

# Benjamin D. Killeen



CONTACT	<a href="#">Department of Computer Science</a> <a href="#">Johns Hopkins University</a> 3400 North Charles Street Baltimore, MD 21218	<i>Cell:</i> +1 (314) 651-6809 <i>Desk:</i> Hackerman 137 <i>Mail:</i> <a href="mailto:killeen@jhu.edu">killeen@jhu.edu</a> <i>Web:</i> <a href="http://benjamindkilleen.com">benjamindkilleen.com</a>
SUMMARY	As a final-year Ph.D. candidate at Johns Hopkins University, I am researching the future of AI- and robot-assisted interventional healthcare through the creation and integration of sophisticated simulation environments. Outside of the lab, I work to build community in the classroom, in my local network, and through professional societies, with the ultimate goal of fostering an inclusive environment for all.	
EDUCATION	<b>Ph.D. in Computer Science</b> 08/2019 – now <a href="#">Johns Hopkins University</a> Affiliated with the <a href="#">Laboratory for Computational Sensing and Robotics</a> . <i>Primary advisor:</i> <a href="#">Mathias Unberath</a> <i>Secondary advisor:</i> <a href="#">Gregory D. Hager</a> <b>B.A. in Computer Science</b> with Honors, 09/2015 – 06/2019 Minor in Physics <a href="#">University of Chicago</a> <i>Honors thesis advisor:</i> <a href="#">Gordon Kindlmann</a> .	
PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYMENT	<b>Computer Vision / AI Intern</b> , Intuitive Surgical Inc. 06/2020 – 07/2020 Applied Research With <a href="#">Omid Mohareri</a> . <b>Software Development Intern</b> , Epic Systems 06/2018 – 08/2018 Center for Cognitive Computing <b>Research Intern</b> , International Business Machines 06/2017 – 08/2017 IBM Research - Almaden With <a href="#">Geoffrey Burr</a> .	
SELECTED AWARDS	<b>Personal Awards</b> 4. Finalist, <a href="#">WSE Excellence in Teaching, Advising, and Mentoring Award</a> 2024 The Johns Hopkins Alumni Association, the Krieger School of Arts and Sciences, and the Whiting School of Engineering annually honor faculty and graduate students who excel in the arts of teaching, advising, and mentoring. 3. DAAD AInet Fellow, <a href="#">Postdoc-NeT-AI Networking Week on Human-centered AI</a> 2023 Postdoctoral networking tour in Germany supported by the German Academic Exchange Service (Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst).	

2. Recipient, **Link Foundation Fellowship in Modeling, Simulation, and Training** 2023  
Two-year fellowship for Ph.D. students to fund their research.  
Proposal: *Interactive Digital Twins for Simulating the Future of Work in AI- and Robot-assisted Operating Rooms*
1. **LCSR Fellowship for Outstanding Incoming Ph.D. Students** 2019

#### Publication Awards

6. **Finalist, Best Paper Award** 2023  
For paper [J-9] at IPCAI 2024 (TBD).
5. **Finalist, Bench-to-Bedside Award** 2023  
For paper [J-7] at IPCAI 2024 (TBD).
4. **Honorable Mention, Bench-to-Bedside Award** 2023  
For paper [J-5] at IPCAI 2023.
3. **Runner Up, Best Paper Award, Physics of Medical Imaging** 2022  
For paper [C-5] at SPIE Medical Imaging 2022.
2. **Best Paper Award in Bioengineering** 2021  
For paper [C-4] at IEEE BIBE 2021.
1. **Kaggle COVID-19 Dataset Award** 2020  
For our US county-level dataset described in [M-1].

#### Reviewer Awards

1. **Honorable Mention, MICCAI Outstanding Reviewer Award** 2023

#### Coursework Awards

3. **Best Presentation Award** 2021  
Reviewing *IronFleet: Proving Practical Distributed Systems Correct Reliable Software Systems*, Johns Hopkins University.
2. **Best Graduate Project Award** 2020  
Resulted in our US county-level dataset described in [M-1].  
*Computer Integrated Surgery II*, Johns Hopkins University.
1. **Intuitive Surgical Best Project Award** 2019  
*Enriching Unsupervised Feature Learning via Intermediate Subtasks Deep Learning*, Johns Hopkins University.

#### SERVICE AND LEADERSHIP

##### Societies

- **Social Events Officer, MICCAI Student Board** 10/2023 – now
- **President, LCSR Graduate Student Association** 08/2022 – 12/2023  
Established an executive board managing \$8,000/yr in student resources.

- **Sports Officer, MICCAI Student Board** 12/2021 – 09/2023  
Organizer for athletic events at the MICCAI conference.  
On-site representative and MICCAI Educational Challenge reviewer.
- **Head of Student Resources** 09/2020 – 08/2022  
**LCSR** Graduate Student Committee

### Academic Services

- **Seminar Course Assistant** 2023  
*Future Faculty: Preparing a New Generation of PIs for the Academic Job Search*  
Department of Computer Science, Johns Hopkins University
- **Organizer** 2023  
*Focus Group on Graduate Student Space*  
Laboratory for Computational Sensing and Robotics, Johns Hopkins Univ.
- **Brainlab Loop-X Trainer and Coordinator** 2022 – now  
Laboratory for Computational Sensing and Robotics, Johns Hopkins Univ.
- **Robotorium and Mock OR Tours** 2022, 2023  
Laboratory for Computational Sensing and Robotics, Johns Hopkins Univ.

### Journal Reviewer

- Nature Communications
- IEEE Transactions on Medical Imaging (TMI)
- Journal of Machine Learning Research (JMLR)
- Quantitative Imaging in Medicine and Surgery (QIMS)
- Journal of Visualized Surgery (JOVS)
- IEEE Robotics and Automation Letters (RA-L)
- Computer Assisted Surgery (CAI)
- Nature Scientific Data
- Medical Image Analysis (MedIA)

### Conference Reviewer

- Medical Image Computing and Computer Assisted Interventions (MICCAI)
- International Conference on Information Processing in Computer-Assisted Interventions (IPCAI)
- International Symposium on Medical Robotics (ISMR)
- IEEE International Conference on Computer Vision (ICCV)
- IEEE European Conference on Computer Vision (ECCV)
- IEEE/CVF Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition (CVPR)

### TALKS AND PRESS

### Invited Talks and Demos

8. End of Semester Social, **Selected Posters and Demos** 05/2024 JHU  
Data Science and AI Institute  
“Neural Digital Twins”
7. **Malone Center Trainee Mix and Mingle** 04/2024  
Malone Center for Engineering in Healthcare, Baltimore, USA

“The Future of Simulation-Driven Interventional Healthcare”  
[Runner up, Audience Choice for Best Presentation.](#)

6. [IHU Seminar Series](#) 03/2024  
IHU, Strasbourg, France  
“Advancing Interventional Healthcare One Simulation at a Time”
5. [CAMP Seminar Series](#) 03/2024  
In the [Postdoc-NeT-AI Networking Week on Human-centered AI](#)  
TUM, Munich, Germany  
“Advancing Interventional Healthcare One Simulation at a Time”
4. [medPhoton Invited Talk Series](#) 06/2023  
medPhoton, Salzburg, Austria  
“Robotic X-ray Imaging Interfaces”
3. [FDA DIDSR Seminar Series](#) 05/2023  
Food and Drug Administration, Silver Spring, MD  
“Simulating Image-guided Interventions: Interactive Digital Twins to Usher in Next-generation Surgical Suites”
2. [The Artificial Intelligence Society \(HopAI\)](#) 04/2023  
Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD  
“Yet Another Deep Learning Introduction for Everyone”
1. [LCSR Seminar Series](#) 04/2023  
Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD  
“An Autonomous X-ray Image Acquisition and Interpretation System for Assisting Percutaneous Pelvic Fracture Fixation”

### Selected Press

4. Our work [\[C-6\]](#) presenting the first approach to surgical phase recognition in X-ray guided surgery with dynamic simulation was featured in the [JHU Hub](#) and [Surgery International](#).
3. Our work [\[J-4\]](#) demonstrating the utility of synthetic data for training novel X-ray image analysis algorithms was featured in the [JHU Engineering magazine](#), the [JHU Hub](#), and [Medical Xpress](#).
2. [My proposal](#) to the Link Fellowship on Simulation, Modeling, and Training was featured on [JHU Computer Science News](#).
1. Our work [\[J-2\]](#) demonstrating efficient strategies for training robots using reinforcement learning was featured in the [JHU Hub](#), [TechCrunch](#), [Psychology Today](#), [BBC News](#), and [Voice of America](#).

TEACHING

**Computer Integrated Surgery II EN.601.456/656**, Project Mentor  
Johns Hopkins University

- *Measuring Variability of Pelvic Standard Views in Virtual Reality* 2024  
**Voted runner-up, Best Project Award.**
- *A Cannula Marker Body for Tracker-free Surgical Navigation during Kirschner Wire Placement* 2024
- *Bringing View-invariant X-ray Image Analysis into the Operating Room* 2024
- *Recreating Pelvic Trauma Surgery in Virtual Reality for the Development of Novel C-arm Interfaces* 2023  
**Voted Best Project Award.**
- *Making 2D/3D Registration Accessible* 2023
- *3D Segmentation of Hard and Soft Tissue for Simulating X-ray Image Formation with Deep Learning* 2022

**Computer Integrated Surgery I EN.601.455/655**, Teaching Assistant

Johns Hopkins University

TA quality: 4.32/5.00 (sample size: 86) Fall 2022

TA quality: 4.13/5.00 (sample size: 63) Fall 2021

**Introduction to Computer Science CMSC 14100/14200**, Course Assistant

Department of Computer Science, University of Chicago

Summer 2019

**Machine Learning and Large Scale Data Analysis STAT 37601/CMSC 25025**, Teaching Assistant

University of Chicago

Spring 2019

**Scientific Visualization CMSC 23710**, Course Assistant

Department of Computer Science, University of Chicago

Winter 2019

**SUPERVISION**

As a member of the ARCADE Lab with Mathias Unberath, I supervise students' contributions to research. Where known, career steps after completing their research effort are provided.

**Graduate**

13. **Iou-Sheng “Danny” Chang**, Johns Hopkins Univ. 02/2023 – 05/2023
12. **Ching-Yang “Austin” Huang**, Johns Hopkins Univ. 02/2023 – 05/2023
11. **Yuxuan Zhao**, Johns Hopkins Univ. 02/2023 – 05/2023
10. **Xu “Lance” Lian**, Johns Hopkins Univ. 09/2023 – 12/2023
9. **Bohua Wan**, Johns Hopkins Univ. 06/2023 – now
8. **Hengyu Cao**, Johns Hopkins Univ. 08/2023 – 12/2023
7. **Shreayan Chaudhary**, Johns Hopkins Univ. 05/2023 – 05/2024 **Joined Seagate Technology as a Machine Learning Engineer**
6. **Han Zhang**, Johns Hopkins Univ. 01/2023 – 12/2023  
**Joined Johns Hopkins University as a Ph.D. Student.**

5. **Zixuan Liu**, Johns Hopkins Univ. 01/2023 – 09/2023  
Joined [Vanderbilt University as a Ph.D. Student](#).
4. **Aditya Kulkarni**, Johns Hopkins Univ. 09/2022 – now
3. **Qiyuan Wu**, Johns Hopkins Univ. 08/2022 – 06/2023  
Joined [Cornell University as a Ph.D. Student](#).
2. **Zidi Tao**, Johns Hopkins Univ. 10/2021 – 06/2022  
Joined [Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute as a Ph.D. Student](#).
1. **Shreaya Chakraborty**, Johns Hopkins Univ. 08/2020 – 09/2021  
Joined [PathAI as a Machine Learning Engineer](#).

#### Undergraduates

9. **Janya Budaraju**, Johns Hopkins Univ. 02/2024 – now  
[Recipient of the Pistrutto Fellowship for undergraduate research](#).
8. **Samhith Bhrugubanda**, Johns Hopkins Univ., 02/2024 – now
7. **Asmitha Sathya**, Johns Hopkins Univ., 09/2023 – 12/2023
6. **Darren Shih**, Johns Hopkins Univ. 09/2023 – 12/2023
5. **William “Liam” Wang**, Johns Hopkins Univ. 01/2023 – now  
Joined the [University of Michigan as an NSF-GRFP Ph.D. Student](#).
4. **Sambhav Chordia**, Johns Hopkins Univ. 06/2022 – 12/2022
3. **Sean Sebastian Darcy**, Johns Hopkins Univ. 10/2021 – 10/2022  
Joined the [California Institute of Technology as a Ph.D. Student](#).
2. **Nethra Venkatayogi**, Johns Hopkins Univ. 05/2021 – 10/2021  
[Visiting from the University of Texas at Austin](#).  
Joined [Johns Hopkins University as a Ph.D. Student](#).
1. **Max Judish**, Johns Hopkins Univ. 01/2021 – 08/2021  
[Visiting from Brown University](#).

PUBLICATIONS I have (first/co)-authored 5/4 journal articles, 4/2 conference papers, and 3/0 preprints, and I am an inventor on 4 patents or patent applications in process. My publication list is also available on [Google Scholar](#).

#### Peer-reviewed Journal Articles

- [J-9]. **B.D. Killeen\***, H. Zhang\*, L. Wang, Z. Liu, C. Kleinbeck, M. Rosen, R.H. Taylor, M. Unberath. “Stand in Surgeon’s Shoes: Virtual Reality Cross-training to Enhance Teamwork in Surgery,” *International Journal of Computer Assisted Radiology and Surgery*, 2024.  
[Special Issue: Information Processing in Computer-Assisted Interventions \(IPCAI\) 2024](#)  
Finalist, [Best Paper Award](#) at IPCAI’24 (TBD).

- [J-8]. **B.D. Killeen**, S. Chaudhary, G. Osgood, M. Unberath. “Take a Shot! Natural Language Control of Robotic X-ray Systems for Image-guided Surgery,” *International Journal of Computer Assisted Radiology and Surgery*, 2024.  
Special Issue: *Information Processing in Computer-Assisted Interventions (IPCAI) 2024*
- [J-7]. C. Kleinbeck, H. Zhang, **B.D. Killeen**, D. Roth, M. Unberath. “Neural Digital Twins: Reconstructing Complex Medical Environments for Spatial Planning in Virtual Reality,” *International Journal of Computer Assisted Radiology and Surgery*, 2024.  
Special Issue: *Information Processing in Computer-Assisted Interventions (IPCAI) 2024*  
Finalist, **Bench-to-Bedside Award** at IPCAI’24 (TBD).
- [J-6]. **B.D. Killeen**, S.M. Cho, M. Armand, R.H. Taylor, M. Unberath. “In Silico Simulation: A Key Enabling Technology for Next-generation Intelligent Surgical Systems,” *Progress in Biomedical Engineering*, 2023, vol. 5, no. 3, pp. 032001.  
Invited submission to the *Special Issue on In Silico Trials*.
- [J-5]. **B.D. Killeen**, C. Gao, K. Oguine, S. Darcy, M. Armand, R.H. Taylor, G. Osgood, M. Unberath. “An Autonomous X-ray Image Acquisition and Interpretation System for Assisting Percutaneous Pelvic Fracture Fixation,” *International Journal of Computer Assisted Radiology and Surgery*, 2023.  
Special Issue: *Information Processing in Computer-Assisted Interventions (IPCAI) 2023*  
Audience vote for **long oral** presentation at IPCAI’23.  
Honorable Mention, **Bench-to-Bedside Award** at IPCAI’23.
- [J-4]. C. Gao, **B.D. Killeen**, Y. Hu, R. Grupp, R.H. Taylor, M. Armand, M. Unberath. “Synthetic Data Accelerates the Development of Generalizable Learning-based Algorithms for X-ray Image Analysis,” *Nature Machine Intelligence*, 2023, vol. 5, no. 3, pp. 294-308.  
Featured in the **JHU Hub**, the **JHU News Letter**, and the **Nature Robotics and AI collection**.
- [J-3]. **B.D. Killeen**, J. Winter, W. Gu, A. Martin-Gomez, R.H. Taylor, G. Osgood, M. Unberath. “Mixed Reality Interfaces for Achieving Desired Views with Robotic X-ray Systems,” *Computer Methods in Biomechanics and Biomedical Engineering: Imaging & Visualization*, 2022.  
Special Issue: *Augmented Environments for Computer Assisted Interventions (AE-CAI) 2020*
- [J-2]. A. Hundt, **B.D. Killeen**, H. Kwon, C. Paxton, G.D. Hager. “‘Good Robot!’: Efficient Reinforcement Learning for Multi-Step Visual Tasks with Sim to Real Transfer,” *IEEE Robotics and Automation Letters*, 2020, vol. 5, no. 4, pp. 6724-6731.  
Featured in the **JHU Hub**, **Psychology Today**, **BBC News**, and **Voice of America**.



- [J-1]. S. Ambrogio, P. Narayanan, H. Tsai, R. M. Shelby, I. Boybat, C. di Nolfo, S. Sidler, M. Giordano, M. Bodini, N. Farinha, **B.D. Killeen**, C. Cheng, Y. Jaoudi, G. W. Burr. "Equivalent-accuracy accelerated neural-network training using analogue memory," *Nature*, 2018, vol. 558, no. 7708, p. 60.

### Peer-reviewed Conference Papers

- [C-6]. **B.D. Killeen**, H. Zhang, J.E. Mangulabnan, M. Armand, R. Taylor, G. Osgood, M. Unberath. "Pelphix: Surgical Phase Recognition from X-ray Images in Percutaneous Pelvis Fixation," *Medical Image Computing and Computer Assisted Intervention (MICCAI)*, 2023.  
[Featured in the JHU Hub and Surgery International.](#)
- [C-5]. **B.D. Killeen**, S. Chakraborty, G. Osgood, **M. Unberath**. "Toward Perception-based Anticipation of Cortical Breach During K-wire Fixation of the Pelvis," *SPIE Medical Imaging*, 2022.  
[Selected for oral presentation.](#)  
[Runner up, Best Paper Award, Physics of Medical Imaging](#)
- [C-4]. J. Opfermann\*, **B.D. Killeen\***, C. Bailey, M. Khan, A. Uneri, K. Suzuki, M. Armand, F. Hui, A. Krieger<sup>†</sup>, M. Unberath<sup>†</sup>. "Feasibility of a Cannula-mounted Piezo Robot for Image-guided Vertebral Augmentation: Toward a Low Cost, Semi-autonomous Approach," *IEEE International Conference on BioInformatics and BioEngineering (BIBE)*, 2021.  
\* Joint first authors; <sup>†</sup> joint last authors.  
[Honored with a Best Paper Award in Bioengineering.](#)
- [C-3]. X. Liu\*, **B.D. Killeen\***, A. Sinha, M. Ishii, G. Hager, R. Taylor, M. Unberath. "Neighborhood Normalization for Robust Geometric Feature Learning," *IEEE/CVF Conference on Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition (CVPR)*, 2021, pp. 13049-13058.  
\* Joint first authors.
- [C-2]. C. Gao, X. Liu, W. Gu, **B.D. Killeen**, M. Armand, R. Taylor, M. Unberath. "Generalizing Spatial Transformers to Projective Geometry with Applications to 2D/3D Registration," *Medical Image Computing and Computer Assisted Intervention*, 2020, pp. 329-339.  
[Code available on GitHub here.](#)
- [C-1]. X. Liu, Y. Zhang, **B.D. Killeen**, M. Ishii, G. Hager, R. Taylor, M. Unberath. "Extremely Dense Point Correspondences in Multi-view Stereo using a Learned Feature Descriptor," *IEEE Conference on Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition*, 2020, pp. 4847-4856.  
[Code available on GitHub here.](#)

### Preprints

- [M-3]. **B.D. Killeen**, L.J. Wang, H. Zhang, M. Armand, R.H. Taylor, G. Osgood, M. Unberath. (2024). FluoroSAM: A Language-aligned Foundation Model for X-ray Image Segmentation. *arXiv preprint*, 2024, arXiv:2403.08059.



- [M-2]. J.Y. Wu\*, **B.D. Killeen\***, P. Nikutta, M. Thies, A. Zapaishchykova, S. Chakraborty, M. Unberath. “Changes in Reproductive Rate of SARS-CoV-2 Due to Non-pharmaceutical Interventions in 1,417 U.S. Counties,” *medRxiv preprint*, 2020.
- [M-1]. **B.D. Killeen**, J.Y. Wu, K. Shah, A. Zapaishchykova, P. Nikutta, A. Tamhane, S. Chakraborty, J. Wei, T. Gao, M. Thies, M. Unberath. “A County-level Dataset for Informing the United States’ Response to COVID-19,” *arXiv preprint*, 2020, arXiv:2004.00756.  
The data described herein received a **Kaggle COVID-19 Dataset Award**.  
Code available on **GitHub** [here](#).

### Patents

- [P-1]. G.W. Burr, **B.D. Killeen**, “Efficient Processing of Convolutional Neural Network Layers Using Analog-memory-based Hardware.” 20200117986, filed March 25, 2019, and issued April 16, 2020.

METADATA      This document was last updated on May 14, 2024. A complete, up-to-date version is available at [https://benjamindkilleen.com/files/cv\\_killeen.pdf](https://benjamindkilleen.com/files/cv_killeen.pdf).