

# Feng Gao

f.gao@ucla.edu • +1 (626) 347-8822 • <https://fen9.github.io>

## EDUCATION

**University of California, Los Angeles**, Los Angeles, California, USA

Sep 2017 – Present

- Ph.D. Candidate in Statistics
  - Adviser: Prof. Song-Chun Zhu
  - Research Areas: Artificial Intelligence, Computer Vision and Robotics
  - Focus Topics: Reinforcement Learning, Visual Concept Reasoning and Robotic Learning
  - Funded by: DARPA SIMPLEX, DARPA XAI, ONR-MURI
  - Collaborated with Jet Propulsion Laboratory

**University of Southern California**, Los Angeles, California, USA

Aug 2015 – May 2017

- M.S. in Computer Science

**University of Electronic Science and Technology of China (UESTC)**

Sep 2011 – Jun 2015

- B.Eng. in Software Engineering
  - Graduated with Honors

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

**Center for Vision, Cognition, Learning and Autonomy, UCLA**

Sep 2017 – Present

- Graduate Student Researcher, Statistics Department
  - Research Interest: Artificial Intelligence in Robotics
  - Adviser: Prof. Song-Chun Zhu
  - Focus Areas: Robotics, Computer Vision, Artificial Intelligence
- Visiting Graduate Researcher, Statistics Department
  - Project: Human Robot Collaboration
  - Adviser: Prof. Song-Chun Zhu

Jul 2016 – Aug 2017

**International Center for Artificial Intelligence and Robot Autonomy (CARA)**

Sep 2017 – Sep 2019

- Robotics Research Engineer Intern
  - Research Interest: Computer Vision, Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning in Robotics
  - Supervisor: Dr. Yixin Zhu

## PUBLICATIONS

### UNDER REVIEW

- A Tale of Two Explanations: Enhancing Human Trust by Explaining Robot Behavior  
M. Edmonds\*, **F. Gao\***, H. Liu\*, X. Xie\*, S. Qi, B. Rothrock, Y. Zhu, Y.N. Wu, H. Lu, S.-C. Zhu  
*Science Robotics (under review)*
- Generalized Boltzmann Policy: Towards Exploration-Efficient Hierarchical Reinforcement Learning  
**F. Gao**, B. Jia, S. Qi, Y. Zhu, S.-C. Zhu (AAAI 2020, *under review*)

### CONFERENCES

- Learning Perceptual Inference by Contrasting  
C. Zhang, B. Jia, **F. Gao**, Y. Zhu, H. Lu, S.-C. Zhu  
*33rd Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS 2019, spotlight)*
- VRGym: A Virtual Testbed for Physical and Interactive AI (Best Paper Award)  
X. Xie, H. Liu, Z. Zhang, Y. Qiu, **F. Gao**, S. Qi, Y. Zhu, S.-C. Zhu  
*Association for Computing Machinery Turing Celebration Conference (ACM TURC 2019)*
- RAVEN: A Dataset for Relational and Analogical Visual Reasoning  
C. Zhang\*, **F. Gao\***, B. Jia, Y. Zhu, S.-C. Zhu (\* Joint First Authors)  
*Conference on Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition 2019 (CVPR 2019)*
- Unsupervised Learning of Hierarchical Models for Hand-Object Interactions using Tactile Glove  
X. Xie\*, H. Liu\*, M. Edmonds, **F. Gao**, S. Qi, Y. Zhu, B. Rothrock, S.-C. Zhu (\* Joint First Authors)  
*IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation 2018 (ICRA 2018)*
- Feeling the Force: Integrating Force and Pose for Fluent Discovery through Imitation Learning to Open Medicine Bottles  
M. Edmonds\*, **F. Gao\***, X. Xie, H. Liu, S. Qi, Y. Zhu, B. Rothrock, S.-C. Zhu (\* Joint First Authors)  
*30th International Conference on Intelligent Robots and Systems (IROS 2017)*

- A Glove-based System for Studying Hand-Object Manipulation via Pose and Force Sensing  
H. Liu\*, X. Xie\*, M. Millar\*, M. Edmonds,  
**F. Gao**, Y. Zhu, V. J. Santos, B. Rothrock, S.-C. Zhu (\* Joint First Authors)  
*30th International Conference on Intelligent Robots and Systems (IROS 2017)*

## PRESENTATIONS

### Oral Presentations

- Feeling the Force: Integrating Force and Pose for Fluent Discovery through Imitation Learning to OpenMedicine Bottles  
IROS 2017, Vancouver, Canada

### Poster Presentations

- RAVEN: A Dataset for Relational and Analogical Visual Reasoning  
CVPR 2019, Long Beach, USA & MURI 2019, Edinburgh, UK

## AWARDS & SCHOLARSHIPS

- Outstanding Reviewer, CVPR 2019  
For reviewers contributed at least two reviews noted as excellent by area chairs
- Doctoral Student Travel Grants, UCLA 2017 – 2019
- First Class People's Scholarships, UESTC 2012 – 2014  
For Top 5% students in their major
- Honor Award of Graduation, UESTC Jun 2015  
For student who got top graduate school offers

## PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS & SERVICES

### Conference Reviewer

- Reviewer, AAAI 2020
- Reviewer, ICCV 2019
- Reviewer, CVPR 2019
- Reviewer, ICRA 2018

### Conference Organization

- Student Organizer, MURI Annual Review Meeting, UCLA Aug 2017

### Program Reviewer

- Reviewer, Fall 2018,2019 UCLA Computer Science Master's Program, UCLA
- Reviewer, 2018 Cross-disciplinary Scholars in Science and Technology program (CSST), UCLA

### Teaching Assistant

- 2017 Fall Reader, Statistics Department, UCLA
- 2013 Fall Teaching Assistant, UESTC, China

## PROFESSIONAL SKILLS

### Programming Language

Python, C++, Matlab

### Frameworks & Softwares

Pytorch, ROS, Tensorflow, Matlab, Pyro