong University
- 2017 **Rongchang Science and Technology Innovation Scholarship,** Shanghai Jiao Tong University
- 2017 **Undergraduate Academic Excellence Scholarship,** Shanghai Jiao Tong University

DEI OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

- 2023 **UC Berkeley Cal Day,** Presenter
- 2019 **SJTU Student and Alumni Association at the UM,** Member
- 2019 **Michigan China Forum,** Vice Director of Fireside Chat Panel
- 2018 **University of Michigan M-FLY,** Member
- 2018 **Shanghai Jiao Tong University International Organization Talent Camp,** Member
- 2017 **UM-SJTU Joint Institute Student Science and Technology Innovation Association,** Vice President
- 2017 **Shanghai Jiao Tong University Odyssey of Mind Team,** Team Leader
- 2017 **Shanghai Jiao Tong University Formula SAE Team,** Member