Lavonda Li (She/Her)

+1 (650) 613-9209 | lavonda@stanford.edu | Stanford, CA | lavondali.com | linkedin.com/in/lavonda-li/

Experienced product manager in tech, AI and robotics driving products from concept to launch and scale, with full ownership and market growth; proven across large companies and startups.

EDUCATION (fully funded by scholarships)

Stanford University	CA, USA
Materials Science and Engineering, MS	GPA: 4.0/4.0
Stanford GSB mini-MBA	
University of Cambridge	England, UK
Chemical Engineering, BA & *MEng*	First Class Honours (full GPA)

WORK EXPERIENCE

Intuitive Surgical | *Product Manager Intern* — Jun 2025 – Mar 2026

Inventor of da Vinci, the world's most advanced surgical robot. — Sunnyvale, CA

- Built and validated a real-time haptic guidance prototype on da Vinci 5, raising surgeon interpretability and cutting out-of-range forces by 30%, driving adoption of next-gen haptics across 40+ stakeholders.
- Shaped product and clinical strategy, analyzing 10,000+ logs and 50 surgeon interviews; authored Phase-0 deck that secured leadership approval and funding for multi-site trials.

FANUC | *Product Manager Intern* — Feb 2025 – Jun 2025

World leader in industrial robotics and factory automation. — Rochester Hills, MI

- Launched 'Cobot Seeds,' a free access + tiered leasing program for Series-A startups, creating a profitable beachhead in collaborative robots and capturing early-stage market share.
- Interviewed 100+ R&D teams to pivot product focus to startups and sharpen cobot GTM strategy.

Neuromuse (Startup) | *Board Advisor & Co-Founder (Former CPO)* — May 2023 – Present

AI-powered music creation for every musician. Check out here.

- Developed tailored MVP for market validation and iterated the model with tech team to improve product-market fit; established collaborations with renowned singers, producers, and musicians.

MeetCam (Startup) | *Chairman & Founder (Former CEO)* — Oct 2019 – Present

Edtech specializing in UK & US curriculum and admissions success.

- Led an 8-member executive team, recruiting and training 100+ Oxbridge/Ivy tutors to support 200+ students; achieved 100% positive feedback and 80% grade improvement, driving sustained profitability.
- Developed and launched new products through startup collaborations, generating strong market traction.

Sanofi | *Product Manager Intern* — Jun 2023 – Oct 2023

Medicines and vaccines that reach billions worldwide. — Cambridge, UK

- Doubled dermatologist enrollment at 12 sites by A/B-testing a compliant toolkit for patient recruitment.
- Analyzed 1.1M+ dose events to design a predictive dashboard, guiding a €20M GTM strategy.

Novartis | *Program Manager Intern* — Jun 2022 – Oct 2022

Advancing therapies that transform millions of lives. — London, UK

- Led product marketing for a biologic by organizing a global medical conference with 1000+ physicians and delivering competitor analysis to inform positioning and outreach strategy.

LEADERSHIP (Selected)

Stanford Materials Research Society | *Professional Development Chair* — Jun 2025 – Present

- Led career-planning for graduate students, built industry partnerships and alumni connections, and ran a professor–student lunch series to expand mentorship and recruiting opportunities.

Association for Women in Science (AWIS) – Palo Alto | *Executive Chair*   Jan 2025 – Present
- Directed Stanford-sponsored mentoring: matched 200+ grad pairs; hosted monthly Women Executives Series; launched awards and scholarships, enhancing visibility and recognition for women in science.

Stanford University Theater & Opera | *Producer*   Sep 2024 – Jun 2025
- Managed team (cast, designers, technical staff), organize rehearsal schedules, venues, and timelines, and oversee budgeting to ensure smooth production of a Broadway-style original musical *here*.
- Led marketing and promotions via social media, press releases, and ticket sales, driving audience engagement.

Oxbridge Alumni Association | *Chair of Events*   Jun 2019 – Present
- Organized **flagship events** (Christmas Dinner, Industrial Conference) as part of a 9-member executive committee, with active members from **1,000** Oxbridge alumni. Chaired annual Freshers' Fair.
- Managed public communication channels and established collaborations with esteemed groups.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE (Selected)

Stanford Translational AI Lab   Sep 2024 – Present
Graduate Researcher | Advisor: Prof Ehsan Adeli   *Stanford University, Mayo Clinic*

Vision-Language Model (VLM)-LLM *framework for automatic echocardiography reporting.*

- Conducted in-domain pre-training on VLMs using 160K cardiology image-text pairs curated from the PubMed-OA dataset, achieving a 20% performance improvement over baseline for cardiology diagnoses.
- Built a LLM-derived knowledge graph, integrated with the Python OpenAI API, to enhance contextual information retrieval from private datasets and reduce hallucinations within the framework.
- Clinically validated the echocardiography interpretation system, realizing diagnostic workflow automation.

Cambridge Bionano Engineering Lab   Jun 2023 – Oct 2023
Researcher | Advisor: Prof Ljiljana Fruk   *University of Cambridge*

Enzyme sensitive protein-based **drug nanocarriers** *for reprogramming of pancreatic cancer.*

- Synthesized nanocarriers from myoglobin with MMP-2/-9 cleavable peptide crosslinking, characterized disassembly, and validated in vitro 2D stability, cytotoxicity, and cell uptake in intact/disassembled proteins.
- Developed 3D co-culture spheroids to model hypoxic tumor microenvironments and validated nanocarrier effects on alleviating hypoxia. Presented work at conferences and contributed to published papers.

*Point-of-Care Urine cfDNA Extraction Kit (**Biosensor** for Non-invasive Cancer Screening).*

- Created the product requirements and experimental plan for a urine cell-free DNA cancer test with 95% capture and 5 min processing, filed a patent for the magnetic nanoparticle sensor.
- Led a six-member team from concept to pilot: built prototypes, tripled DNA yield, cut consumable spend 40%.

PUBLICATION

- **Li, L.**, et al. "Bioorthogonal Optimized Virus Immuno-Nanomedicine (BOVIN)." *Nature Communications.*
- **Li, L.**, et al. "Parabiosis, Assembloids, Organoids (PAO)." *Advanced Science*, 2025. DOI: 10.1002/advs.202511671
- **Li, L.**, et al. "Cell Viability, Drug Screening, and Mechanism Study Under Mild Phototherapy Integrated Chemotherapy (PIC)." *Advanced Science*, 2025. DOI: 10.1002/advs.202502836

TEACHING AT STANFORD

- CS 337 AI-Assisted Care: use AI and machine learning to make a real-world impact on human health.
- MATSCI 170 Nanomaterials Design: explore the cutting edge of nanoscience and nanotechnology.
- ME 249 Designing Biomaterials: translate a medical need into material design requirements.
- ENGR 307 Engineering for Women's Health: addressing challenges across women's every life stage.

SKILLS

Coding: Python, C++, MATLAB, PyTorch, Pandas, AWS, GCP, Git, GitHub, Jira, SQL, Matplotlib, Seaborn.
Languages: Bilingual in English & Mandarin, conversational in Cantonese, Japanese & French.
Away from keyboard: Broadway & West End Musicals, Professional Makeup Artist and Photographer.