



# Keyu Chen

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## RESEARCH INTERESTS

My research centers on **traffic simulation and closed-loop RL fine-tuning** for autonomous driving, with a particular emphasis on creating **realistic, interactive, and controllable traffic scenarios**. I am passionate about developing reliable closed-loop simulation frameworks to accelerate the safe and robust advancement of autonomous driving.

## EDUCATION

- **Tsinghua University (THU)** September 2023 - July 2028(Expected)  
Beijing, China  
*Ph.D. student at the School of Vehicle and Mobility.*
  - Advisor: [Prof. Sifa Zheng](#).
- **Nanjing University of Aeronautics and Astronautics (NUAA)** September 2019 - July 2023  
Nanjing, China  
*B.Eng. in Vehicle Engineering.*
  - GPA: 4.1/5 (Top 2%)

## FIRST AUTHOR PUBLICATIONS

- [arXiv 2025] RIFT: Group-Relative RL Fine-Tuning for Realistic and Controllable Traffic Simulation.  
**Keyu Chen**, Wenchao Sun, Hao Cheng, Sifa Zheng.  
[Paper](#), [Project Page](#), [Code](#),  Stars **100+**  
*RIFT achieves realistic and controllable traffic simulation by combining IL pre-training in a data-driven simulator for realism with RL fine-tuning in a physics-based simulator for controllability.*
- [CoRL 2025] FREA: Feasibility-Guided Generation of Safety-Critical Scenarios with Reasonable Adversariality.  
**Keyu Chen**, Yuheng Lei, Hao Cheng, Haoran Wu, Wenchao Sun, Sifa Zheng. (**Oral 4.3%**)  
[Paper](#), [Project Page](#), [Code](#),  Stars **50+**  
*FREA incorporates feasibility as guidance to generate adversarial yet AV-feasible, safety-critical scenarios for autonomous driving.*
- [KBS 2023] IGT: Illumination-guided RGB-T object detection with transformers.  
**Keyu Chen**, Jinqiang Liu, Han Zhang. (Bachelors thesis)  
[Paper](#)  
*IGT uses illumination intensity to guide the fusion process of multi-modality features, enabling the comprehensive utilization of cross-modality complementary information in object detection.*

## CO-AUTHOR PUBLICATIONS

- [arXiv 2025] DriveCamSim: Generalizable Camera Simulation via Explicit Camera Modeling for Autonomous Driving.  
Wenchao Sun, Xuewu Lin, **Keyu Chen**, Zixiang Pei, Yining Shi, Chuang Zhang, Sifa Zheng.  
[Paper](#), [Code](#)
- [TRC 2025] Emergency Index (EI): A two-dimensional surrogate safety measure considering vehicles interaction depth.  
Hao Cheng, Yanbo Jiang, Hailun Zhang, **Keyu Chen**, Heye Huang, Shaobing Xu, Jianqiang Wang, Sifa Zheng.  
[Paper](#), [Code](#)

## HONORS AND AWARDS

- **Outstanding Graduate (Top 1%), NUAA** June 2023
- **Outstanding Bachelor Thesis Award (Top 5%), NUAA** June 2023
- **National Scholarship (Top 1%), NUAA** December 2021