XUSHENG LUO

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RESEARCH INTERESTS

Overview: My research *agenda* is centered on **building assured autonomy at scale** by integrating knowledge across robotics, AI/ML, system and control, and formal methods. My research *philosophy* is to leverage mathematical structure and data-informed analysis to establish new algorithms and theorems that make AI-enabled autonomy dependable in the real world, with applications in navigation and manipulation for mobile robots, robotic arms, and aircraft.

ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYMENT

Carnegie Mellon University   Pittsburgh, PA
- *Postdoctoral Fellow* at the Robotics Institute, School of Computer Science   2023 – Present
- Advisor: Changliu Liu

DJI   Shenzhen, China
- Autonomous Driving Research Engineer, Decision Making and Planning   2021 – 2023

EDUCATION

Duke University   Durham, NC
- *Ph.D. in Mechanical Engineering (Robotics)*   2017 – 2020
- *M.S. in Mechanical Engineering (Robotics)*   2017 – 2020
- Advisor: Michael M. Zavlanos
- Dissertation: Scalable Control Synthesis for Multi-Robot Systems under Temporal Logic Specifications

Harbin Institute of Technology   Harbin, China
- *M.S. in Aerospace Engineering*   2015 – 2017
- *B.S. in Aerospace Engineering*   2011 – 2015
  - Formerly majored in Computer Science (2011–2012); transitioned to Aerospace Engineering

PUBLICATIONS

* indicates equal contribution.

I have published **7** peer-reviewed journal papers, **7** peer-reviewed conference papers, and **4** peer-reviewed workshop papers in top robotics, control and system venues, such as T-RO, RA-L, Automatica, RSS, CDC, T-CPS, ICCPS.

Refereed Journal Publications

[1] **Xusheng Luo**, Changliu Liu, "Simultaneous Task Allocation and Planning for Multi-Robots under Hierarchical Temporal Logic Specifications". *IEEE Transactions on Robotics*, 2025. **(IF=10.5)** DOI: 10.1109/TRO.2025.3598139

[2] Shaojun Xu*, **Xusheng Luo***, Yutong Huang, Letian Leng, Ruixuan Liu, Changliu Liu, "NL2HLTL2PLAN: Scaling Up Natural Language Understanding for Multi-Robots Through Hierarchical Temporal Logic Task Representation". *IEEE Robotics and Automation Letters*, 2025, **(IF=5.3)**. DOI: 10.1109/LRA.2025.3598648

[3] **Xusheng Luo**, Tianhao Wei, Simin Liu, Ziwei Wang, Luis Mattei-Mendez, Taylor Loper, Joshua Neighbor, Casidhe Hutchison, and Changliu Liu. "Certifying Robustness of Learning-Based Keypoint Detection and Pose Estimation Methods". *ACM Transactions on Cyber-Physical Systems* 9, no. 2 (2025): 1-26. **(IF=2.0)** DOI: 10.1145/372836

[4] **Xusheng Luo**, Shaojun Xu, Ruixuan Liu and Changliu Liu. "Decomposition-based Hierarchical Task Allocation and Planning for Multi-Robots under Hierarchical Temporal Logic Specifications". *IEEE Robotics and Automation Letters*, 2024, with presentation at ICRA 2025. **(IF=5.3)** DOI: 10.1109/LRA.2024.3412589

[5] **Xusheng Luo** and Michael M Zavlanos. "Temporal Logic Task Allocation in Heterogeneous Multi-robot Systems". *IEEE Transactions on Robotics*, 38(6):3602-3621, 2022. **(IF=10.5)** DOI: 10.1109/TRO.2022.3181948

[6] **Xusheng Luo**, Yiannis Kantaros, and Michael M Zavlanos. "An Abstraction-Free Method for Multirobot Temporal Logic Optimal Control Synthesis". *IEEE Transactions on Robotics*, 37(5):1487–1507, 2021. **(IF=10.5)** DOI: 10.1109/TRO.2021.3061983

[7] **Xusheng Luo**, Miroslav Pajic, and Michael M. Zavlanos. "An Optimal Graph-Search Method for Secure State Estimation". *Automatica* 123 (2021): 109323. **(IF=5.9)** DOI: 10.1016/j.automatica.2020.109323

Refereed Conference Proceedings

[8] Zhongqi Wei*, **Xusheng Luo***, Changliu Liu, "Hierarchical Temporal Logic Task and Motion Planning for Multi-Robot Systems". *Robotics: Science and Systems (to appear)*, 2025. [link]

[9] Tianhao Wei, Luca Marzari, Kai Yun, Hanjiang Hu, Peizhi Niu, **Xusheng Luo** and Changliu Liu. "ModelVerification.jl: a Comprehensive Toolbox for Formally Verifying Deep Neural Networks". *International Conference on Computer Aided Verification*, pp. 395-408. Cham: Springer Nature Switzerland, 2025. DOI: 10.1007/978-3-031-98679-6_18

[10] Shiqi Sun, Yan Zhang, **Xusheng Luo**, Panagiotis Vlantis, Miroslav Pajic, and Michael M. Zavlanos. "Formal Verification of Stochastic Systems with ReLU Neural Network Controller". *IEEE 39th International Conference on Robotics and Automation (ICRA)*, Philadelphia, USA, 2022. DOI: 10.1109/ICRA46639.2022.9811866

[11] Yijie Zhou, Yan Zhang, **Xusheng Luo**, and Michael M. Zavlanos. "Human-in-the-loop Robot Planning with Non-Contextual Bandit Feedback". In *2021 60th IEEE Conference on Decision and Control (CDC)*, pp. 2848-2853. IEEE, 2021. DOI: 10.1109/CDC45484.2021.9683023

[12] **Xusheng Luo***, Yan Zhang*, and Michael M. Zavlanos. "Socially-aware Robot Planning via Bandit Human Feedback". In *2020 ACM/IEEE 11th International Conference on Cyber-Physical Systems (ICCPS)*, pp. 216-225. IEEE, 2020. DOI: 10.1109/ICCPS48487.2020.00033

[13] Le, Duc M., **Xusheng Luo**, Leila J. Bridgeman, Michael M. Zavlanos, and Warren E. Dixon. "Single-Agent Indirect Herding of Multiple Targets using Metric Temporal Logic Switching". In *2020 59th IEEE Conference on Decision and Control (CDC)*, pp. 1398-1403. IEEE, 2020. DOI: 10.1109/CDC42340.2020.9304233

[14] **Xusheng Luo**, and Michael M. Zavlanos. "Transfer Planning for Temporal Logic Tasks". In *2019 IEEE 58th Conference on Decision and Control (CDC)*, pp. 5306-5311. IEEE, 2019. DOI: 10.1109/CDC40024.2019.9030087

Refereed Workshop Publications

[15] **Xusheng Luo**, Tianhao Wei, Simin Liu, Ziwei Wang, Luis Mattei-Mendez, Taylor Loper, Joshua Neighbor, Casidhe Hutchison, Changliu Liu, "Certifying Robustness of Learning-Based Keypoint Detection and Pose Estimation Methods". Workshop on *Public Trust in Autonomous Systems*, IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation (ICRA), 2025. [link]

[16] **Xusheng Luo** and Changliu Liu. "Hierarchical Temporal Logic Specifications for Abstract Safety Tasks". Workshop on *Robot safety under uncertainty from "intangible" specifications*, IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation (ICRA), 2025. [link]

[17] **Xusheng Luo***, Shaojun Xu* and Changliu Liu. "Obtaining Hierarchy from Human Instructions: an LLMs-based Approach". Workshop on *Learning Effective Abstractions for Planning (LEAP)*, Conference on Robot Learning (CoRL), 2023. [link]

[18] **Xusheng Luo**, Shaojun Xu, Ruixuan Liu and Changliu Liu. "Robotic Planning under Hierarchical Temporal Logic Specifications". Workshop on *Formal Methods Techniques in Robotics Systems: Design and Control*, IEEE/RSJ International Conference on Intelligent Robots and Systems (IROS), 2023. [link]

Preprints

[19] Ruixuan Liu, Alan Chen, **Xusheng Luo** and Changliu Liu. "Simulation-aided Learning from Demonstration for Robotic LEGO Construction". *arXiv:2309.11010*, 2023. [link]

[20] **Xusheng Luo** and Changliu Liu. "From Decoupled to Coupled: Robustness Verification for Learning-based Keypoint Detection with Joint Specifications". *under review at Transactions on Machine Learning Research*, 2025.

GRANT AND PROPOSALS

- **Co-Author, Multidisciplinary University Research Initiative (MURI) Proposal** – Led one research thrust, including problem formulation, technical writing, and coordination with collaborators.   2025

AWARDS AND HONORS

- **Dynamic Systems & Control Division (DSCD) Rising Star**   ASME, 2025
- **Cyber-Physical System (CPS) Rising Star** (16.4%=36/220)   NSF, 2024
  "36 outstanding PhD students and postdocs in Cyber-Physical Systems (CPS)".
- **CDC Travel Grant**   IEEE Control Systems Society, 2020
- **Outstanding Graduate**   Harbin Institute of Technology, 2015, 2017
- **The Samsung Scholarship**   Harbin Institute of Technology, 2016
- **Summer School Scholarship**   Technion, Israel, 2016
- **National Endeavor Fellowship**   Harbin Institute of Technology, 2012, 2014
- **Third Prize in the 9th National Zhou Peiyuan Mechanics Competition**   CSTAM, China, 2013

TALKS

Refereed Conference and Workshop Presentations

- Building Assured Autonomy at Scale   2025
  – Special Session on *ASME DSCD Rising Stars*

- Building Assured Autonomy at Scale   2025
  – In 2025 *Northeast Robotics Colloquium (NERC)*

- Decomposition-based Hierarchical Task Allocation and Planning for Multi-Robots under Hierarchical Temporal Logic Specifications   2025
  – In 2025 *IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation (ICRA)*

- Certifying Robustness of Learning-Based Keypoint Detection and Pose Estimation Methods   2025
  – Workshop on *Public Trust in Autonomous Systems, IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation (ICRA)*

- Hierarchical Temporal Logic Specifications for Abstract Safety Tasks   2025
  – Workshop on *Robot safety under uncertainty from "intangible" specifications, IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation (ICRA)*

- Integrating Autonomy with Formal Methods   2024
  – Workshop on *2024 NSF CPS Rising Stars*

- Obtaining Hierarchy from Human Instructions: an LLMs-based Approach   2023
  – Workshop on *Learning Effective Abstractions for Planning, Conference on Robot Learning (CoRL)*

- Robotic Planning under Hierarchical Temporal Logic Specifications   2023
  – Workshop on *Formal Methods Techniques in Robotics Systems: Design and Control, IEEE/RSJ International Conference on Intelligent Robots and Systems (IROS)*

- Socially-aware Robot Planning via Bandit Human Feedback   2020
  – In *2020 ACM/IEEE 11th International Conference on Cyber-Physical Systems (ICCPS)*

- Transfer Planning for Temporal Logic Tasks   2019
  – In *2019 IEEE 58th Conference on Decision and Control (CDC)*

Invited Talks

- Building Assured Autonomy at Scale: Logical Specification, Provable Control, and Verified Learning
  – Artificial Intelligence for Robot Coordination at Scale (ARCS) Lab at CMU   2025
  – Computational Robotics, AI & Biomedicine (Kavraki) Lab at Rice University   2025
  – Center for Autonomy at University of Texas, Austin   2025
  – Resilient Cyber-Physical Systems Lab at University of California, Irvine   2025
  – Robotics Seminar at University of California, Riverside   2025
  – Existential Robotics Laboratory (ERL) at University of California, San Diego   2025

- Scalable Control Synthesis for Multi-Robot Systems under Temporal Logic Specifications
  – Intelligent Control Lab (ICL) at CMU   2022
  – Reliable Autonomous System (REALM) Lab at MIT   2021

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Professional Affiliations

- Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), Member

Editorial Roles

- *Associate Editor* for Vision and Sensor-Based Control, IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation (ICRA)   2026

Conference & Workshop Organization

- *Session Chair*, Verification and Formal Methods, ICRA   2025

- *Lead Organizer*, [Foundation Models for Control (FM4Control): Bridging Language, Vision, and Control Workshop](#) at Modeling, Estimation and Control Conference (MECC)   2025

- *Volunteer*, Modeling, Estimation, and Control Conference (MECC)   2025
  Supported onsite operations and technical sessions to ensure smooth conference execution.

Paper Review

- **Journals:**
  - IEEE Transactions on Pattern Analysis and Machine Intelligence (T-PAMI)   2025
  - IEEE Transactions on Mechatronics (T-MECH)   2025
  - IEEE Journal of Dynamic Systems, Measurement and Control   2025
  - IEEE Robotics and Automation Letters (RA-L)   2025
  - IEEE Transactions on Robotics (T-RO)   2022, 2023, 2024, 2025
  - IEEE Control Systems Letters (L-CSS)   2024, 2025
  - IEEE Transactions on Automation Science and Engineering (T-ASE)   2021, 2025
  - IEEE Transactions on Control of Network Systems (T-CNS)   2019, 2021

- **Conferences:**
  - Conference on Robot Learning (CoRL) Workshop Learning Effective Abstractions for Planning (LEAP)   2024, 2025
  - IEEE Conference on Decision and Control (CDC)   2025
  - Robotics: Science and Systems (R:SS)   2024, 2025
  - IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation (ICRA)   2024, 2025, 2026
  - AACC/IFAC Conference on Modeling, Estimation and Control Conference (MECC)   2024, 2025
  - IEEE International Conference on Intelligent Robots and Systems (IROS)   2022, 2025
  - IEEE American Control Conference (ACC)   2022
  - IEEE International Conference on Ubiquitous Robots (UR)   2021
  - ACM/IEEE International Conference on Cyber-Physical Systems (ICCPS)   2019, 2020

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teaching Assisant

- MATLAB for Engineering Applications   Harbin Institute of Technology, Fall 2016
  - Ins tructor: Changsheng Gao

Guest Lecturer

- From Temporal Logic Specifications to Control Synthesis in Multi-Robot Systems
  - CSCE 689: Special Topics in Multi-Robot Systems   Texas A&M University, Fall 2025
  - Instructor: Yiwei Lyu

- System Properties: Controllability, Observability, and Stability
  - 16-714 Advanced Control for Robotics   Carnegie Mellon University, Fall 2025
  - Instructor: Changliu Liu

- Certification of Pose Estimation Models
  - Special Topics: Provably Safe Robotics   Carnegie Mellon University, Spring 2025
  - Instructor: Changliu Liu

- Formal Methods in Robotics
  - Special Topics: Provably Safe Robotics   Carnegie Mellon University, Spring 2024
  - Instructor: Changliu Liu

MENTORING

- **CMU Paths to AI Research Program (PAIR)**   Fall 2025
  - Provide monthly guidance to two undergraduates exploring AI research: helping them identify research topics, connect with labs, and plan for internships/fellowships.

- **PhD students:**
  - RuiXuan Liu (CMU Robotics [2, 4, 19])
  - Zhongqi Wei (CMU ME [8])
  - Tianhao Wei (CMU ECE [3, 9])
  - Hanjiang Hu (CMU ECE [9])

- **Master's students:**
  - Yiyuan Pan (CMU CS)
  - Yutong Huang (CMU ME [2])
  - Letian Leng (CMU ME [2])
  - Shiqi Sun (Duke ME → PhD student at Northwestern Polytechnical University [10])
  - Yijie Zhou (Duke ME → PhD student at the Chinese University of Hong Kong [11])

- **Undergraduate students:**
  - Shaojun Xu (visiting student at CMU → PhD student at Tsinghua University [2, 4])
  - Shuo Yang (visiting student at Duke → PhD student at University of Pennsylvania)
  - Daniel Jiang (CMU CS, Pair program)
  - Sudhir Chebiyyam (CMU CS, Pair program)

- **High school students:**
  - Alan Chan (visiting student at CMU → undergraduate at the University of Texas at Austin [19])

OPEN-SOURCE SOFTWARES

- **TLRRT-star**: Sampling-based temporal logic motion planner for satisfying LTL specifications.

- **LTL-MRTA**: Optimal task allocation and motion planning for multi-robot systems under global LTL task specifications.

- **Hierarchical-LTL**: A hierarchical framework for scalable LTL planning using decomposable specifications and local policies.

- **Hierarchical-LTL-STAP**: Extension of Hierarchical-LTL supporting simultaneous task allocation and planning (STAP) for large-scale teams.

- **Hierarchical-LTL-GCS**: High-level task and motion planning framework leveraging hierarchical LTL and geometric constraint satisfaction.

- **ModelVerification.jl**: A Julia-based toolbox for verifying properties of neural networks.