

# Jianwei Sun

## Curriculum Vitae

+1 (310) 923-6599  
sunjianw1@ucla.edu  
jianwei-sun.github.io

### Education

- 2020 to Present **Ph.D. in Systems and Control**,  
University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA).  
Advised by Prof. Dr. Jacob Rosen
- 2019 to 2020 **M.Sc. in Systems and Control**,  
University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA).  
Cumulative GPA: 4.0/4.0
- 2017 to 2019 **M.Sc. in Electrical Engineering and Information Technology**,  
Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETH Zürich).  
Cumulative GPA: 5.71/6.0
- 2012 to 2017 **B.A.Sc. in Engineering Science (Electrical and Computer Engineering)**,  
University of Toronto (UofT).  
Cumulative GPA: 3.79/4.0

### Research Experience

- Feb 2019 to Present **Bionics Lab**, University of California Los Angeles.  
*"Control and Estimation for Physical Human-Robot Interaction with Applications in Manipulation and Rehabilitation"*  
Supervised by Prof. Dr. Jacob Rosen.
- Developed a hardware-independent safety-focused admittance control methodology for multi-arm serial manipulators (Implemented as open-source C++ library), and verified on the V-Rex and EXOUL8 systems (C/C++)
  - Explored feedback-linearization-based approach for constrained physical human-robot interaction with applications in robotic rehabilitation (C/C++)
  - Implemented a rate-limiting filter to suppress unstable human-induced oscillations due to physiological and mechanical time delays (C/C++)
- Feb 2019 to Sep 2019 **Bionics Lab**, University of California Los Angeles.  
*"Improving Transparency in Physical Human-Robot Interaction for the EXO-UL8 Exoskeleton"*  
Project co-supervised by Prof. Dr. Jacob Rosen and Prof. Dr. Maryam Kamgarpour.
- Developed a Kalman filter-based sensor fusion method to achieve similar human-exoskeleton transparency using only a subset of six-axis force/torque sensors (C/C++)
  - Coauthored a paper for the 2019 IEEE International Conference on Rehabilitation Robotics

- Feb 2018 to **Institute for Dynamic Systems and Control**, ETH Zürich.  
Aug 2018 *"Vehicle Platoon Control with Virtual Path Constraints"*  
Project co-supervised by Rajan Gill and Prof. Dr. Raffaello D'Andrea.
  - Designed and implemented a distributed feedback-linearized admittance controller to enable safe human-interaction with a path-constrained quadrotor platoon (C/C++)
  - Primary author of a paper submitted to the 2019 IEEE Conference on Control Technology and Applications, awarded Outstanding Paper Award and finalist for Best Student Paper
- Oct 2017 to **Computer Engineering and Networks Laboratory**, ETH Zürich.  
Feb 2018 *"DCF77 Based Long-Term Timer"*  
Project co-supervised by Roman Trüb and Prof. Dr. Lothar Thiele.
  - Designed and implemented a radio clock-based ultra low power ( $\sim 10\mu W$ ) clock synchronizer capable of overcoming arbitrarily long clock drift for wireless network devices (MSP430, C)
  - Developed a benchmark device based on received timepulses from GPS for characterizing the timer device to nanosecond precision (MSP430, Raspberry Pi, C, Python)
- Sep 2016 to **Reconfigurable Antenna Laboratory**, University of Toronto.  
Jun 2017 *"Synthesis of a Multibeam Dual Reflectarray Beam Pattern Using Genetic Algorithms"*  
Project supervised by Prof. Dr. Sean V. Hum.
  - Developed a genetic algorithm-based multi-objective non-convex optimizer for beam synthesis on a Cassegrain reflectarray antenna system (MATLAB)
  - Coauthored a paper for the 2017 IEEE Antennas and Propagation Symposium
- May 2016 to **Institute for Dynamic Systems and Control**, ETH Zürich.  
Aug 2016 Project co-supervised by Rajan Gill and Prof. Dr. Raffaello D'Andrea.
  - Developed toolchains for automatic dynamic response characterization of nonlinear brushless motor systems for quadrotor vehicles (C/C++, MATLAB)
  - Developed a motor selection tool to automatically scrape off-the-shelf motor data from the web and suggest the best suited based on dynamic response requirements (Ruby)
- May 2014 to **Department of Mechanical Engineering**, National University of Singapore.  
Aug 2014 Project co-supervised by Goh Yu Feng and Prof. Dr. Koh Soo Jin Adrian.
  - Characterized dynamic responses of dielectric elastomers as soft actuators for use as artificial muscles (MATLAB)
  - Developed a waveform generator for a 5kV high voltage power supply to actuate elastomers (LabVIEW)

---

## Work Experience

- Jun 2022 to **Skydio, Autonomy**, San Mateo.  
Sep 2022
  - Evaluated feasibility of an emergency three-rotor recovery landing
  - Implemented an IMU-based reduced-attitude controller to stabilize relaxed hover solutions (C++, Python)
  - Tested dynamically feasible optimal braking and landing polynomial trajectories for three-rotor recovery (C++, Python)

- Sep 2018 to **Apple**, *Wearable Systems*, Cupertino.
- Feb 2019
- Designed a drop-in replacement system-in-package for the Apple Watch to measure coexistence issues only quantifiable in system form-factor (Cadence)
  - Developed software toolchain to automatically extract, process, and present data from the Apple Watch (Python)
  - Developed experiment setup to investigate a critical system coexistence issue between a power management IC and a MEMS sensor
- Jun 2017 to **Intel**, *Programmable Solutions Group*, San Jose.
- Sep 2017
- Developed hardware interfaces based on Avalon-Streaming for an H.265/HEVC 4K video encoder on a PCIe accelerator card with the Intel Arria-10 FPGA (Verlog, VHDL)
  - Simulated and debugged hardware with ModelSim, VCS-MX simulators, and custom test scripts (Python)
- May 2015 to **Apple**, *Wearable Systems*, Cupertino.
- May 2016
- Designed a multi-purpose hardware validation platform, including schematic entry, component selection, and PCB routing (Cadence)
  - Developed a fault-tolerant software API for a microprocessor to continuously stress-test (for 500 hours) a sensor subject to unpredictable device and digital interface failures in a high temperature/humidity environment (MSP432, C/C++)
  - Successfully identified a rare reliability failure mode and aided cross-functional teams in arriving at a mass-producible solution

## Publications

- [JP3] **J. Sun**, Y. Foroutani, J. Rosen, "Constrained Admittance Control using Feedback Linearization for Physical Human-Robot Interaction with Applications in Robot-Assisted Rehabilitation." Under preparation.
- [JP2] **J. Sun**, E. H. Kramer, J. Rosen, "A Safety-Focused Admittance Control Approach for Physical Human-Robot Interaction with Rigid Multi-Arm Serial Manipulators." Under review.
- [JP1] **J. Sun**, Y. Shen, J. Rosen, "Sensor Reduction, Estimation, and Control of an Upper-Limb Exoskeleton," in *IEEE Robotics and Automation Letters*, vol. 6, no. 2, pp. 1012-1019, April 2021, doi: 10.1109/LRA.2021.3056366.
- [CP4] **J. Sun**, P. W. Ferguson and J. Rosen, "Suppressing Delay-Induced Oscillations in Physical Human-Robot Interaction with an Upper-Limb Exoskeleton using Rate-Limiting," *2022 IEEE/RSJ International Conference on Intelligent Robots and Systems (IROS)*, Kyoto, Japan, 2022, pp. 6695-6701, doi: 10.1109/IROS47612.2022.9981943.
- [CP3] Y. Shen, **J. Sun**, J. Ma, J. Rosen, "Admittance Control Scheme Comparison of EXO-UL8: A Dual-Arm Exoskeleton Robotic System," *2019 IEEE 16th International Conference on Rehabilitation Robotics (ICORR)*, Toronto, ON, Canada, 2019, pp. 611-617, doi: 10.1109/ICORR.2019.8779545.

- [CP2] **J. Sun** and R. Gill, "Vehicle Platoon Control with Virtual Path Constraints," *2019 IEEE Conference on Control Technology and Applications (CCTA)*, Hong Kong, China, 2019, pp. 456-461, doi: 10.1109/CCTA.2019.8920555. [Video](#).
- [CP1] C. Geaney, **J. Sun**, S. V. Hum, E. Martinez-de-Rioja, and J. A. Encinar, "Synthesis of a multi-beam dual reflectarray antenna using genetic algorithms," *2017 IEEE International Symposium on Antennas and Propagation & USNC/URSI National Radio Science Meeting*, San Diego, CA, USA, 2017, pp. 1179-1180, doi: 10.1109/APUS-NCURSINRSM.2017.8072632.

---

## Awards

- 2023 Outstanding TA Award, Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering, University of California, Los Angeles
- 2022 Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering Department Fellowship, University of California, Los Angeles
- 2021 [Grad Slam Top 10](#), University of California, Los Angeles.
- 2019 Best Student Paper Finalist, Outstanding Paper Award, 3rd IEEE Conference on Control Technology and Applications (CCTA).
- 2017 Dean's Honours List, University of Toronto, awarded for all academic years.
- 2016 University of Toronto, Center for International Experience Award, for funding summer research conducted at ETH Zürich.
- 2014 [Nortel Institute Undergraduate Scholarship](#), University of Toronto.
- 2014 University of Toronto, Center for International Experience Award, for funding summer research conducted at the National University of Singapore.
- 2012 President's Scholars of Excellence entrance scholarship, University of Toronto.
- 2012 Alexander Rutherford Scholarship.

---

## Conference Participation

- 2023 2023 Southern California Robotics Symposium (SCR). Participant.
- 2022 35th IEEE/RSJ International Conference on Intelligent Robots and Systems (IROS). Podium presentation.
- 2019 16th IEEE/RAS-EMBS International Conference on Rehabilitation Robotics (ICORR). Podium presentation.
- 2019 IEEE/AIM Workshop on "Towards Soft Robotics for Biomimetics and Applications: Emerging Sensors, Actuators, and Methods". Poster.

---

## Teaching and Mentoring Experience

- Apr 2022 to Jun 2022 **Teaching Fellow**, LIFESCI 30B - Mathematics for Life Scientists (Python), University of California Los Angeles (Spring Quarter).  
20 hours per week

- Jan 2022 to Apr 2022 **Teaching Fellow**, LIFESCI 30B - Mathematics for Life Scientists (Python), University of California Los Angeles (Winter Quarter).  
20 hours per week
- Sep 2021 to Dec 2021 **Teaching Fellow (Head TA)**, MECH&AE M20 - Introduction to Computer Programming with MATLAB, University of California Los Angeles (Fall Quarter).  
20 hours per week
- Apr 2021 to Jun 2021 **Teaching Associate**, EC ENGR 141 - Principles of Feedback Control, University of California Los Angeles (Spring Quarter).  
20 hours per week
- Jan 2021 to Apr 2021 **Teaching Associate**, LIFESCI 30B - Mathematics for Life Scientists (Python), University of California Los Angeles (Winter Quarter).  
20 hours per week
- Sep 2020 to Dec 2020 **Teaching Associate (Head TA)**, MECH&AE M20 - Introduction to Computer Programming with MATLAB, University of California Los Angeles (Fall Quarter).  
20 hours per week
- Apr 2020 to Jun 2020 **Teaching Assistant**, LIFESCI 30B - Mathematics for Life Scientists (Python), University of California Los Angeles (Spring Quarter).  
20 hours per week
- Jan 2020 to Apr 2020 **Teaching Assistant**, LIFESCI 30B - Mathematics for Life Scientists (Python), University of California Los Angeles (Winter Quarter).  
20 hours per week
- Sep 2019 to Dec 2019 **Teaching Assistant**, MECH&AE M20 - Introduction to Computer Programming with MATLAB, University of California Los Angeles (Fall Quarter).  
20 hours per week
- Aug 2016 to Jun 2017 **Mentor**, IEEE Student Branch, University of Toronto.  
10 hours per week
- Mentored first and second year engineering students in hands-on electronics, design, and debugging (Arduino, C/C++)

## Volunteering Experience

- Aug 2016 to Jun 2017 **Director of Events**, IEEE Student Branch, University of Toronto.  
10 hours per week
- Headed logistics and operations for a hardware Hackathon event with focus on wireless embedded technologies, resulting the largest participant turnout in recent years
  - Negotiated with suppliers and sponsors to ensure sufficient funding for the club's operations
- 2013 to 2014 **Volunteer Team Member**, Supermileage Club, University of Toronto.  
5 hours per week
- Designed the fuel pressurization system and engine dynamometer
  - Assisted in carbon fiber layups, development, and assembly of completely new vehicle

2011 to 2013 **Volunteer**, Telus Spark Science Center, Calgary.  
5 hours per week

2010 to 2011 **Volunteer**, Canadian Red Cross, Calgary.  
5 hours per week

---

## Personal Projects

**Banana Split**, Split-style ergonomic mechanical keyboard.

- Designed single PCB for both left and right sides in Altium
- Designed enclosure in SolidWorks and 3D printed

Link **Website**, Personal website developed with Jekyll.

Github **HarryPlotter**, open source plotting library for MATLAB.

Video **Boomerang**, persistence of vision display.

- Implemented a dynamic self-calibrating algorithm to calculate frame flashing rates of LEDs in a high-RPM rotating display

---

## Technical Skills

### Software

Languages C/C++, Python, MATLAB,  $\text{\LaTeX}$ , {x86\_64, ARM, PIC} assembly, Java, Ruby, Bash  
Environments Linux, Windows, Qt, LabVIEW, Jekyll, Ruby on Rails, Flask  
Tools Git, CMake, Make, NMake, GCC, Clang

### Hardware

Embedded ATmega, MSP43x, PIC, STM32, {Cyclone, Arria 10} FPGA, Arduino, Raspberry Pi  
Lab Oscilloscopes, function generators, DC power supplies, DMMs, LCR meters, vector network analyzers, spectrum analyzers, logic analyzers, frequency counters  
Soldering Hands-on experience with DIP, SMT down to 01005, BGA, LGA, QFP packages

### Tools

Simulation MuJoCo, MATLAB, Simulink, PSpice, LTSpice, ModelSim, VCS-MX  
Design Cadence, Altium, KiCad, Eagle, SolidWorks

---

## Languages

Native English  
Native Mandarin Chinese  
Intermediate German  
Basic French

---

## Hobbies

Boxing  
Mountain biking