# **Emily Zhang**

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Biomedical Engineering and Systems Engineering student with extensive experience in computational data analysis, medical imaging, and hands-on projects. Passionate about leveraging engineering and computational methods such as data analysis, machine learning (ML) and mathematical simulation to optimize medical research and healthcare operations.

### **EDUCATION**

University of Pennsylvania, School of Engineering and Applied Sciences, Philadelphia, PA.

BSE in Bioengineering and Systems Science Engineering Dual Major, Computer Science and Mathematics Minor

Expected May 2026

- **Cumulative GPA:** 3.74/4.00
- **Relevant Coursework:** Machine Learning, Artificial Intelligence, Signals Processing, Dynamical Systems, Scientific Computing, Computer Systems, Statistics, Data Science, Control for Autonomous Robots, Physiology, Bioengineering Modeling Analysis and Design.
- **Extracurriculars:** Research Peer Adviser, Al@Penn, Weingarten CEngineers in Medicine (EMed) Research Committee Lead, Penn Appétit Magazine Editorial Board, Society of Women Engineers (SWE), Penn Club Swim (PCS).

# **EXPERIENCE**

#### **Undergraduate Researcher**

Penn Medicine, Penn Image Computing and Science Laboratory (PICSL)

February 2024 - Present

- Developed Python-based algorithms for real-time spatial and temporal image registration of bicuspid aortic valve image datasets.
- Analyzed CT and TEE images with automated preprocessing workflows implemented and executed via Unix command-line scripts.
- Leveraged tools such as ITK-SNAP and ParaView to visualize multi-dimensional imaging data for diagnostics and surgical planning.
- Utilized Git for version control to manage code development, track changes, and ensure reproducibility of imaging workflows.
- Developing a machine learning (ML) model for ultrasound transducer pose estimation to improve imaging accuracy and outcomes.

#### **Undergraduate Researcher**

Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, Gottardi Bio2 Lab

June 2023 - December 2024

- Generated findings towards in vitro validation of gradient porous synthetic scaffolds for tissue engineering osteochondral defect repair.
- Maintained cell cultures and optimized infiltration protocols of rabbit mesenchymal stem cells (rMSCs) into Poly-L-Lactic Acid scaffolds.
- Collected scaffolds for RT-qPCR analysis to quantify cell growth and tissue formation post differentiation in biphasic bioreactor.
- Performed histological, immunofluorescence, and immunohistochemistry (IHC) stains on tissue and scaffold sections for visualization.

#### **Student Tutor**

University of Pennsylvania, Weingarten Center

January 2023 - August 2024

- Worked closely with assigned student groups on a weekly basis, providing personalized guidance and study strategies for each group.
- Led weekly drop-in sessions, offering on-demand support to students for courses in Multivariable Calculus and General Chemistry.
- Served as a peer-content expert and student panelist for the Weingarten Center's 2023 Calculus Start-Up event.
- Represented the Weingarten Center during the annual Quaker Days for admitted students, providing insight on available resources.

# **SKILLS**

- PROGRAMMING & SOFTWARE: Python (Numpy, Scipy, Matplotlib, SciKit, PyTorch, openCV), Java, C, C++, MATLAB, OCaml, R, SQL,
   Command Line Tools (Linux/Unix, Convert3D), Simulink, Arduino, ITK-SNAP, ParaView, LoggerPro, Digital Oscilloscope, Computer-Aided Design (Onshape, SolidWorks), Embedded Systems, Git & GitHub, Image Processing, Machine Learning, Signals Processing.
- LABORATORY: Cell and Tissue Culture, Real-Time qRT-PCR, Tissue Sectioning (Microtome and Cryostat), Histology and Immunofluorescence, Agarose Gel Electrophoresis, Circuit Building, Instron Material Testing, Dialysis, 3D Printing, Laser Cutting, Electrocardiography ECG, Electromyography EMG, Synthetic Biology, Microfluidics, Hardware & Software Filtering, Signal Processing
- INTERPERSONAL: Research Communication (Written and Spoken), Public Speaking, Platform Presentation, Collaboration.
- LANGUAGE: English (Native Proficiency), Chinese (Native Proficiency), Spanish (Limited Working Proficiency).
- OTHER: Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, PowerPoint), Adobe Creative Suite (InDesign, Illustrator, Photoshop), Google Suite, Poster Design.

# **ADDITIONAL PROJECTS**

- Applied machine learning algorithms in MATLAB to decode neural network activity, performing sensitivity analysis to assess memory.
- Designed a smartwatch prototype with multi-sensor integration as a preliminary diagnostic for Carpal Tunnel Syndrome detection.
- Developed and validated a portable spectrophotometer for biochemical measurements, leveraging light absorbance analysis.
- Engineered a Human-Cockroach Machine Interface, utilizing real-time signal frequencies for biomechatronics and prosthetic control.
- Designed a microfluidic system using Solidworks/Onshape and laser machining for time-specific delivery of fluids to detection sites.
- Modeled gene expression using mathematical models and spectrophotometer data in MATLAB for characterizing GFP expression.
- Developed image processing and computational models to characterize quorum sensing of controlled gene circuit behavior.
- Designed a real-time ECG monitoring system for heart and respiration rate using embedded hardware and software signal processing.
- Designed a system using a Raspberry Pi embedded system to receive EMG Bluetooth data for reaction to muscle control rehabilitation.
- Programmed a functional Little Computer-4 (LC4) processor in C, simulating instruction-level execution and control flow.

## **POSTERS & PRESENTATIONS**

- In vitro validation of gradient porous scaffolds for osteochondral engineering and defect repair
   Oral Presentation 2024 Biomedical Engineering Society Conference
- Surface-based TEE-CT image registration for bicuspid aortic valve repair
   Oral and Poster Presentation 2024 National Research Conference at Penn, 2024 Penn Fall Research Expo
- Improving cell infiltration and visualization of synthetic scaffolds for osteochondral defect repair
  Poster Presentation 2024 National Research Conference at Penn, 2023 Penn Fall Research Expo

# **AWARDS**

- **2024 Lucid Communication Challenge Physical Sciences & Engineering Division, 2nd Place.** Recognized for presenting innovative research addressing 4D CT-TEE Image Registration. Judged by experts in the field for scientific merit, impact, and presentation quality.
- **2024 Abraham Noordergraaf Research Fellowship.** Competitive fellowship awarded by the University of Pennsylvania Department of Bioengineering to support summer research, with a preference for projects focused on cardiovascular systems.
- **2023 Penn Undergraduate Mentoring Program Award.** Highly selective summer research program enabling undergraduates to conduct advanced research under direct faculty mentorship at the University of Pennsylvania.