Coy Zhu

Engineering Undergraduate at Trinity College, University of Cambridge.

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Education

Trinity College, University of Cambridge

Expected 2027

Engineering BA and MEng

Ranked 1st out of 317 in University of Cambridge in 2nd Year (862/965)

2025

Jeremy Pemberton Prize (most distinguished 2nd Year student across all subjects @ Trinity)

Rex Moir Prize (top of tripos) – Mick Longton Prize (exam performance) – Re-elected as Senior Scholar

Ranked 4th out of 323 in University of Cambridge and 1st in Trinity College in 1st Year (799/900)

Elected as Senior Scholar – Garrett Fund Prize (exam performance)

2024

Nottingham High School

2016 - 2023

Silver Medal @ International Physics Olympiad (32/50) – Ranked 55th out of 400+ in the world

Ranked 1st in the UK for BPhO – NPL Theoretical Physics Prize (theory exam performance)

Gold in UK Chemistry Olympiad (72.5/86) – Qualified for UK IChO team selection camp

Distinction in British Mathematics Olympiad (33/60) – Full marks in the Senior Maths Challenge

4 A* in Further Mathematics, Mathematics, Physics and Chemistry

Deputy Head Boy - Entrance Scholar - Music Scholar - A-Level and GCSE Examination Scholar

Experience and Projects

Cambridge University Engineering Department

Cambridge

Machine Learning Research Intern

July 2025 – August 2025

- Implemented an FCN-ResNet to segment blood vessels from Flow-MRI magnitude scans using patience-based early-stopping training methods to avoid overfitting.
- Used Focal Tversky and weighted Cross Entropy loss for FP vs FN weighting.
- Designed a **level-set iterative method** to perturb analytical signed distance fields, producing artificial geometries and MRI scan-mask data pairs for supervised learning. This bypasses solving the viscous Eikonal equation for geometry using FEM.
- Achieved 90% IoU on validation set, consisting of real MRI magnitude scans.

summer.holiday

Hackathon Project

March 2025

- Wrote the backend for an LLM-powered holiday planning assistant.
- Extensive usage of APIs to receive and refine search queries using an AI agent (GPT-40).
- Ranked 3rd at the hackathon, earning an Honourable Mention.

Snake Game

Personal Project

September 2024

- Wrote an efficient 500 line **OOP-based** implementation of the popular game Snake in C++.
- Stored data through proficient use of the STL and used OpenGL for rendering graphics.
- Trained an A2C agent to play the game, implementing the REINFORCE learning algorithm.

Extra-Curricular Courses and Societies

Stanford CS229 - Machine Learning

2025

- Rigorous mathematical coverage of Machine Learning, including supervised and unsupervised models, ranging from GLMs and SVMs to Neural Networks and Transformers.
- Completed all problem sheets and coding tasks, including a final project (see below).
- Final Project

President – Trinity College Engineering Society

2024 - 2025

- Organised speaker events from various companies, ranging from startups to big tech.
- Organised several successful social networking events and society merchandise for members.
- Led efficient weekly meetings to encourage communication and teamwork within the committee.
- Successfully negotiated sponsorships for the incoming committee from a range companies.

Vice-President – Cambridge University Jazz Orchestra