

WANWEN CHEN

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EDUCATION

The University of British Columbia (UBC)

Ph.D. student in Electrical and Computer Engineering (GPA: 94%)

Advisor: Dr. Tim Salcudean

Thesis (proposed): Transcervical Ultrasound Guided Transoral Robotic Surgery

Vancouver, BC

Sep 2021 - present

Carnegie Mellon University (CMU)

M.S. in Robotics (GPA: 4.12/4.33)

Advisor: Dr. John Galeotti

Thesis: Ultrasound-based Needle Tracking and Lateral Manipulation Planning for Common Needle Steering

Pittsburgh, PA

Aug 2019 - Aug 2021

Peking University (PKU)

B.S. in Theoretical and Applied Mechanics (GPA: 3.78/4.0)

Thesis: Sensor Fusion for Attitude Measurement Based on Quaternions and Kalman Filter

Beijing, China

Sep 2015 - Jul 2019

University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA)

Cross-disciplinary Scholars (CSST) Summer Program (GPA: 4.0/4.0)

Los Angeles, CA

Jul 2018 - Sep 2018

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Robotics and Control Lab, The University of British Columbia

Graduate Research Assistant, Advisor: Dr. Tim Salcudean

Vancouver, BC

Sep 2021 - present

- Researching 3D ultrasound-MRI registration and evaluating the feasibility for oropharynx ultrasound.
- Researching augmented reality for the da Vinci surgical robot and developing the prototype of an US-guided AR system for transoral robotic surgery.
- Coordinating with clinicians for data collection and intraoperative study at Vancouver General Hospital.

Biomedical Image Guidance Lab, Carnegie Mellon University

Graduate Research Assistant, Advisor: Dr. John Galeotti

Pittsburgh, PA

Oct 2019 - Aug 2021

- Researched ultrasound-based needle tracking for autonomous robotic needle insertion. I developed an optical flow-based tissue motion segmentation algorithm to track hardly visible needles and an on-line needle tracking algorithm fusing ultrasound-based needle detection and robot kinematics to detect the needle under various visibility. I also built a novel weighted-RANSAC real-time bent needle tracking algorithm.
- Studied using optical flow to improve deep learning-based lung ultrasound diagnosis and segmentation.

The Robotics Research Group, Peking University

Advisor: Dr. Qining Wang

Beijing, China

Sep 2017 - May 2019

- Designed a joint angle measurement algorithm using inertial sensors for swimming movement analysis. I analyzed the movement of the knee joint in four swimming strokes and built machine learning models to classify swimming strokes using inertial sensor signals.
- Developed deep learning models to classify locomotion mode using signals from a strain gauge in a prosthesis. I also wrote on-board neural network training and classification algorithms in C/C++ for real-time locomotion mode recognition in robotic transtibial prostheses.

Biomechatronics Lab, University of California, Los Angeles

Advisor: Dr. Veronica J. Santos

Los Angeles, CA

Jul 2018 - Sep 2018

- Researched human hand motion primitives during search and retrieval of a buried object in the sand. I used machine learning models to discover human hand motion patterns and to classify motion intentions.
- Calibrated an inertial measurement units network with 18 sensors and created an animation framework for displaying hand movement in Python.

PUBLICATIONS

“*” represents that the authors contributed to the manuscript equally.

- C6** Chen W, Kalia M, Zeng Q, Pang EHT, Bagherinasab R, Milner TD, Sabiq F, Prisman E, and Salcudean SE. Towards Transcervical Ultrasound Image Guidance for Transoral Robotic Surgery. *Accepted by The 14th International Conference on Information Processing in Computer-Assisted Interventions (IPCAI), 2023.*
- C5** Chen W, Zeng Q, Milner TD, Bagherinasab R, Sabiq F, Prisman E, Pang EHT, and Salcudean SE. Feasibility of MRI-US Registration in Oropharynx for Transoral Robotic Surgery. In *Medical Imaging 2023: Image-Guided Procedures, Robotic Interventions, and Modeling* 2023 Apr 3 (pp. 516-522). SPIE.
- C4** Bazargani R, Chen W, Sadeghian S, Asadi M, Boscheman J, Darbandsari A, Bashashati A, and Salcudean SE. A novel H&E Color Augmentation for Unsupervised Domain Invariance Histopathology Prostate Cancer Classification. *Accepted by SPIE Medical Imaging 2023.*
- W2** Gare GR*, Chen W*, Hung AL, Chen E, Tran HV, Fox T, Lowery P, Zamora K, DeBoisblanc BP, Rodriguez RL, Galeotti JM. The Role of Pleura and Adipose in Lung Ultrasound AI. In *MICCAI Workshop on Lessons Learned from the Development and Application of Medical-Imaging-Based AI Technologies for Combating COVID-19 (LL-COVID19 2021)* 2021 Oct 1 (pp. 141-149). Springer, Cham.
- W1** Hung AL, Sun Z, Chen W, Galeotti J. Hierarchical Probabilistic Ultrasound Image Inpainting via Variational Inference. In *MICCAI Workshop on Deep Generative Models (DGM4MICCAI 2021)* 2021 Oct 1 (pp. 83-92). Springer, Cham.
- C3** Chen W, Mehta KN, Bhanushali BD, Galeotti J. Ultrasound-based tracking of partially in-plane, curved needles. In *2021 IEEE 18th International Symposium on Biomedical Imaging (ISBI)* 2021 Apr 13 (pp. 939-943). IEEE.
- C2** Hung AL, Chen W, Galeotti J. Ultrasound confidence maps of intensity and structure based on directed acyclic graphs and artifact models. In *2021 IEEE 18th International Symposium on Biomedical Imaging (ISBI)* 2021 Apr 13 (pp. 697-701). IEEE.
- J2** Wang Q, Zhou Z, Zhang Z, Lou Y, Zhou Y, Zhang S, Chen W, Mao C, Wang Z, Lou W, Mai J. An underwater lower-extremity soft exoskeleton for breaststroke assistance. *IEEE Transactions on Medical Robotics and Bionics.* 2020 May 8;2(3):447-62.
- J1** Feng Y*, Chen W*, Wang Q. A strain gauge based locomotion mode recognition method using convolutional neural network. *Advanced Robotics.* 2019 Mar 4;33(5):254-63.
- C1** Mai J, Chen W, Zhang S, Xu D, Wang Q. Performance analysis of hardware acceleration for locomotion mode recognition in robotic prosthetic control. In *2018 IEEE International Conference on Cyborg and Bionic Systems (CBS)* 2018 Oct 25 (pp. 607-611). IEEE.

PRESENTATIONS

- Ultrasound-based Needle Tracking and Lateral Manipulation Planning for Needle Steering**
Master of Robotics Thesis Talk, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA (Virtual) Aug 2021
Presented as master degree speaking qualifier.
- Human Hand Motion Primitives in Haptic Search and Retrieval of Buried Objects in Sandbox**
UCLA CSST Research Program, Los Angeles, CA Sep 2018
Presented in Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering Peer Seminar (awarded for Outstanding Research and Presentation) and a poster presentation.

ADDITIONAL TRAINING

- Hamlyn Winter School on Surgical Imaging and Vision** (Scholarship Recipient) London, UK
Imperial College London Dec 2022
One week of lectures on surgical imaging and a competition of project.

Medical Augmented Reality Summer School

University of Balgrist

Two weeks of lectures on medical AR/VR with a competition of projects in AR-assisted surgery.

Zürich, Switzerland (Virtual)

Aug 2021

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- Teaching Assistant for CPEN 441: Human Computer Interfaces in Engineering Design UBC, 2022W1
- Tutor for Mathematics in Engineering (College of Engineering) PKU, Spring 2019
- Tutor for Introduction to Computation (College of Engineering) PKU, Fall 2018

AWARDS

- Scholarship for Hamlyn Winter School on Surgical Imaging and Vision The Hamlyn Centre, 2022
- President's Academic Excellence Initiative PhD Award UBC, 2021, 2022
- International Tuition Award UBC, 2021, 2022
- **2021 Four Year Doctoral Fellowship** UBC, 2021-2025
- **Excellent Graduate (top 17%)** PKU, 2019
- Outstanding Project in Undergraduate Student Research in College of Engineering PKU, 2019
- Outstanding Research and Presentation at the Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering Peer Seminar CSST, UCLA, 2018
- Meritorious Winner in Interdisciplinary Contest In Modeling COMAP, 2018
- Gong Qiaoyu Scholarship PKU, 2017, 2018
- Yang Fuqing and Wang Yangyuan Academician Scholarship PKU, 2016

SKILLS

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| Programming | Python, Matlab, C++, C |
| Packages | OpenCV, PyTorch, ROS, dVRK, SimpleITK |
| Tools | Git, LaTeX, Docker, 3D Slicer, ITK-SNAP, Autodesk Fusion 360, SolidWorks |
| Languages | Mandarin, English, Cantonese |

ACADEMIC SERVICES

- Reviewer: ISMR 2023

LEADERSHIP AND OUTREACH

Multidisciplinary Research Program in Medicine, The University of British Columbia

Undergraduate Mentorship

May 2022 - Aug 2022

- Advised two undergraduate students on a summer project supervised by a cross-faculty pair of researchers. Mentored and supported students in fulfilling their proposed research project.

Women in Engineering, The University of British Columbia

High School Mentorship

Sep 2021 - Mar 2022

- Provided inclusive and equitable access to information about engineering and supported a high school student as they navigate the university application process, and offered professional, academic, and interpersonal guidance for post-secondary transition.

The Robotics Institute, Carnegie Mellon University

Master Students Mentor

Sep 2020 - Dec 2020

- Provided advice on academic development for three first-year master students.

Cantonese Development Society, Peking University

Vice President & Publicity Department

Sep 2017- May 2018

- Managed the finance of the association.
- Organized Cantonese learning courses including student management and courses materials distribution.
- Designed publicity materials such as posters, tickets and souvenirs for multiple events.