Xinchen Yao

yao29@illinois.edu | xinchen.22@intl.zju.edu.cn | yao-xinchen.github.io

Education

University of illinois Urbana Champaign, BS in Computer Engineering — Sep 2022 – May 2026
Zhejiang University, BS in Electrical and Computer Engineering — Sep 2022 – May 2026

- GPA: 3.77/4.0

Technical Skills

Languages: C/C++, Python, Rust, Matlab

Tools: PyTorch, Jax, ROS2, Isaac Lab, Genesis, Mujoco Playground, MoveIt, STM32, SLAM

Knowledge: Reinforcement Learning, Control Theory, Low-Level Communication Protocols

Experience

Meta Team, Zhejiang, China — Contol Group Leader
Advisor: Jiahuang Cui — Jun 2023 - Present

- Won second prize in RoboMaster regional competition.
- Created an entire ROS2-based control system for multiple robots.
- Trained new members in control group.
- Responsible for mechanics-control co-design.

Human Dynamics Controls Lab, Illinois, US — Undergraduate Researcher
Advisor: Elizabeth Hsiao-Wecksler — Sep 2024 - Jun 2025

- Enhanced omniwheel simulation.
- New sensor integration to PURE Gen3.
- Control algorithm optimization for PURE Gen3.

Physical Intelligence Lab, Zhejiang, China — Undergraduate Researcher
Advisor: Hua Chen — July 2025 - Present

- Research on motivating emergent behaviors in RL.
- Training and deploying policies for bipedal robots and humanoids.
- Research on minimizing sim-to-real gap.

Projects

Meta-Team/Meta-ROS — Creator, Maintainer

- Overview: An ROS2-Based control system, including sensors, actuators, kinematics.
- Features: Supporting multiple robots, highly modular, dynamically configured.
- Code availability: github.com/Meta-Team/Meta-ROS

Where to Learn — Second Author

- Overview: A new reinforcement learning algorithm based on PPO and APG.
- My contribution: Code implementation, trainging and deployment, and experiments.
- Website: wheretolearn.github.io

Omni WBR — First Author

- Overview: A method to motivate emergent gaits in wheeled bipedal robots for omni-directional walking.
- My contribution: Algorithm design, code implementation, training and deployment, experiments.