LOUIS SUNGWOO CHO

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EDUCATION

University of Illinois at Urbana–Champaign (UIUC) — Aug 2020 – May 2025
M.S. Civil Engineering (Transportation) — GPA: 3.46/4.00
B.S. (Honors) in Civil Engineering (Transportation), Minor in Computer Science — GPA: 3.55/4.00

EXPERIENCE

Graduate Research Assistant — Jul 2024 – May 2025
Smart City Laboratory, UIUC — *Urbana, IL*
- Applied **traffic flow modeling** and **stability analysis** in mixed human–autonomous environments to demonstrate that autonomous vehicles reduce stop-and-go shockwaves.
- Deployed **ROS-based planning/control** on a physical self-driving vehicle at the Illinois Center for Transportation; validated trajectory tracking under real-world dynamics.
- Analyzed Phoenix Robotaxi dataset; identified differences in lane-changing and car-following between human and autonomous drivers.

Undergraduate Research Assistant — May 2023 – May 2024
Smart City Laboratory, UIUC — *Urbana, IL*
- Developed a **trajectory re-identification pipeline** with ML methods to improve detection in complex traffic.
- Explored AI for state prediction and simulation of mixed-autonomy traffic.

Undergraduate Research Assistant — May 2022 – Aug 2022
Reliable Autonomy Group, UIUC — *Urbana, IL*
- Co-developed **AutoVerse-AI**, a simulation platform for automated control verification and safety testing.

PROJECTS

GRAIC Autonomous Driving Competition | *Machine Learning, Python, CARLA, ROS, Gazebo* — Mar 2025 – May 2025
- Collaborated in a team of 3 to develop and refine autonomous driving algorithms on the **CARLA simulator**.
- Maximized the average velocity of a Tesla model on multiple race tracks while ensuring safe obstacle avoidance.
- Analyzed **RRT**, **Potential Field Steering**, and **End-to-End ML models** for driving performance evaluation.

IL 9 Road Design Improvement | *Python, Bentley OpenRoads* — Jan 2024 – May 2024
- Performed **horizontal and vertical geometric alignments** for roadway design, applying AASHTO standards.
- Calculated grades and vertical curve parameters to ensure safety, visibility, and smooth driving conditions.
- Integrated **Bentley OpenRoads** with Python-based calculations to streamline alignment evaluation.

Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Feasibility Planning | *Python, Planning, Optimization, Data Analysis* — Jan 2023 – Mar 2023
- Conducted a feasibility study for a proposed **Bus Rapid Transit (BRT)** system in Champaign–Urbana.
- Applied **optimization models** and **Python programming** to estimate boarding and alignment passengers, and assess potential improvements in travel efficiency during transit planning.

University of Illinois Traffic Impact Analysis Study | *HCS, Planning, Data Analysis* — Oct 2022 – Dec 2022
- Collected and analyzed traffic data at five UIUC intersections to assess 2024 traffic impact.
- Modeled LOS and delays using HCS; incorporated growth, trip generation, and rerouting scenarios.
- Recommended low-cost geometric and signal timing changes to improve intersection performance.

LEADERSHIP & SERVICE

Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE@UIUC) — Aug 2022 – May 2025
President, Graduate Student Rep, Council Representative — *Urbana, IL*
- Led chapter growth, increasing event participation by 60%; organized industry panels on **ITS** and **CAVs**; directed a **transit ridership analytics project** (Top 3 Award out of 200+ at UIUC EOH); volunteered for engineering council; and contributed to case study on **High-Speed Rail (Chicago–St. Louis)**.

AWARDS

Charles E. DeLeuw Scholarship – Urban Transit Systems Travel Abroad — Mar 2025
UIUC Engineering Open House – Outstanding Exhibit, *3rd Place* — Apr 2024
Grant W. Shaw Scholarship – Leadership in Traffic Engineering — Mar 2023

SKILLS

Programming: Python, Java, C++, HTML/CSS/JavaScript, ReactJS
Transportation/Simulation: ROS, CARLA, Gazebo, HCS
Tools: Git, Cloud, Docker, LaTeX, Bentley OpenRoads, AutoCAD, Revit
Languages: English, Korean