

Lekan Ogunmolu

Robotics / Control Systems / ML

Rerum Cognoscere Causas: To know the causes of things.

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Statement of Goals

Research Mission

As the gig economy evolves, automating rote tasks has taken a higher priority in business value chains. Rigid robots have played an important role in this economic transformation. However, as humans increasingly share workspaces with robots, safety and adeptness has become paramount given the low transportable loads, and the large flexure torques of rigid robots. These intrinsic properties hamper their use in sophisticated control strategies that require minimizing or eliminating load-dependent errors. Stiffening fixes, intended to enhance accuracy, only contributes to a high load-to-weight ratio and complicates the actuation system. Soft robots, however, exhibit distributed deformation, bending and twisting capabilities, and possess hyper-redundancy in their configuration space. These make them capable of flexible manipulation in delicate workspaces; their minimal resistance to applied strain and limited load-to-weight ratio make them choice mechanisms in sensitive automation domains. My research goal is to harness the unique advantage that soft robots offer in real-world manipulation that rigid robots lack viz., their morphological computation properties. Cleverly exploiting these properties yield simplified control laws and human-friendly mechanical systems. I want to continue providing robust models and controllers for soft robots that serve as better alternatives to current rigid manipulation technologies. I am interested in designing (1) robust models, (2) robust adaptive controllers, and (3) software frameworks that make it easier for engineers, chemists, and biologists alike to create, test, verify and validate soft continuum manipulators as designers originally envisioned.

Education

- 2014–2019 **PhD in Electrical and Computer Engineering**, *University of Texas at Dallas*, Richardson, USA.
"A Multi-DOF Soft Robot Mechanism for Patient Motion Correction and Beam Orientation Selection in Cancer Radiation Therapy." Advisors: Nick Gans (UTD) and Steve Jiang (UT Southwestern Medical Center.) | Committee Members: Drs. Mark Spong, Tyler Summers, Dinesh Bhatia, and Yonas Tadesse. | External Examiner: Prof. Phillip Anderson.
- 2012 **Master of Science in Engineering in Control Systems**, *The University of Sheffield*, Sheffield, United Kingdom. *"Autonomous Navigation of a Rotorcraft Unmanned Aerial Vehicle using Machine Vision."* Advisor: Tony J. Dodd. | Committee Members: Drs. George Panoutsos and Robin Pursehouse. | Dissertation reviewed by Mahdi Mahfouf.

Experience

Research

- Summer '19 - **Postdoctoral Scholar**, *The University of Pennsylvania*, Philadelphia, PA, USA.
Present Department of Radiation Oncology, Perelman School of Medicine, University of Pennsylvania.
- Summer '18 **Research Intern**, *Preferred Networks*, Otemachi, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo, Japan.
"Preferred Networks is one of a tiny handful of Japanese 'unicorns', or technology startups valued at more than \$1 billion." – The Wall Street Journal, 10/15/2018
Research Intern within the Robotics Team. Worked on stable learning of complex robot motion-planning/manipulation tasks. Implemented Khansari-Zadeh's CLF-DM on the Tokyo Robotics 7-DoF Arm. Proposed a DP approach for better complex robot trajectory imitation.

- Fall '17 - **Research Assistant**, Medical Artificial Intelligence and Automation Laboratory, Division of Medical Physics and Engineering, Radiation Oncology Department, UT Southwestern Medical Center.
 Spring '19 *Research Assistant for Dr. Steve Jiang, Barbara Crittenden Professor of Cancer Research, UTSW Department of Radiation Oncology.*
 Developed a multidisciplinary approach (spanning Deep learning, optimal control, dynamic programming, and game theory) in order to solve the classic beam orientation optimization (BOO) problem.
- Summer - Fall '17 **Research Assistant**, Dr. Tyler Summers, Mechanical Engineering, UT Dallas.
Dynamic Programming, Decision Theoretic Control, Machine/Reinforcement Learning.
 Developed a conservative controller for mitigating the lack of robustness in multi-stage decision policies.
- Fall '14 - Now **Research Assistant**, Dr. Nick Gans, Electrical Engineering, University of Texas at Dallas.
Control Systems, Systems Identification, State Estimation and Computer Vision.
 Conceived the prototypical testbed, procured hardware, integrated components to simulate soft robot compensating systems for patients in intensity modulated radiotherapy.
- Summer '16 **Hardware Integration Intern**, Amazon Robotics LLC.
SLAM, Software and Hardware Integration Intern.
 Helped integrate the hardware and software for the P3-DX robot used as a recreational robot in the Amazon Robotics office.
- Spring '16 **Hardware Integration Intern**, Advanced Robotics Lab, Amazon Robotics LLC.
Hardware Integration Intern.
 Wrote the codebase for the line scanners used in tracking objects in amazon warehouse assembly lines.

Teaching:

- Fall '14 - '16 **Teaching Assistant, Introduction to Robotics**, University of Texas at Dallas.
 Guided students during laboratories in programming the Robai Cyton 300R2 Robot and graded homeworks.
- Spring '15 **Teaching Assistant, Linear Systems (M.S. Class)**, University of Texas at Dallas.
 Responsible for helping Masters students with linear control theory applications; graded homeworks and midterms.
- Spring '14 **Instructor, Analysis and Design of Digital Systems**, Adekunle Ajasin University.
 Developed course modules, sole instructor for sophomore students, graded homeworks, designed and graded exams.
- Summer '14 **Instructor, Digital Logic Design**, Adekunle Ajasin University.
 Co-developed course modules, joint-instructor for junior students, graded homeworks, designed and graded exams.

Invited Talks

- Open Robotics [Soft-Robotic Position Correction Mechanisms in Intensity-Modulated Radiation Therapy](#).
 Open Robotics Foundation, Mountain View, CA, USA. January 2019.
- Stanford University [Robotic Radiotherapy: Automating Position Correction in Intensity-Modulated Radiation Therapy](#).
 Department of Energy Resources Engineering, Stanford University, Stanford, CA, USA. November 2018.
- UChicago [Robotic Radiotherapy: Automating Position Correction in Intensity-Modulated Radiation Therapy](#).
 Department of Radiation and Cellular Oncology, The University of Chicago, Chicago, IL, USA. November 2018.
- ATR CNS Labs [Minimax Iterative Dynamic Game](#).
 Department of Brain Robot Interface, Computational Neuroscience Labs, ATR, Osaka, Japan. August 2018.
- Preferred Networks [Neural Networks and Adaptive Control](#).
 Preferred Networks Tech. Talk, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo. Japan. August 2018.
- Google [SoftNeuroAdapt: A 3-DoF Neuro-Adaptive Healthcare System](#).
Work presented by Nick Gans, Google Robotics, Mountain View, CA. USA. September 2017.
- UTARI, Fort Worth, TX [A Wearable Soft Robotic Modular System for Head and Neck Motion Correction in Intensity-Modulated Radiation Therapy](#).
 University of Texas at Arlington Research Institute, Fort Worth, Texas, USA. May 2019.

- EFSC'17 Soft Robotic Modules as Position Correcting Mechanisms in Cancer RT.
Vancouver, BC [3rd Entrepreneurship Forum & Start-up Competition, EFSC'17](#), Vancouver, BC, Canada. September 2017.
- UTSW, Dallas, TX [A 3-DOF Neuro-Adaptive Patient Pose Correcting System For Frameless and Maskless Cancer Radiotherapy](#).
Physics Research Seminar Series, Radiation Oncology Department, UT Southwestern Medical Center, Dallas, TX, USA. March 2017.
- IEEE Towards automated accurate patient positioning in maskless cancer radiotherapy.
Arlington, TX *IEEE Computational Intelligence Society*, UT Arlington, TX, USA. December 2015.

Publications

Azar Sadeghnejad Barkousaraie, **Olalekan Ogunmolu**, Steve Jiang, and Dan Nguyen. [A Fast Deep Learning Approach for Beam Orientation Selection Using Supervised Learning with Column Generation on IMRT Prostate Cancer Patients](#). Under review at *Medical Physics (An AAPM Journal)*, May 2019.

Olalekan Ogunmolu, Michael Folkerts, Dan Nguyen, Nicholas Gans, and Steve Jiang. [Deep BOO: Automating Beam Orientation Selection in Intensity Modulated Radiation Therapy](#). *Algorithmic Foundations of Robotics XIII, International Workshop (WAFR)*, Mérida, Mexico. December 2018.

Olalekan Ogunmolu, Nicholas Gans, and Tyler Summers. [Minimax Iterative Dynamic Game: Application to Nonlinear Robot Control Tasks](#). *IEEE/RSJ International Conference on Intelligent Robots and Systems (IROS)*, Madrid, Spain. October 2018. DOI: 10.1109/IROS.2018.8594037.

Olalekan Ogunmolu, Adwait Kulkarni, Yonas Tadesse, Xuejun Gu, Steve Jiang, and Nick Gans. [Soft-NeuroAdapt: A 3-DOF Neuro-Adaptive Pose Correction System For Frameless and Maskless Cancer Radiotherapy](#). *IEEE/RSJ International Conference on Intelligent Robots and Systems (IROS)*, Vancouver, BC, Canada. September 2017. DOI: 10.1109/IROS.2017.8206211.

Olalekan Ogunmolu, Nicholas Gans, and Tyler Summers. [Robust Zero-Sum Deep Reinforcement Learning](#). *arxiv PrePrints*, *arxiv ID:1710.00491*, Oct 2017.

Olalekan Ogunmolu, Xuejun Gu, Steve Jiang, and Nicholas Gans. [Nonlinear Systems Identification Using Deep Dynamic Neural Networks](#). *arxiv PrePrints*, *arxiv ID:1610.01439*, Oct 2016.

Olalekan Ogunmolu, Xuejun Gu, Steve Jiang, and Nick Gans. [Vision-based control of a soft-robot for Maskless Cancer Radiotherapy](#). *IEEE Conference on Automation Science and Engineering (CASE)*, Fort-Worth, Texas, August 2016. DOI: 10.1109/CoASE.2016.7743378.

Olalekan Ogunmolu, Xuejun Gu, Steve Jiang, and Nick Gans. [A Real-Time Soft-Robotic Patient Positioning System for Maskless Head-and-Neck Cancer Radiotherapy](#). *IEEE Conference on Automation Science and Engineering (CASE)*, Gothenburg, Sweden, August 2015. DOI: 10.1109/CoASE.2015.7294318.

Azar Sadeghnejad Barkousaraie, **Olalekan Ogunmolu**, Steve Jiang, and Dan Nguyen. [Using supervised learning and guided Monte Carlo tree search for beam orientation optimization in radiation therapy](#). Under review at *International Conference on Medical Image Computing and Computer Assisted Intervention, XXII (MICCAI)*, Shenzhen, China. October 2019.

Azar Sadeghnejad Barkousaraie, **Olalekan Ogunmolu**, Steve Jiang, and Dan Nguyen. [Deep Learning Neural Network for Beam Orientation Optimization](#). To appear in *International Conference on the use of Computers in Radiation Therapy XVI (ICCR)*, Montreal, CA. June 2019.

Olalekan Ogunmolu, Dan Nguyen, Xun Jia, Weiguo Lu, Nick Gans, and Steve Jiang. [Automating Beam Orientation Optimization for IMRT Treatment Planning: A Deep Reinforcement Learning Approach](#). *60th Annual Meeting of the American Association of Physicists in Medicine*, Nashville, TN (AAPM). July 2018.

Yara Almubarak, Joshi Aniket, **Olalekan Ogunmolu**, Xuejun Gu, Steve Jiang, Nicholas Gans, and Yonas Tadesse, [Design and Development of Soft Robots for Head and Neck Cancer Radiotherapy](#). *SPIE: Smart Structures + Nondestructive Evaluation*, Denver, CO, U.S.A. March 2018.

Abstracts:

Olalekan Ogunmolu, Nicholas Gans, and Tyler Summers. [Minimax Iterative Dynamic Game: Application to Nonlinear Robot Control Tasks](#). *IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation. Machine Learning for Planning and Control Workshop Extended Abstract (ICRA 2018)*, Madrid, Spain. October 2018.

Olalekan Ogunmolu, Nicholas Gans, and Tyler Summers. [Minimax Iterative Dynamic Game: Application to Nonlinear Robot Control Tasks](#). *IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation, Late Breaking Result Abstract* Brisbane, Australia, May 2018.

Yara Almubarak, Joshi Aniket, **Olalekan Ogunmolu**, Xuejun Gu, Steve Jiang, Nicholas Gans, and Yonas Tadesse. [Design and Development of Soft Robots for Head and Neck Cancer Radiotherapy](#). *SPIE: Smart Structures + Nondestructive Evaluation*, Denver, CO, U.S.A. March 2018.

Tyler Summers, **Olalekan Ogunmolu**, and Nicholas Gans. [Robustness Margins and Robust Guided Policy Search for Deep Reinforcement Learning](#)". *IROS 2017 Abstract Only Track*, Vancouver, BC, Canada. September 2017.

Olalekan Ogunmolu, Nick Gans, Steve Jiang, and Xuejun Gu. [An Image-Guided Soft Robotic Patient Positioning System for Maskless Head-And-Neck Cancer Radiotherapy: A Proof-of-Concept Study](#). *American Association of Physicists in Medicine (AAPM) Annual Meeting*, Anaheim, CA, USA. July 2015.

Poster Presentations:

- AAPM '19 [An Approximate Policy Improvement Scheme for Beam Orientation Selection in Radiation Therapy](#). **Olalekan Ogunmolu**, Azar Sadeghnejad Barkousaraie, Dan Nguyen, and Steve Jiang. John R. Cameron Young Investigators Symposium, *61st Annual Meeting & Exhibition of the American Association of Physicists in Medicine (AAPM) Annual Meeting*, San Antonio, TX, USA. July 2019.
- AAPM '19 [A Fast Deep Learning Approach for Beam Orientation Optimization](#). Azar Sadeghnejad Barkousaraie, **Olalekan Ogunmolu**, Steve Jiang, and Dan Nguyen. *61st Annual Meeting & Exhibition of the American Association of Physicists in Medicine (AAPM) Annual Meeting*, San Antonio, TX, USA. July 2019.
- AAPM '19 [A Reinforcement Learning Application of Guided Monte Carlo Tree Search Algorithm for Beam Orientation Selection in Radiation Therapy](#). Azar Sadeghnejad Barkousaraie, **Olalekan Ogunmolu**, Steve Jiang, and Dan Nguyen. *61st Annual Meeting & Exhibition of the American Association of Physicists in Medicine (AAPM) Annual Meeting*, San Antonio, TX, USA. July 2019.
- NIPS '17 [An Iterative Dynamic Game for Robust Deep Reinforcement Learning](#). **Olalekan Ogunmolu**, Nicholas Gans, and Tyler Summers. *Neural Information Processing Systems*, Long Beach, CA, December 2017.
- TSD '17 [A 3-DOF Neuro-Adaptive Pose Correction System For Frameless and Maskless Radiotherapy](#). **Olalekan Ogunmolu**, Nicholas Gans, and Tyler Summers. *Texas Systems Day, Texas A & M University*, College Station, TX, USA. March 2017.

Awards and honors

- **Google AI Travel and Conference Grant** October 2018
- **IEEE RAS/IROS Travel Award (IROS 2018)** August 2018
- Finalist at the [3rd Entrepreneurship Forum and Startup Competition](#) August 2017
Sponsored by IEEE Robotics and Automation Society, KUKA AG, and Univ. Hamburg
- **NSF Doctoral Consortium Award (IROS 2017)** August 2017
- **Mary and Richard Templeton Graduate Fellowship** August 2017
- **ROSCon Scholarship** (Open Software for Robotics Foundation) July 2017
- President's **Teaching Excellence Award** for Teaching Assistants Nom. Feb. 2017
- **Golden Key International Honour Society** Inducted Dec. 2016
- **IEEE RAS/ISAM Travel Award (CASE 2016)** August 2016
- **Ericsson Graduate Fellowship** 2015 - 2016
- **Jonsson Scholarship** 2014 - 2015

○ Achievement Award, University of Florida (<i>Declined</i>)	Fall 2014
○ PTDF Overseas Scholarship Award, £25,500+ <i>for one year.</i> (~1.7% acceptance)	2011
○ Federal Government (of Nigeria) Scholarship (~3.6% acceptance)	2002
○ Ondo State (Nigeria) Scholarship (~10% acceptance)	2004

Peer Reviewing Activities (Research)

2017-Present **Reviews**, International Federation of Automatic Control (IFAC) Automatica Journal – IEEE Access Journal – Journal of Neural Computing and Applications (NCAA) – IFAC World Congress – IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation (ICRA) – IEEE International Conference on Decision and Control (CDC) – IEEE/RSJ International Conference on Intelligent Robots and Systems (IROS) – Dynamic Systems and Control Conference (DSCC) – American Control Conference (ACC) – International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML).

Miscellaneous

- 2017 **Invited Contributor**, *IEEE/RSJ International Conference on Robots and Intelligent Systems (IROS)*, Abstract Only Track, Vancouver, BC, Canada.
- 2017 – Now **Member**, **IEEE Robotics and Automation Society**.
- 2016–Now **Member**, *IEEE Boston*, Greater Boston, USA.
- 2015 – 2016 **Science instructor**, *IEEE Dallas Shoulder of Giants Workshops*, Dallas, TX.
Participant at IEEE Dallas Young Professionals community outreaches in promoting STEM education and awareness in the Dallas/Fort-Worth Metroplex.
- 2015 **Summer Science Program**, *University of Texas at Dallas*, Richardson, TX.
Trained high-school kids in basic robots control and programming with the Berkeley Snap! kit and arduino.

Mentoring

Undergraduate mentoring:

- Summer 2017 Rachael Thompson. Plano High School Student. Currently an undergrad at MIT's CSAIL. Class of 2021
- 2016 - 2017 Alex Tomkovich. Computer Engineering Junior.
- Spring 2015 Grant Carr. Computer Engineering Junior.

Masters mentoring:

- 2016 – 2017 Adwait Kulkarn. Mechanical Engineering Masters student (Currently at Drov Technologies, MN).
- 2015 Ajith Venkateswaran. Computer Engineering Masters student (Currently Senior Robotics Software Engineer, Samsung Research, America).

Computing

Programming C++, Python, Lua, MATLAB, LabVIEW.

Libraries Point Cloud Library, OpenCV, Torch7, Eigen, Docker, PyTorch, OpenAI Gym, MuJoCo, Numpy, SciPy, Scikit-Learn, C++11/14 standards.

OS OSX, Debian, Windows.

OSRF ROS hydro, indigo, jade, kinetic, and melodic distros. ROS Bouncy Bolson.

Web HTML, Markdown, socket.io, node.js, and express.js.

Languages

English	Reads, writes, and speaks fluently	<i>Lived in Nigeria, United Kingdom and United States.</i>
Japanese	Basic proficiency	<i>Lived in Japan for 3 months.</i>
Yoruba	Reads, writes, and speaks fluently.	<i>Native Nigerian Language. Spoken at home.</i>

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