Derek Qin

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EDUCATION

• California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, California

Sept 2020 - Present

- Bachelor of Science: Computer Science (Machine Learning & Robotics)
- Selected Coursework: Passed Placements: Ma 1c (Multivariable Calculus), Ma 2 (Differential Equations), Ph 1a (Classical Mechanics); CS: CS 2 (Data Structures), CS 3 (Software Development), CS 21 (Decidability and Tractability), CS 38 (Algorithms); Math: Ma 6a (Discrete Math), Ma 1b (Linear Algebra, Analytical)

EXPERIENCE

Boston University Materials X-Ray Diffraction Lab

Boston, MA

Researcher

June 2019 - February 2020

- Selected for Research in Science & Engineering (RISE) Program
- Analyzed self-organizing patterns on Si in ultra-high vacuum bombarded by Ar⁺ using AFM imaging.
- Developed computer vision analysis software using to speed up MOSS analysis and improve precision
- Mentors: Prof. Karl Ludwig, Peco Myint
- Research Awards: 1st Prize in Physics, DRSEF; TXSEF Finalist; ONR Special Award; AFRL Special Award

Caltech Tensor Lab

Pasadena, CA

Researcher

February 2021 - Present

- Research conducted under Caltech SURF
- Designed and tested novel neural network architecture to improve performance of Fourier Neural Operator performance on PDEs with nonperiodic boundary conditions
- Mentors: Prof. Anima Anandkumar, Zongyi Li

PROJECTS

Traffic Signal Control Simulation for Optimization of Vehicle Flow

Plano, Texas

Computer Science & Applied Mathematics

August 2017 - March 2018

- Developed a novel signal management algorithm using car volume statistics using Python and Google Maps API, tested on both non-actuated and semi-actuated intersections (18% decrease in wait times)
- Awards: 1st Prize in Engineering Mechanics, DRSEF; TXSEF Finalist; 3rd Prize Terracon Consultants Excellence in Engineering; ONR Special Award; AFRL Special Award

Phantom Traffic Jam Alleviation Using Networked Autonomous Cars

Plano, Texas

Computer Science & Applied Mathematics

August 2018 - April 2019

- Created a novel microscopic traffic model and derived a first-order differential equation to model flow rate and jam dissipation for bilateral and vehicle unit control.
- Awards: 1st Prize in Mathematics, DRSEF; TXSEF Finalist; Mu Alpha Theta Special Award

Selected Awards

- USA Physics Olympiad, Honorable Mention (National Top 200 Individuals) (2019)
- Harvard-MIT Mathematics Tournament, Team Round, 10th Place (2018)
- 5x American Invitational Mathematics Exam (AIME) Qualifier (2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019)
- Research Awards: See Projects Section

SKILLS

- Languages: Fluent in English and Mandarin Chinese
- Programming Languages: C/C++, Java, Javascript, Python, HTML/CSS, LATEX, MATLAB
- Tools: PyTorch, Tensorflow, Keras, Scikit-learn, NumPy, Pandas