





Changling Li (李常凌)

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 [LinkedIn](#) |  [GitHub](#) |  [Google Scholar](#) |  [X](#)

“And now I see with eye serene, the very pulse of the machine.” – William Wordsworth

RESEARCH INTEREST

AI Safety · Multi-Agent Systems · Reinforcement Learning · AI Governance and Policy

EDUCATION

- **ETH Zürich** Sept 2022 - Present
Zurich, Switzerland
Master of Science in Computer Science
 - Major: Machine Intelligence; Minor: Theoretical Computer Science
 - Relevant Courses: Foundations of Reinforcement Learning, Guarantees for Machine Learning (High-dimensional Statistics), Optimization for Data Science, Deep Learning, Advanced Machine Learning, Machine Perception, Information Security Lab.
- **Colby College** Sept 2018 - May 2022
Maine, United States
Bachelor of Arts in Physics (Astrophysics) and Computer Science with Honors
 - GPA: 3.99/4 (Top 5%, Distinction in both majors)
 - Relevant Courses: Neural Networks, Analysis of Algorithms, Computing Ethics, Data Structures and Algorithms, Data Analysis and Visualization, Programming Languages, Interactive Systems I.
- **Li Po Chun United World College** Sept 2016 - June 2018
Hong Kong
International Baccalaureate Bilingual Diploma
 - Grade: 41/45

PUBLICATIONS

*=EQUAL CONTRIBUTION, C=CONFERENCE, J=JOURNAL, S=IN SUBMISSION

- [C.3] Choi Younwoo*, Changling Li*, Yongjin Yang, and Zhijing Jin. “**Agent-to-Agent Theory of Mind: Testing Interlocutor Awareness among Large Language Models.**” In *Proceedings of the 2025 Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP Main)*, 2025.
- [C.2] Changling Li, Zhang-Wei Hong, Pulkit Agrawal, Divyansh Garg, and Joni Pajarinen. “**ROER: Regularized Optimal Experience Replay.**” In *Reinforcement Learning Conference (RLC)*, 2024.
- [J.1] Changling Li, Ying Li. “**Scaling up Energy-Aware Multi-Agent Reinforcement Learning for Mission-Oriented Drone Networks with Individual Reward.**” *IEEE Internet of Things Journal (IoT-J)*, 2024.
- [C.1] Ying Li, Changling Li, Jiyao Chen, and Christine Roinou. “**Energy-Aware Multi-Agent Reinforcement Learning for Collaborative Execution in Mission-Oriented Drone Networks.**” In *2022 International Conference on Computer Communications and Networks (ICCCN)*, pp. 1–9. IEEE, 2022.

HONORS, AWARDS & SCHOLARSHIPS

Undergrad Honors: Distinction in both majors; Magna Cum Laude (top 5%); Phi Beta Kappa; Sigma Pi Sigma; UWC Davis Scholar; Dean’s List F’18, S’19, F’19, F’21 (2020 and S’21 - cancelled due to COVID-19).

Colby College Institutional Grant: 45,065\$/year × 4 years undergraduate scholarship (90% scholarship, acceptance rate < 5%), Colby College, 2018 - 2022.

UWC Davis Scholarship: 20,000\$/year × 4 years undergraduate scholarship, Davis UWC Scholars, 2018 - 2022.

UWC National Committee Scholarship: HKD 278,000/year × 2 years high school scholarship (full scholarship, acceptance rate < 1%), United World College, 2016 - 2018.

Bronze Medal in China National Biology Olympiad (CNBO): 24th China National Biology Olympiad, 2015.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- **Master Thesis Student** Oct 2025 - Present
Zurich, Switzerland
AI Safety and Alignment Group at MPI-IS & SPY Lab at ETH Zurich
 - Examine and mitigate evaluation awareness of LLMs.
 - Supervised by [Jie Zhang](#), Prof. [Maksym Andriushchenko](#), and Prof. [Florian Tramèr](#).
- **Student Researcher** May 2025 - Sept 2025
Zurich, Switzerland
Jinesis Lab & ETH Zurich
 - Designed evaluation framework and behavior adaptation case studies ([\[C3, EMNLP\]](#)).
 - Implemented multi-LLM interactions to explore the implication in cooperative LLMs, AI alignment and safety.
 - Supervised by Prof. [Zhijing Jin](#).
- **Semester Project Student** Oct 2024 - Feb 2025
Zurich, Switzerland
PdZ Lab & ETH Zurich

- Developed the in-context learning optimization pipeline for dexterous robot hand grasping and planning.
- Integrated the pipeline with Raisim Gym environment.
- Supervised by [Hui Zhang](#), Sophokles Ktistakis & Prof. [Mirko Meboldt](#).

- **Remote Student Researcher**

Nov 2023 - May 2024

MIT & Aalto University

Remote

- Derived the theoretical formulation of TD-based prioritization scheme involving occupancy optimization and Lagrangian duality ([\[C.2, RLC\]](#)).
- Implemented JAX-based Soft Actor-Critic RL with proposed experience replay formulation.
- Ran Large scale evaluation using MuJoCo and DM Control.
- Supervised by Dr. [Zhang-Wei Hong](#), Prof. [Joni Pajarinen](#) & Prof. [Pulkit Agrawal](#).

- **Summer Research Assistant & Honor Thesis Student**

Jan 2021 - June 2022

Colby College

Waterville, United States

- Developed an OpenAI gym based drone networks simulation environment.
- Implemented tensorflow-based DQN MARL in both cooperation ([\[C.1, ICCCN\]](#)) and coopetition settings ([\[IJ.1, IoT-J\]](#)).
- Supervised by Prof. [Ying Li](#).

ACADEMIC SERVICE

- **Reinforcement Learning Conference Technical Reviewer**, 2025.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- **Teaching Assistant**

Sept 2019 - May 2022

Department of Computer Science, Colby College



- Courses: CS 353 Interactive System; CS 251 Data Analysis and Visualization; CS 231 Data Structure and Algorithm; CS 152 Computational Thinking: Science; CS 151 Computational Thinking: Visual Media.

- **Teaching Assistant**

Sept 2019 - May 2021

Department of Physics and Astronomy, Colby College



- Courses include: PH 241 Modern Physics I; PH 242 Modern Physics II.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

- **Zurich AI Safety**, Volunteer
- **WatervilleCreates!**, 3D Printing Instructor
- **The Bridge (LGBTQIA+) Club of Colby College**, Co-leader
- **Coral Monitoring in Collaboration with WWF and CoralWatch**, Co-leader

Sept 2025 - Present

Sept 2021 - May 2022

Feb 2019 - Sept 2021

Sept 2016 - June 2018

SKILLS & INTERESTS

- **Programming Languages:** Python, C++, Java.
- **Frameworks:** PyTorch, JAX, TensorFlow, Sklearn, Git, SQL, JSONiq.
- **Domains:** AI, Machine Learning, Reinforcement Learning, Multi-Agent Systems, AI Governance, Ethics.
- **Natural Languages:** English (Proficient), Mandarin (Native), Spanish (Intermediate), German (Elementary).
- **Interests:** Play Squash, Horror Film, Visual Arts, Scuba Diving, Effective Altruism.

REFERENCES

Upon request