

Fully-Funded MS/PhD Students in Robotics, Automation, & Control

Open Positions:

Applications are open for fully-funded M.S. and Ph.D. students at the **Department of Mechanical Engineering** within the **University of Louisiana at Lafayette**, starting in **Fall 2024/Spring 2025**. The successful candidates are expected to work on novel control methods for diverse applications of robots using theoretical, computational, and experimental approaches. An overview of my previous research projects can be found at <https://boyangzhangphd.github.io/research/>.

Desired Qualifications:

- Bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering, electrical and computer engineering, computer science, or a closely related field;
- Master's degree in mechanical engineering, electrical and computer engineering, computer science, or a closely related field for Ph.D. applicants;
- Prior experience on robotics, automation, and control theory;
- Prior publication record at major robotics/control conferences is a big plus;
- Solid mathematical analysis skills;
- Excellent programming skills in at least one of the following: Matlab, C/C++, Python, Fortran;
- Experience with working on robotic hardware implementation;
- Self-motivated, perseverant, and has excellent communication skills.

How to Apply:

Interested students should send an email to boyang.zhang@duke.edu with CV, an 1-page research statements, prior transcripts, and the contact info for two academic references.

About Me:

I am an incoming tenure-track assistant professor in mechanical engineering at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette. I earned a B.Eng. degree and an M.Eng. degree (with highest distinction) in ocean engineering from Tianjin University, China, and Memorial University, Canada, respectively, and an M.S degree in electrical and computer engineering and a Ph.D. degree in civil engineering from Duke University. More info of mine can be found via <https://boyangzhangphd.github.io>.

About the University:

The **University of Louisiana at Lafayette** (UL Lafayette) is a public research university in Lafayette, Louisiana. Founded in 1898, it has the largest enrollment (over 19,000 students) within the nine-campus University of Louisiana System and the second-largest enrollment in Louisiana. UL Lafayette is classified as an **R1 University** – “Doctoral University - Very High Research Activity” (in total 146 US institutions are R1 as of 2021).

About the College and Department:

The **College of Engineering** has over 1700 students as of Fall 2023, and offers B.S., M.S., and Ph.D. degrees in all engineering departments. The **Department of Mechanical Engineering** is the largest among six departments in the College, with primary research areas in robotics, manufacturing, renewable energy, materials, and biomedical engineering. Annual research expenditures in the ME Department average between \$3M to \$4M per year, with current external research projects of over \$15M.

About the City of Lafayette:

Named “**The Heart of Cajun Country**”, Lafayette is an exciting community within Louisiana, the only US state that cherishes French heritage. Lafayette is highly technology-oriented and has a reputation of being a community in which people are prone to remain due to the high-quality lifestyle, pleasing climate, and the friendly nature of its people. The city of over 130,000 is part of the Lafayette-Acadiana area, which has a total population of over 625,000 and is one of Louisiana’s fastest-growing metropolitan areas. Lafayette serves as the energy, financial, retail, and medical center for South-Central Louisiana and is the largest population and economic corridor between Houston (3-hour drive) and New Orleans (2-hour drive).