Changling Li (李常凌)

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in 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

EDUCATION

• ETH Zürich Sept 2022 - Present

Master of Science in Computer Science

Zurich, Switzerland

- 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

Bachelor of Arts in Physics (Astrophysics) and Computer Science with Honors

Maine, United States

- GPA: 3.99/4 (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

International Baccalaureate Bilingual Diploma

Sept 2016 - June 2018

Hong Kong

o Grade: 41/45

PUBLICATIONS

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.
- [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), vol. 12, no. 8, pp. 10640-10654, April 15, 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.
- [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; 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 \times 2 years high school scholarship (full scholarship, acceptance rate < 1%), United World College, 2016 - 2018.

Bronze Medal in China National Biology Olympiad (CNBO): 32nd China National Biology Olympiad, 2015.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

• Student Researcher

May 2025 - Present

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 PdZ Lab & ETH Zurich

Oct 2024 - Feb 2025

Zurich, Switerland

- 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.

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 Joni Pajarinen & Prof. Pulkit Agrawal.

Summer Research Assistant & Honor Thesis Student

June 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 ([J.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

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

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COMMUNITY SERVICE

• WatervilleCreates!, 3D Printing Instructor

Sept 2021 - May 2022

The Bridge (LGBTQIA+) Club of Colby College, Co-leader

Feb 2019 - Sept 2021

• Coral Monitoring in Collaboration with WWF and CoralWatch, Co-leader

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, Ethics.
- Natural Languages: English (Proficient), Mandarin (Native), Spanish (Intermediate), German (Elementary).
- Interests: Play Squash, Horror Film, Visual Arts, Scuba Diving, Effective Altruism.

REFERENCES

1. Zhijing Jin

Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Science

University of Toronto Email: zjin@cs.toronto.edu

Relationship: Research Supervisor

2. Joni Pajarinen

Assistant Professor, Department of Electrical Engineering and Automation

Aalto University

Email: joni.pajarinen@aalto.fi Relationship: Research Supervisor

3. Ying Li

Associate Professor, Department of Computer Science

Colby College

Email: yingli@colby.edu

Relationship: Undergrad Thesis Supervisor