## SAHIL T CHAUDHARY

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## **EDUCATION**

## **Carnegie Mellon University**

Pittsburgh, PA

Master of Science in Mechanical Engineering – Research | GPA: 4.0/4.0

May 2025

- Coursework: Planning and Decision-making, Introduction to Robot Learning, Optimal Control and Reinforcement Learning,
   Robot Localization and Mapping, Modern Control Theory, Machine Learning, Robot Dynamics and Analysis
- Scholarship: Fully funded Master's student
- Course assistant for Machine Learning and Artificial Intelligence for Engineers (24787)

# **Vellore Institute of Technology**

Vellore, India

Bachelor of Technology in Mechanical Engineering | GPA: 9.05/10.0

May 2022

**SKILLS** 

Programming Languages: C++, Python, MATLAB, Julia

Tools: Gazebo, OpenMP, Matplotlib, PyTorch, NumPy, SKLearn, SolidWorks, Ansys, Fusion 360

Platforms: ROS, Git, Linux, Docker

**WORK EXPERIENCE** 

### **Biorobotics Lab, CMU Robotics Institute**

Pittsburgh, PA

Graduate Research Assistant

August 2023 – Present

- Spearheaded the development of a **MANET framework** using DDS and ROS, that ensures communication fidelity in heterogeneous robot convoys, along with network topology repairing and recovery behaviors
- Comms-Aware Planning: Designed a novel algorithm attaining 99% success rate to maintain communication fidelity over radio
  among robots in convoy, by formulating a modified Max-Min Spanning Tree, and validated the algorithm through extensive
  hardware testing
- Heterogeneous Convoy Framework: Developed a decentralized convoy framework integrating RC cars and quadrupeds like Boston Dynamics' Spot, and an algorithm enabling rendezvous at intersections and coordinated return as a convoy, as part of exploratory features
- Enhanced the operational efficiency of the **Local Planner by up to 29%**, through waypoint optimization and trajectory smoothing, reducing unnecessary deceleration between waypoints and improving overall robot speed and motion continuity
- Payload Redesign: Engineered a modular, serviceable payload for RC cars and quadruped robots, accomplishing a 7% weight
  reduction and lowering the center of gravity while ensuring optimal sensor field-of-view and accessibility, and incorporating
  sensors such as LiDAR, IMU, cameras, onboard computer, motor controller, and circuit boards

# **ArcelorMittal Nippon Steel India Limited**

Hazira, India

Graduate Engineer Trainee - Corex Operations

June 2022 – March 2023

Collaborated with field engineers to troubleshoot problems such as malfunctioning, errors, or issues with the equipment and
machinery, ensuring the safety and productivity of the Plant, supporting operations valued at USD 2.25 million daily
PROJECTS

## PinBot – Reinforcement Learning on a Pinball Machine [Website]

Pittsburgh, PA

Carnegie Mellon University – Course Project

September 2024 – Present

- Formulated a Proximal Policy Optimization (PPO) agent using Unity ML-Agents to play a game of pinball, attaining performance comparable to an amateur human player in 10k epochs
- Applying transfer learning to adapt the agent for a physical pinball machine (ongoing work)

# **Quadruped Path Planner for Dynamic Environments [Website]**

Pittsburgh, PA

Carnegie Mellon University – Course Project

September 2024 – November 2024

- Demonstrated a global path planner using C++ and ROS, that accounts for dynamic obstacles and the z-height of the robot
- Executed Lazy-PRM with D-Star Lite and kinodynamic constraints in a Gazebo simulation environment, achieving a 93% success rate

## Model Predictive Path Integral Control [Website]

Pittsburgh, PA

Carnegie Mellon University – Course Project

February 2024 – April 2024

- Implemented MPPI using C++ and ROS in simulation, with obstacle avoidance leveraging a Voxel Grid Costmap
- Benchmarked MPPI against an existing iLQR controller, demonstrating faster path generation of up to 21%

### Point-LiDAR Inertial Odometry [Website]

Pittsburgh, PA

Carnegie Mellon University - Course Project

February 2024 - April 2024

- Engineered the Point-LIO algorithm using C++, ROS and GTSAM, addressing the limitations of scan-based LiDAR processing
- Performed state estimation using an Extended Kalman Filter (EKF), and handled IMU saturation by modeling IMU measurements as part of the state vector