Lavonda Li (She/Her)

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

Detail-driven, analytical professional with experience in company research, financial modeling, and presenting insights to senior decision-makers; eager to build domain expertise and grow into a high-impact investment analyst.

EDUCATION (fully funded by scholarships)

Stanford University	CA, USA
Materials Engineering, MS	Sep 2024 - Mar 2026
Stanford Ignite (MBA)	GPA: 4.0/4.0
University of Cambridge	England, UK
Chemical Engineering and Biotechnology, BA & *MEng*	First Class Honours (full GPA)

WORK EXPERIENCE

Intuitive Surgical | *Product Manager MBA Intern* — Jun 2025 – Present

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

- Drove a 0→1 haptics innovation on *da Vinci 5*, from concept to prototype to formal resourcing, cutting out-of-range forces by 30% and uniting 40+ senior stakeholders toward next-gen haptics adoption.
- Shaped product and clinical strategy through 50 surgeon interviews; authored Phase-0 deck securing leadership alignment for multi-site clinical trials and contributed to GTM across Japan and Korea.

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

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

- Owned the full product lifecycle of a collaborative-robot program, from market research to launch and growth, built on a free-access, tiered-leasing model that drove profitable entry.
- Interviewed 100+ R&D stakeholders to validate product fit, refine features, and GTM strategy.

Sanofi | *Growth Product Manager* — Jan 2024 – Dec 2024

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

- Drove 10% month-over-month revenue growth by building strong, trust-based relationships with 50 physicians.
- Launched targeted educational initiatives and professional events that positioned our biologic as the preferred choice in a crowded market, surpassing competitors and securing key hospital procurement wins.

Novartis | *Project Manager* — Jan 2023 – Dec 2023

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

- Led product marketing and competitive intelligence for a biologic, organized global medical conferences (1,000+ HCPs) and delivered competitor analyses that shaped positioning and HCP outreach.

Neuromuse (Startup) | *Board Advisor (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) | *Board Advisor (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.

LEADERSHIP (Selected)

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 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.

Stanford University Theater & Opera | *Musical 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 Feifei Li, 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 2020 – Jun 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.

Biosensor for enhanced extraction of cell-free DNA from urine for non-invasive cancer screening.
- Synthesized and optimized magnetic iron oxide nanoparticles with guanidine moieties or gold hybrid shells, balancing surface charge and magnetism for high DNA affinity; sensor design's patent filed.
- Optimized cfDNA binding/elution with modified nanoparticles in synthetic urine, evaluating preservatives, buffers, and salts; standardized pre-analytical protocols for PCR and NGS.

PUBLICATION (Selected)

- **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, SFDC.
Languages: Bilingual in English & Mandarin, conversational in Cantonese, Japanese & French.
Away from keyboard: Broadway & West End Musicals, Professional Makeup Artist and Photographer.