Lavonda Li (She/Her)

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Experienced PM (product manager/lead) in AI, robotics and medtech, driving products from concept to launch and scale, with full ownership and market growth; proven across large companies and startups.

EDUCATION

Stanford University

CA, USA

Materials Science and Engineering, MS

GPA: 4.0/4.0

Stanford Ignite (mini-MBA)

University of Cambridge

England, UK

Chemical Engineering, BA & MEng

First Class Honours (full GPA)

Funded by Cambridge Trust International Scholarship.

Work Experience

Intuitive Surgical | Product Manager Intern

Jun 2025 – Sep 2025

- Designed and validated a real-time visual haptic-guidance prototype; surgeon testing boosted interpretability from 2.1 to 4.5/5 and reduced simulated out-of-range forces by 22%.
- Led a mixed-methods user study of 10,000 da Vinci procedure logs and 50 surgeon interviews, uncovering unmet force-guidance needs and translating insights into actionable product requirements.
- Authored the Phase-0 Design Verification deck that cleared the leadership gate ahead of schedule, unlocking roadmap funding and charting the next multi-site clinical study.

FANUC | Product Manager Intern

Feb $2025 - Jun\ 2025$

- Designed & launched "Cobot Seeds", free cobot access with tiered leasing for Series-A startups, creating a profitable beachhead that expands FANUC into collaborative robots and captures early-stage market share.
- Interviewed 100 R&D teams; insights pivoted focus from universities to startups and refined product and GTM (go-to-market) strategy for FANUC's new cobot line.

Neuromuse (Startup) | Board Advisor & Co-Founder (Former CPO)

May 2023 – Present

A generative AI music creation platform for professional and amateur composers. Check out <u>here</u>.

• Developed MVP tailored to target customers 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

 $\label{thm:eq:consultancy start-up specializing in UK \& US \ curriculum \ and \ top \ university \ admissions.$

- Recruited and trained 100+ Oxbridge/Ivy tutors for tailored academic support to 200+ students, achieving 100% positive feedback, 80% grade improvements, and leading an 8-member team for sustained profitability.
- Developed new products with positive market results via startup collaborations (former **product manager**).

Sanofi | Product Manager Intern

Jun 2023 – Sep 2023

- Drove the roadmap for *Dupixent Patient Connect*: fused insights from 25 HCP interviews with 500 k real-world data points, shipped an MVP in 6 weeks, and onboarded 10 k+ patients on launch day.
- A/B-tested toolkit that doubled dermatologist enrollment at 12 sites while remaining fully compliant.
- Mined 1.1 M dose events to build a dashboard predicting drop-off 7 days sooner, steering a €20 M GTM plan.

Novartis | Product Marketing Intern

Jun 2022 - Sep 2022

• Led product marketing for a biologic by organizing a global medical conference with 200+ 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 <u>here</u>.
- 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)

Published in Advanced Science

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%.

PROJECTS

Refer to LinkedIn for more projects.

- Built an machine learning pipeline for antimicrobial polymer discovery (collaboration with *Prof Eric Appel*).
- Machine learning—guided analysis of ADC linker parameters to predict efficacy in cancer immunotherapy.
- Applied AlphaFold for protein structure prediction and molecular docking for structure-based drug discovery.
- Developed pre-procedural planning methods for transcatheter heart valve interventions, combining clinical imaging with **in silico modeling** (including CFD) to optimize patient selection and valve replacement planning.
- Designed Shell and Tube **heat exchangers**, including thermal, hydraulic, and mechanical aspects, **flow network modeling** (FNM), mechanical drawings, and addressing SHE (Safety, Health, and Environmental) considerations.

SKILLS

Coding: Python, C++, MATLAB, PyTorch, Pandas, AWS, GCP, Git, GitHub, Jira, SQL, Matplotlib, Seaborn.

Languages: Bilingual in English and Mandarin, conversational in Cantonese, Japanese and French.

Away from keyboard: Broadway & West End Musicals, Professional Makeup Artist and Photographer.