Ethan Chun

9 (650) 961-1911

■ ethan.l.chun@gmail.com in elchun

elchun.github.io

EDUCATION

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Candidate for Masters of Engineering in Artificial Intelligence

GPA: 5.0 / 5.0

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Bachelor of Science in Artificial Intelligence and Decision Making (Course 6-4)

GPA: 5.0 / 5.0

Cambridge, Massachusetts

2024 - 2025

Cambridge, Massachusetts

2020 - 2024

PUBLICATIONS

[1] T. Shu, D. Levine, S. H. Yeon, E. Chun, C. Shallal, J. McCullough, R. Brånemark, M. Carty, S. Boerhout, A. Ko, C. Sullivan, G. Zhu, M. Nawrot, M. Carney, G. Wieschhoff, G. Friedman, and H. Herr, "Tissue-integrated bionic knee restores versatile legged movement after amputation," Science, 2025, under review.

- [2] E. Chun, Y. Du, A. Simeonov, T. Lozano-Perez, and L. Kaelbling, "Local neural descriptor fields: Locally conditioned object representations for manipulation," 2023 IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation (ICRA), 2023.
- [3] T. Shu, C. Shallal, E. Chun, A. Shah, A. Bu, D. Levine, S. H. Yeon, M. Carney, H. Song, T.-H. Hsieh, and H. M. Herr, "Modulation of prosthetic ankle plantarflexion through direct myoelectric control of a subject-optimized neuromuscular model," IEEE Robotics and Automation Letters, 2022.

EXPERIENCE

Tesla AI Palo Alto, California Robotics ML Intern, Visual Language Navigation Jan. 2025 — Present

• Developed vision and language based navigation systems for Optimus humanoid robot.

MIT Biomimetic Robotics Lab — Dr. Sang-bae Kim

Research Assistant, Robotic Manipulation and 3D Perception

Cambridge, Massachusetts

Jan. 2023 — Jan 2025

- Designed new neural network training pipeline for polyurethane based fingertip sensors, improving mean contact location prediction by 19% and enabling inference at exactly 100 Hz.
- Designed, implemented, validated, and submitted novel grasp approach architecture to predict potential robotic grasping directions from raw point cloud data using a variation of the PointNet++ architecture.

Boston Dynamics AI Institute

Research Intern, Watch Understand Do

Cambridge, Massachusetts

Jan. 2024

- Built ROS2 interfaces to allow communication with Spot's PTZ camera.
- Built visualization utilities to allow convenient visualization objects in ROS2's RViz visualizer.

Learning and Intelligent Systems — Dr. Tomás Lozano-Pérez and Dr. Leslie Pack Kaelbling Undergraduate Researcher, Vision-based Robotic Manipulation

Cambridge, Massachusetts

Dec. 2021 — June. 2023

- Designed, implemented, and published Local Neural Descriptor Fields a novel framework using latent embeddings from Convolutional Occupancy Networks to enable robust robotic grasping of household objects
- Used Pytorch, Pybullet, and a Franka Panda robot to develop model architecture, data loading, data visualization systems, and a novel distance-based contrastive loss function.

Biomechatronics Group — Dr. Hugh Herr

Undergraduate Researcher, Embedded Systems and Experiments

Cambridge, Massachusetts Mar. 2021 - Jan. 2023

- Utilized a novel EMG control paradigm and custom powered prosthetic to restore natural gait biomechanics for a unilateral transtibial amputee and several unilateral transfemoral amputees.
- Implemented robotics control stack in C++, including communications drivers (I2C, SPI, CAN) and integrated logger.

SELECTED PROJECTS

Novel View Synthesis from Single Images with Tiny Latent Diffusion Models

- Built tiny latent diffusion models to generate novel views given a single conditioning image and relative camera transform.
- Demonstrated training times of less than two hours, allowing potential integration of LDMs into conventional robotics pipelines.

SKILLS

Tools **Relevant Coursework**

PyTorch, Numpy, Pybullet, MATLAB, Git, Embedded Linux, SolidWorks

Algorithms, Machine Learning, Inverse Graphics, Real Analysis, Abstract Algebra, Probability Theory