

Yufeng Chi

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Research Interest

Computer architecture: Domain-Specific Architecture, Machine Learning Systems, Design Methodology, Hardware Prototyping

Robotics: Robot Learning, Reinforcement Learning, Locomotion Control, Robot Foundation Model

Education

University of California, Berkeley

Ph.D. Electrical Engineering and Computer Science

May 2023 – Present

GPA: 3.875/4.0

Advisor: Yakun Sophia Shao, Borivoje Nikolic

Relevant Coursework:

CS285 Deep Reinforcement Learning, **EE221A** Linear System Theory, **EECS227AT** Optimization Models in Engineering,

EE249 Embedded System Design

University of California, Berkeley

B.S. Electrical Engineering and Computer Science

May 2019 – Dec 2022

GPA: 3.783/4.0

Relevant Coursework:

EE194/290C IC Design Project: 16nm SoC for IoT, **EECS151/EECS151LB** Digital Design and Integrated Circuits, **CS162** Operating

Systems, **EECSC106A** Robotics

Publications

2024 **DiffuseLoco: Real-Time Legged Locomotion Control with Diffusion from Offline Datasets**

X Huang, Y Chi, R Wang, Z Li, XB Peng, S Shao, B Nikolic, K Sreenath

Conference on Robot Learning

[Paper][Website]

2023 **Creating a Dynamic Quadrupedal Robotic Goalkeeper with Reinforcement Learning**

X Huang, Z Li, Y Xiang, Y Ni, Y Chi, Y Li, L Yang, XB Peng, K Sreenath

IEEE/RSJ International Conference on Intelligent Robots and Systems

[Paper][Video][Featured by IEEE Spectrum, TechXplore, TechCrunch]

2022 **Collaborative Navigation and Manipulation of a Cable-towed Load by Multiple Quadrupedal Robots**

C Yang, GN Sue, Z Li, L Yang, H Shen, Y Chi, A Rai, J Zeng, K Sreenath

IEEE Robotics and Automation Letters 7 (4), 10041-10048

[Paper][Video][Spotlighted by IEEE Spectrum]

Experience

Research Assistant

 Berkeley Wireless Research Center, UC Berkeley

Aug 2022 – May 2023

Advisor: Prof. Kristofer Pister, Prof. Borivoje Nikolic

Working with Prof. Kristofer Pister on bringing up the research chips OsciBear, BearlyML, and SCuM-V.

- Experimented with JTAG, QSPI, and serialized-TileLink communication to the chip, and successfully established communication with OsciBear using an STM32 microcontroller running software emulated serialized-TileLink over UART interface
- Wrote driver libraries and tested the on-chip RISC-V core, RF Baseband, Advanced Encryption Standard (AES) accelerator, and sparse-dense matrix multiplication accelerator
- Designed the digital and RF layout of the 6-layer PCB for the chips in Intel BGA package

Working with Prof. Borivoje Nikolic on improving the Chipyard System-on-Chip (SoC) framework.

- Writing detailed documentation and tutorials for the generator components inside the testchipip and sifive-block repo
- Working on automated C driver code generation from the source Chisel code
- Porting Chipyard to Arty Cmod board to serve as a UART to serialized-TileLink adapter



Bringup Engineer

NeuralAccel Corporation – Internship

June 2022 – Aug 2022

Worked on designing a sparse-sparse matrix multiplication accelerator.

- Implemented the serialized TileLink communication over UART for communication between host computer and the accelerator memory on Arty FPGA
- Implemented a small single stage RISC-V core with MMIO devices as the controller of the accelerator
- Worked on implementing an Ethernet controller supporting UDP protocol on Arty FPGA for streaming data between host computer and accelerator



Independent Undergraduate Researcher

Hybrid Robotics Lab, UC Berkeley

Jan 2022 – May 2023

Advisor: Prof. Koushil Sreenath

Working on developing a human-sized high degrees of freedom humanoid robot with 3D printed cycloidal gear actuator and proprioceptive motor driver from scratch.

- Researched and designed a 15:1 proprioceptive cycloidal actuator with Autodesk Fusion 360
- Researched and designed the body of the robot with two 7 degrees of freedom legs and two 4 degrees of freedom arms.
- Designed and manufactured a field-oriented control (FOC) motor controller which supports up to 90V and 50Amps driving capability
- Designing Controller Area Network control system as the communication system on the robot

Participated in developing a model-based reinforcement learning control algorithm in Mujoco and OpenAI Gym environment for training the robot dog to learn a specific set of motions.



Research Assistant

Ma Lab, UC Berkeley

Sep 2021 – Jun 2022

Advisor: Prof. Eric Y. Ma

Assisted and worked with Prof. Eric Y. Ma in setting up the newly established Ma Lab.

Built a real-time cloud-synced lab environment monitoring and inventory management system.

- Implemented Bluetooth Low Energy (BLE) communication between sensor nodes and host computer
- Designed and implemented QR Code-based inventory logging system
- Integrated Python backend server to real-time updating PlotlyJS frontend data visualization



System Engineer

Formula Electric at Berkeley – Student Club

Jan 2021 – Present

In charge of the electrical control and communication system on the formula racing car.

- Implemented firmware code for multiple modules on the car with GPIO, ADC, DAC, SPI, I2C, USB, and Ethernet functionalities
- Designed and implemented the Controller Area Network Flexible Data-Rate (CAN-FD) communication system on the car
- Designed and manufactured the steering wheel PCB and implemented the graphical display functionalities with Raspberry Pi Compute Module
- Prototyped the data streaming system between car and pit station with WiFi and 900MHz XBee connectivity



Ecosystem Technical Supporting

Intel Corporation – Internship

Jun 2020 - Dec 2020

Worked as technical consultant to analyze strength and weakness of Intel's potential technical partners.

Contributed to designing the Intel Nanjing Smart Technology Business Park.

Selected Projects

Designing and manufacturing a 3-phase field-oriented control brushless DC motor controller

Aug 2022 – Feb 2024

Independent project

- STM32 controller with 1Mbps Controller Area Network (CAN) 2.0 bus communication
- 3-phase shunt current sampling with IIR filter
- Absolute magnetic encoder for position feedback with All-digital Phase Locked Loop (ADPLL) filter
- Coordinate Rotation Digital Computer (CORDIC) processor for Field-Oriented Control (FOC) computation
- 16 kHz current loop control
- 8kHz torque, velocity, and position control with optional acceleration and velocity limit
- PCB design and assembling

[\[Assembly Video\]](#)[\[Testing Video\]](#)

Designing and building a 1/2 scale humanoid robot to play xylophone

Aug 2021 – Nov 2021

Group project for EECS 106A

Designed the mechanical structure and actuator integration of the robot.

Implemented the control system first on Arduino, and then ported to the RISC-V Red-V development board.

Integrated inverse kinematics and animation control of the robot with Blender.

Awarded as Showcase Winner in the class final presentation.

Contributing to GD32VF103 RISC-V Processor Baremetal Library

Oct 2020 – Dec 2020

Collaboration with Nuclei Inc.

Contributed to bug fixes of the existing Controller Area Network (CAN) bus library code.

Proposed a better hardware abstraction layer library interface.

Educational RISC-V Processor Video Series

Apr 2020 – June 2020

Independent personal project

Published a series of videos introducing RISC-V processor ISA and logic design to viewers on Bilibili and YouTube.

Gained 800k views on both video platforms and inspired many to start learning RISC-V ISA.

[\[Project Video\]](#)[\[Education Video \(Chinese\)\]](#)

Skills

Programming / Scripting (ordered by proficiency): C, RISC-V assembly, Python, Verilog, Javascript, Scala/Chisel, C++, C#

Embedded Systems: STM32 Programming and Debugging, CAN2.0/CAN-FD/EtherCAT Protocol, PCB design with Altium and LCEDA

Robotics: Mechanical design with Autodesk Fusion 360, Mujoco Simulation,

Prototyping Skills: 3D printing, Harnessing, Electronics Bench Testing, FPGA prototyping with Vivado

Multimedia: Audio/Video Editing, 3D Modeling and Production with Blender and Unreal Engine

Honors and Awards

2022 Dean's List of College of Engineering

2021 EECS C106A Final Project Showcase Winner

2021 "Hack To The Moon" Winner in CalHacks hello:world (CalHacks 8.0)

2019 Honors to Date

Teaching

2022 **ELENG 194 Bringup Class: Test Integrated Circuit Chips Designed in Previous Tapeout Classes**

Teaching Assistant, UC Berkeley