Fei Liu

9115 Judicial Drive Apt 4305, La Jolla, CA 92122



RESEARCH FOCUS

My research interests lie at the intersection of control theory and robotics, encompassing computational modeling, advanced control, AI, and integrated hardware/software for robotic autonomy. I focus on applying these in unstructured environments, including biomedical, manufacturing, industrial, natural, and household settings.

- Computational Modeling: includes mechanics, kinematics, dynamics, physics-informed simulation and constrained optimization.
- Advanced Control and AI: model-based and data-driven control, decision making, visual perception, human-in-the-loop.
- Integrated real-time embedded system and hardware/software platforms co-design.

EDUCATION

Institut National des Sciences Appliquées de Lyon (INSA de Lyon)

Sep. 2013 – Sep. 2016

Ph.D. in Robotics

Top Engineering school in France (Grande école)

Top 51-75 worldwide in Mechnical Engineering based on ARWU (Shanghai) Ranking

- Thesis title: Dual-user Haptic Training System
- Supervisors: Prof. Arnaud Lelevé, Prof. Tanneguy Redarce, Dr. Damien Eberard

Institut National des Sciences Appliquées de Lyon (INSA de Lyon)

Sep. 2012 - Aug. 2013

Lyon, France

Lyon, France

Master of Science in Robotics

- Thesis title: Teleoperation System Using Port-Hamiltonian Approach
- Supervisor : Prof. Arnaud Lelevé

Northwestern Polytechnical University (NWPU)

Bachelor of Science in Automation

Top 151-200 worldwide in all subjects based on ARWU (Shanghai) Ranking

Top 22nd worldwide in Mechnical Engineering in ARWU (Shanghai) Ranking

Top 51-75 worldwide in Automation and Control based on ARWU (Shanghai) Ranking

Speciality: Automation and Inertial Navigation

Sep. 2008 – Jul. 2012

Xi'an,China

WORKING APPOINTMENTS

Postdoctoral Scholar

Advanced Robotics and Controls Lab, University of California San Diego

Advisor: Prof. Michael Yip

Dec. 2019 - present

San Diego, CA, USA

Senior Research Associate

Biorobotics Institute, Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna

Apr. 2019 - Nov. 2019

Pisa, Italy 1/10

Advisor: Prof. Filippo Cavallo

Research Associate/Postdoc

Center for Micro-BioRobotics, IIT@SSSA, Italian Institute of Technology

Pisa, Italy

Senior Control Engineer & Project Director

ROBO Medical Technology Co., Ltd

Oct. 2016 – Feb. 2018

Shenzhen, China

Mar. 2018 - Mar. 2019

Publications

Preprints & Submitted (* shares the first author)

- 1. [ICRA'24] Fei Liu*, Yutong Zhang*, Xiao Liang, Michael C. Yip. Achieving Autonomous Cloth Manipulation with Optimal Control via Differentiable Physics-Aware Regularization and Safety Constraints. IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation (ICRA), 2024. under review [ARXIV]
- 2. [ICRA'24] Fei Liu*, Xiao Liang*, Yutong Zhang, Yuelei Li, Shan Lin, Michael C. Yip. Real-to-Sim Deformable Object Manipulation: Optimizing Physics Models with Residual Mappings for Robotic Surgery. IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation (ICRA), 2024. under review [ARXIV]
- 3. [ICRA'24] Shan Lin, Albert Miao, Ali Alabiad, Fei Liu, Kaiyuan Wang, Jingpei Lu, Florian Richter, Michael C. Yip. SuPerPM: A Large Deformation-Robust Surgical Perception Framework Based on Deep Point Matching Learned from Physical Constrained Simulation Data. IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation (ICRA), 2024. under review [ARXIV]
- 4. [ICRA'24] Christopher D'Ambrosia, Florian Richter, Zih-Yun Chiu, Nikhil Shinde, Fei Liu, Henrik Christensen, Michael C. Yip. Robust Surgical Tool Tracking with Pixel-based Probabilities for Projected Geometric Primitives. IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation (ICRA), 2024. under review [PDF]
- 5. [T-RO] Fei Liu, Mingen Li, Jingpei Lu, Entong Su, Michael C. Yip. Parameter Identification and Motion Control for Articulated Rigid Body Robots Using Differential Position-based Dynamics. *IEEE Transactions on Robotics (T-RO)*, 2023. *In revision (check for PDF preview)* [ARXIV]
- 6. [RA-L] Kaiyuan Wang, Shan Lin, Jingpei Lu, <u>Fei Liu</u>, Florian Richter, and Michael Yip. SUPER-Robust: A Robust Long-term Deformation Tracking and Reconstruction Framework for Endoscopic Videos. *IEEE Robotics and Automation Letters (RAL)*. *To submit*
- 7. [RA-L] Shan Lin, Jingpei Lu, <u>Fei Liu</u>, Florian Richter, and Michael Yip. Deformation Tracking-based Online Jacobian Estimation for Deformable Object Manipulation. *IEEE Robotics and Automation Letters* (RAL). To submit
- 8. [RA-L] <u>Fei Liu</u>, Florian Richter, Michael C. Yip. Continuum Robot Shape Reconstruction and Tracking from Monocular Endoscopic Image Sequences. *IEEE Robotics and Automation Letters (RAL)*. *To submit*
- 9. [T-MECH] Zhaowei Yu, Dimitri A. Schreiber, Fei Liu, Alexander M. Grant, Michael C. Yip. An Underwater Remote Teleoperation Robot Arm with Rolling Diaphragm Actuation and End Effector Force Reconstruction. IEEE/ASME Transactions on Mechatronics (T-MECH). Manuscript along with patent application (check for PDF preview) [PDF]

Journal & Book Articles

10. [RAL'23] Fei Liu^{*}, Entong Su^{*}, Jingpei Lu, Mingen Li, Michael C. Yip. Robotic Manipulation of Deformable Rope-like Objects Using Differentiable Compliant Position-based Dynamics. *IEEE Robotics and Automation Letters (RAL)*, 2023. ▶ [pol]

- 11. [T-BME'23] Xiao Liang, Shan Lin, <u>Fei Liu</u>, Dimitri Schreiber, Michael C. Yip. ORRN: An ODE-based Recursive Registration Network for Deformable Respiratory Motion Estimation with Lung 4DCT Images. *IEEE Transactions on Biomedical Engineering (T-BME)*, 2023. [DOI]
- 12. [RAL'21] Florian Richter, Shihao Shen, Fei Liu, Jingbin Huang, Emily K. Funk, Ryan K. Orosco, Michael C. Yip. Autonomous Robotic Suction to Clear the Surgical Field for Hemostasis Using Image-Based Blood Flow Detection. IEEE Robotics and Automation Letters (RAL), 2021. [DOI] Nominated for Best Paper Award at ICRA 2021
- 13. [Applied Sciences'20] Fei Liu*, Sarmad Mehrdad*, Minh Tu Pham, Arnaud Lelevé, S. Farokh Atashzar. Review of Advanced Medical Telerobots. *Applied Sciences*, 2020. [por]
- 14. [Haptic Interfaces'19] Angel R. Licona, Fei Liu, David Pinzon, Ali Torabi, Pierre Boulanger, Arnaud Lelevé, Richard Moreau, Minh Tu Pham, Mahdi Tavakoli, Troy McDaniel. Applications of Haptics in Medicine. Haptic Interfaces for Accessibility, Health, and Enhanced Quality of Life, Nov. 2019. [DOI]
- 15. [Robotica'19] Fei Liu, Angel Ricardo Licona, Arnaud Lelevé, Damien Eberard, Minh Tu Pham, Tanneguy Redarce. An Energy-Based Approach for n-dof Passive Dual-user Haptic Training Systems. *Robotica*, 2019.

Conference Proceedings

- 16. [IROS IPPC'23] Fei Liu, Michael C. Yip. Shape Reconstruction of Soft, Continuum Robots using Differentiable Rendering with Geometrical Shape Primitive. IROS Workshop on Integrated Perception, Planning, and Control for Physically and Contextually-Aware Robot Autonomy, 2023. [PDF]
- 17. [IROS IPPC'23] Fei Liu*, Xiao Liang*, Yutong Zhang, Yuelei Li, Michael C. Yip. Bridging Real-to-Sim Gaps through Online Material Property Optimization with Perception-Enabled Residual Mapping. IROS Workshop on Integrated Perception, Planning, and Control for Physically and Contextually-Aware Robot Autonomy, 2023. [PDF]
- 18. [ICRA'23] <u>Fei Liu</u>*, Jingpei Lu*, Michael C. Yip. Image-based Pose Estimation and Shape Reconstruction for Robot Manipulators and Soft, Continuum Robots via Differentiable Rendering. *IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation (ICRA)*, 2023. [Doi]
- 19. [ICRA'23] Neelay Joglekar, Fei Liu, Ryan Orosco, Michael C. Yip. Suture Thread Spline Reconstruction from Endoscopic Images for Robotic Surgery with Reliability-driven Keypoint Detection. *IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation (ICRA)*, 2023.
- 20. [ICRA'21] Fei Liu*, Zihan Li*, Yuhai Han, Jingpei Lu, Florian Richter, Michael C. Yip. Real-to-Sim Registration of Deformable Soft-Tissue with Position-Based Dynamics for Surgical Robot Autonomy. IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation (ICRA), 2021. [5] [DOI]
- 21. [ICRA'21] Fei Liu*, Jingbin Huang*, Florian Richter, Michael C. Yip. Model-Predictive Control of Blood Suction for Surgical Hemostasis using Differentiable Fluid Simulations. *IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation (ICRA)*, 2021. [Dot]
- 22. [ACIRS'21] Sajiv Shah, Ayaan Haque, Fei Liu. Simulated Data Generation Through Algorithmic Force Coefficient Estimation for AI-Based Robotic Projectile Launch Modeling. The 6th Asia-Pacific Conference on Intelligent Robot Systems (ACIRS), 2021. [5] [DOI]
- 23. [IROS'20] Jacob J. Johnson, Linjun Li, <u>Fei Liu</u>, Ahmed H. Qureshi, Michael C. Yip. Dynamically constrained motion planning networks for non-holonomic robots. *IEEE/RSJ International Conference on Intelligent Robots and Systems (IROS)*, 2020. [a [DOI]

- 24. [IROS CRS'20] Yunhai Han, Fei Liu, Michael C. Yip. A 2D Surgical Simulation Framework for Tool-Tissue Interaction. IEEE/RSJ International Conference on Intelligent Robots and Systems (IROS) Workshop on Cognitive Robotic Surgery, 2020. [ARXIV]
- 25. [ICMCE'18] Angel Ricardo Licona Rodriguez, Fei Liu, Arnaud Lelevé, Damien Eberard, Minh Tu Pham. Collaborative Hands-on Training on Haptic Simulators. 7th International Conference on Mechatronics and Control Engineering, Nov. 2018. [Dot]
- 26. [IROS'16] Fei Liu, Arnaud Lelevé, Damien Eberard, Tanneguy Redarce. An Energy Based Approach for Passive Dual-user Haptic Training Systems. *IEEE/RSJ International Conference on Intelligent Robots and Systems (IROS)*, Oct. 2016. [DOI]
- 27. [EBMC'15] Fei Liu, Arnaud Lelevé, Damien Eberard, Tanneguy Redarce. A Dual-user Teleoperation System with Online Authority Adjustment for Haptic Training. 37th Annual International Conference of the IEEE Engineering in Medicine and Biology Society (EMBC), Aug. 2015. [DOI]
- 28. [MESROB'15] Fei Liu, Arnaud Lelevé, Damien Eberard, Tanneguy Redarce. A Dual-user Teleoperation System with Adaptive Authority Adjustement for Haptic Training. 4th International Workshop on Medical and Service Robots, Jul. 2015. [Doi]
- 29. [IARC'12] Fei Liu, Yinan Sang, Jie He, Jie Fan, Ruichao Li, Xiongyi Cui, Haoyu Li, Jie Chen. Northwestern Polytechnical University Team Entry for the 2012 AUVSI International Aerial Robotics Competition. International Aerial Robotics Competition (IARC) Symposium, Aug. 2012. [PDF]
- 30. [MCM'11] Fei Liu, Haoyu Li, Li Li. Modeling of the Snowboard Course, International Mathematical Contest in Modeling (MCM) Symposium, Apri. 2011

Dissertations

- 1. [PHD] Fei Liu, Dual-user Haptic Training System, [PDF], Ph.D. Dissertation, INSA de Lyon, 2017.
- 2. [Master] Fei Liu, Cooperative Haptic Hands-on Minimally Invasive Surgery (MIS) Trainer, M.Sc. Thesis, INSA de Lyon, 2013.

PATENTS

- 1. Fei Liu, Michael C. Yip, Florian Richter. Real-to-Simulation Matching of Deformable Soft Tissue and Other Objectss with Position-based Dynamics for Robot Control. PCT/US22/22820. 2022.
- 2. Jialin Yang, Qinghao Hu, Jianxiao Chen, <u>Fei Liu</u>, Fei Long. Flexible Mechanical Arm and Surgical Equipment. <u>CN 215651505 U. 2021</u>.
- 3. Jialin Yang, Qinghao Hu, Jianxiao Chen, Fei Liu, Fei Long, Luchen Shen, Liyang Lin. Main Hand Control Unit and Auxiliary Robot for Digestive Tract Operation. CN 216603056 U. 2021.
- 4. Jialin Yang, Qinghao Hu, Jianxiao Chen, Fei Liu, Fei Long, Luchen Shen, Liyang Lin. Main Operator and Force Feedback Device. CN 215273291 U. 2021.
- 5. Jialin Yang, Qinghao Hu, Jianxiao Chen, <u>Fei Liu</u>, Fei Long, Luchen Shen, Liyang Lin. Operation Executor. CN 114129228 A. 2021.
- 6. Jialin Yang, Qinghao Hu, Jianxiao Chen, <u>Fei Liu</u>, Fei Long, Luchen Shen, Liyang Lin. Operation Executor. **D** CN 114176660 A. 2021.
- 7. Junjie Gao, <u>Fei Liu</u>, Shunzheng Meng, Sihao Zuo, Jialin Yang. A Kind of Flexible Joint Mechanism. CN 209713128 U. 2018.
- 8. Jialin Yang, Xilong Hou, Lijuan Yao, Fei Liu. Lifting Operation Instrument. CN 209574762 U. 2018.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Advanced Robotics and Controls Lab, UCSD

Dec. 2019 – present

PostDoc, ARCLab

San Diego, CA, USA

- Developing the unified modeling, simulation, and control of deformable, rigid, articulated, fluid object using position-based dynamics (PBD), in particular for articulated manipulation (impedance control, trajectory optimization, rope shape control etc) and surgical applications (soft tissue, membrane, blood and tools).
- Differentiability for the PBD simulation using adjoint method based on chain-rule and Autodiff tools.
- Developing our constrained-based solver and software architecture in conjunction with NVIDIA Flex and Warp.
- Real-to-sim transfer techniques using non-rigid perception, registration, and tracking.
- Closed-loop controller design, motion planning and validation using field robots, such as da Vinci Reseach Kit (DVRK), 7-dof Baxter Robotic Arm, 7-dof Franka Panda Arm, a catheter robot, a non-holonomic mobile robot, a hydraulic-driven underwater robotic arm, haptic device etc.
- **Continuum Robot Project**: Shape reconstruction using projection of geometrical primitives (cylinders, circles etc.), differentiable rendering and perform visual servoing control.

Biorobotics Institute, Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna

Apr. 2019 - Nov. 2019

Senior Research Engineer, Assistive Robotics Lab

Pisa, Italy

- Simultaneous localization and mapping (SLAM) of mobile robotic platform under ROS.
- Autonomous initialization through computer vision approaches using aruco markers (QR codes).
- Autonomous navigation of the mobile robot including path planning, obstacle avoidance.
- Shared control theory development and implementation of the mobile platform.
- Design of PHP/HTML-based web user interface.
- Experimental tests in Verona, Italy.

Center for Micro-BioRobotics IIT@SSSA

Mar. 2018 - Apr. 2019

Research Engineer/Postdoc, Istituto Italiano di Tecnologia

Pisa, Italy

- Modeling and control KUKA LWR4+ robotic arm using ROS and Gazebo: motion control, trajectory planning, master-slave
- Modeling and control of flexible continuum surgical tool: static tension-deflection model, Euler-Lagrange dynamics, port-Hamiltonian based control.
- Analysis of several continuum structure prototypes: variation of design (notches, single-backbone, articulated).
- Develop teleoperation framework using haptic devices (Sigma.7).
- Preliminary study of simulation platform for flexible surgical tools using SOFA (Simulation Open Framework Architecture).

Senior Control Engineer & Project Director

Oct. 2016 - Feb. 2018

ROBO Medical Technology Co., Ltd

Shenzhen, China

- Develop teleoperation of a single-port abdominal robotics surgical system using haptic devices (i.e., PHANTOM Omni, Novint Falcon, Omega.3) and joysticks (i.e., Logitech G Extreme 3D, Microsoft Xbox).
- Modeling and control of a tendon-driven articulated end-effector: kinematics, motion control, master-slave.
- Model-based uncertainties identification and compensation: hysteresis, friction.

- Modeling and control of a 4 DOFs positioning arm (parallel mechanisms): kinematics, motion control, master-slave.
- Caculation of the RCM point of positioning arm.
- Modeling and control (based on gait analysis) of a powered lower limb orthosis for rehabilitation.
- SLAM algorithm (build on ROS) of autonomous mobile robots for medical transportation in hospitals.

PHD Thesis: Dual-user Haptic Training System

Sep. 2012 - Sep. 2016

Advisors: Prof. Tanneguy Redarce, Prof. Arnaud Lelevé, Dr. Damien Eberard

INSA de Lyon, France

- Focused on modeling and control aspects with/without time delays.
- Developed real-time experiments both with Matlab/Simulink, ROS and Chai3D.
- Published three international conference papers, and two journal papers.

Group Leader: DJI RoboMasters Mobile Manipulation Challenge

Aug. 2014

Design of Autonomous Mobile Robot Using SLAM and Computer Vision Approach.

Shenzhen, China

Dajiang Innovations Technology Co., Ltd (DJI)

- Developed SLAM framework for mobile robots (chariots) u on ROS.
- Implemented fast on-board object tracking and recognition algorithms.
- Developed multi-robot coordination and searching algorithms.

Master Thesis: Cooperative Haptic Hands-on MIS Trainer

Sep. 2012 – Aug. 2013 INSA de Lyon, France

Master Internship at Ampère Laboratory

• Designed teleoperation system using port-Hamiltonian approach.

- Implemented control algorithms with haptic devices (PHANTOM Omni).
- Developed real-time experiments using Matlab/Simulink.

Team Leader: International Aerial Robotics Competition (IARC)

Aug. 2012

A Low Cost Autonomous Quadrotor UAV-Icarus

Peking, China

- Mathmatical modeling of a self-made low cost laser rangefinder based on geometric caculation for environment mapping.
- Autonomous control of the quadrotor using environment mapping and detection algorithm (wall and window detection using point cloud analysis).
- Awarded Innovative Design.

Undergraduate Internship

Sep. 2011 – Jun. 2012

Image Meta-data Feature Extraction for Content-Context Based Image Retrieval

NPU, Xi'an, China

• Implemented image processing and classification algorithms.

Team Leader: International Mathematical Contest in Modeling (MCM)

Feb. 2012

Optimal Design of U-shaped Snowboard Course

NPU, Xi'an, China

• Awarded Meritorious Winner (First Prize Mention).

Team Leader: Robocup 3D Simulation Group

Sep. 2010 – Jun. 2012

Robocup Soccer Center of NPU, Simulation Robots of Robocup Soccer

NPU, Xi'an, China

- Designed gait algorithm of NAO (Humanoid) robot.
- Developed control strategies for simulated soccer competition under linux platform.
- Awarded Third Prize in China Open 2011.

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Project Leader: Student Project of Chinese Ministry of Education

Mining Methods for Gene Expression Profile Classification

• Implemented statistical and computing algorithms related to data mining.

Nov. 2011 - Jun. 2012

NPU, Xi'an, China

Project Leader: Student Project of Chinese Ministry of Education

Path Planning of Mobile Robot

Nov. 2010 – Jun. 2011

NPU, Xi'an, China

• Implemented path planning algorithms of mobile robot (A^* , genetic algorithm, fuzzy control etc.

"Freescale Cup" National Smart Car Design Competition

Design and Control of an Intelligent Car for Path Following

• Awarded **Third Prize** in NPU Open 2011.

Dec. 2010 – May. 2011

NPU, Xi'an, China

Laboratory Research Assistant

Supervisor: Prof. Suilao Li, College of Automation

• Navigation of Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) Based on Digital Map

• Design of Intelligent Vehicle and Autonomous Navigation

Sep. 2009 - Jun. 2011

NPU, Xi'an, China

SUPERVISION & MENTORING ACTIVITIES

PhD Students

Yu Huan, BioRobotics Institute, Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna

Mar. 2018 - Mar. 2019

- Topic: Design and control of flexible minature surgical tools (continuum robot)
- Achievement: Published papers at TBME/TMECH

Xiao Liang, CSE, UCSD

Sep. 2021 – present

- Topic: Reconstruction of 4D lung motionu using neural-ODE integration
- Achievement: Published papers at TBME/IROS 2023, and submitted papers for ICRA 2024

Master Students

Chung-Pang (Ben) Wang, CSE, UCSD

Sept. 2023 - present

• Topic: SE(3)-Equivariant Mappings for Data-efficient Learning of Robot Trajectory Planning

Yutong Zhang, CSE, UCSD

Jan. 2021 – present

- **Topic**: Simulator using position-based dynamics for different objects (rigid, cloth, deformable), and rendering with libIGL/openGL
- Achievement: Submitted papers for ICRA 2024

Wangyi Liu, ECE, UCSD

July 2022 - Aug 2023

- Topic: SE(3)-Equivariant Mappings for Data-efficient Learning of Robot Trajectory Planning
- Achievement: Working on a paper for IEEE RAL

Alexander Luke, MAE, UCSD

Sep. 2021 – Jun 2023

- Topic: Motion control and calibration of a steerable continuum robotic catheter with clinical trails
- Achievement: Demos with animals trails

Junming Wu, ECE, UCSD

Sep. 2021 – Dec. 2022

- Topic: Bi-manual close-loop control of dual-arm suturing using physical-based simulation
- Achievement: Demos on the dVRK robot

Haaris Rahman, CSE, UCSD

Sep. 2021 - Mar. 2022

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- Topic: Reconstruction of deformable soft tissue using occupancy flow
- Achievement: Demos in our PBD simulator

Chong He, MAE, UCSD

Sep. 2021 – Aug. 2022

- Topic: Shape reconstruction of catheter robot using monocular images
- Achievement: Drafted a paper for IEEE RAL

Yunhai Han, MAE, UCSD

Jan. 2021 – Jan. 2022

- Topic: Deformable objects simulation framework using constraints-based solver
- Achievement: Published paper at ICRA 2021/IROS 2021

Mingen Li, ECE, UCSD

Jan. 2021 – Jan. 2022

- Topic: Simulation and control of articulated robots using position-based dynamics
- Achievement: Submitted a paper to IEEE TRO

Entong Su, ECE, UCSD

Jan. 2021 – Jan. 2022

- Topic: Simulation and control of rope-like objects using position-based dynamics
- Achievement: Published a paper at IEEE RAL

Harleen Singh, ECE, UCSD

Jan. 2020 - Jul. 2021

- Topic: Modeling of the catheter continuum robot for position and orientation motor control
- Achievement: Demos with live animals trails

Zihan Li, ECE, UCSD

Jan. 2020 – Nov. 2020

- Topic: Registration method for real-to-sim transfer applications of deformable tissue manipulation
- Achievement: Published a paper at ICRA 2021

Jingbin Huang, ECE, UCSD

Mar. 2020 - Nov. 2020

- Topic: Modeling and control of surgical tool for suction based simulation of blood fluid
- Achievement: Published a paper at ICRA 2021

Sean Liu, ECE, UCSD

Jun. 2020 - Sep. 2020

- Topic: Reconstruction of a catheter robot shape using projection of geometrical primitives
- Achievement: Demos with simulation in Blender

Undergraduate Students

Yuelei (Tina) Li, Mathematics, UCSD

Apr. 2023 – present

- Topic: Learning an intrinsic neural mappings from mesh to point cloud for registration of soft tissue
- Achievement: Submitted a paper at ICRA 2024

Neelay Joglekar, ECE, UCSD

Jan. 2021 – present

- Topic: Dynamic model of rope-like objects using cosserat rod theory and surgical thread reconstruction
- Achievement: Published a paper at ICRA 2023

Bryan Yuan, ECE, UCSD

Jan. 2021 - May 2022

- Topic: Backward gradients computation and validation for position-based dynamics constraints
- Achievement: Integration in our PBD simulator

Nemanja Babic, Research Internship, University of Ottawa & INSA de Lyon

Jan. 2021 – May 2022

- Topic: Simulation of haptic systems using CHAI3D
- Achievement: Demos with simulation in CHAI3D

High School Student

Ayaan Haque, Saratoga High School, California

Jan. 2021 - Jul. 2021

- Topic: Simulated data generation through algorithmic force coefficient estimation
- Achievement: Published a paper at IEEE ACIRS 2021

Sajiv Shah, Saratoga High School, California

Jan. 2021 – Jul. 2021

- Topic: Simulated data generation through algorithmic force coefficient estimation
- Achievement: Published a paper at IEEE ACIRS 2021

ACADEMIC SERVICES

Journal/Conference Reviewer

2016 - present

- IEEE Transactions on Robotics (T-RO)
- IEEE Transactions on Mechatronics (T-MECH)
- IEEE Robotics and Automation Letters (RAL)
- IEEE Transactions on Medical Robotics and Bionics
- The International Journal of Robotics Research (IJRR)
- Control Engineering Practice
- Robotica
- Journal of Mechanisms and Robotics (JMR)

Conference Reviewer 2015 – present

- International Conference on Robotics and Automation (ICRA)
- International Conference on Intelligent Robots and Systems (IROS)
- American Control Conference (ACC)
- International Conference on Learning Representations (ICLR)
- IFAC Workshop on Lagrangian and Hamiltonian Methods for Nonlinear Control (LHMNC)
- IEEE RAS/EMBS Conference on Biomedical Robotics and Biomechatronics (BioRob)

Volunteer

- 20th World Olympic Collectors Fair, Lausanne, Switzerland. May. 2014
- Heart++: High School Student Course Assistance, Xi'an, Northwestern Polytechnical University. 2018-2012

TALKS AND PRESENTATION

- "Shape Reconstruction of Soft, Continuum Robots using Differentiable Rendering with Geometrical Shape Primitive", *IEEE IROS*, *Detroit*, *US*, 2023.
- "Image-based Pose Estimation and Shape Reconstruction for Robot Manipulators and Soft, Continuum Robots via Differentiable Rendering", *IEEE ICRA*, *London*, *UK*, 2023.
- "Real-to-Sim Registration of Deformable Soft-Tissue with Position-Based Dynamics for Surgical Robot Autonomy", *IEEE ICRA*, *Xi'An*, *China*, 2021.
- "Continuum Robot Shape Reconstruction and Tracking from Monocular Endoscopic Images", *Emerging Frontiers in Research and Innovation (EFRI)*, US, 2021.
- "A Dual-user Teleoperation System with Online Authority Adjustment for Haptic Training", *IEEE EMBC*, *Milano*, *Italy*, 2015.
- 37th EMBS Ignite Sessions, Milano, Italy, 2015
- "Dual-user Haptic Teleoperation System", 7th Summer School on Surgical Robotics (SSSR), Montpellier, France, 2015.
- "A Dual-user Teleoperation System with Adaptive Authority Adjustement for Haptic Training", *IFToMM MESROB, Nantes, France, 2015.*

SUPPORTED GRANTS

E CAREER: Contextually Informed Autonomous Robotic Surgery

Mar. 2021 – Present, National Science Foundation (NSF)

Grant No.: 2045803/PI: Prof. Michael Yip

Role: Postdoc Researcher

• Topic: Modeling and simulation of soft tissue deformation and interactive robotic tool control.

EFRI C3 SoRo: Safe Medical Continuum Robots: Sensing, Control and Fabrication

Nov. 2019 – 2013, National Science Foundation (NSF)

Grant No.: 1935329/PI: Prof. Michael Yip

Role: Postdoc Researcher

• Topic : Shape reconstruction of catheter robots using endoscopic images and visual-servoing control.

Special Foundation for Intelligent Robots: Creation and Kinematic Model of Modular Variable Stiffness

Continuum Flexible Actuator

Mar. 2019 – Nov. 2021, *Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST) of China* Grant No.: 2018YFB1307700/PI: ROBO Medical Technology Co. Ltd

Role: Sub-Project PI

• Topic: Modeling and control of a continuum flexible ESD robot using curvature-based model.

Honors and Awards

Paper Awards

2021 Nominated for Best Paper at IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation (ICRA)

Individual Awards

2012 Innovative Design Award at International Aerial Robotics Competition (IARC)

2012 First Prize at International Mathematical Contest in Modeling (MCM)

2011 Third Prize in Robocup China Open 2011

2008-2012 Yearly Distinguished Student Scholarship of Northwestern Polytechnical University

Languages

Chinese: Native

English: Advanced, Fluent French: Beginner A2

Italian: Beginner Classroom