MARY JIALU CHEN

Doctoral Candidate | ETH Zurich

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EDUCATION

Zurich, Switzerland Sep 2020 – Present ETH Zurich

Doctoral Candidate in Mechanical and Process Engineering

Waterloo, Canada May 2019 – April 2020

University of Waterloo

M.A.Sc. in Chemical Engineering (Nanotechnology)

Waterloo, Canada Sep 2014 – April 2019 University of Waterloo

B.A.Sc. in Nanotechnology Engineering with Distinction

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

ETH Zurich

Composite Materials and Adaptive Structures Laboratory

Sep 2020 – Present

DOCTORAL STUDENT

- Investigating bulk and surface modifications of polymeric biomaterials for optimization of hemocompatibility as well as mechanical performance
- Developing manufacturing processes for a novel, low-cost, allpolymeric transcatheter heart valve
- Implemented in vitro and in vivo testing protocol for cardiovascular material assessment
- Collaborating with groups at University of Zurich and German Heart Center Berlin

University of Waterloo

2D Materials and Electrochemical Devices Laboratory Jan 2018 – Apr 2020

MASTER'S STUDENT AND RESEARCH ASSISTANT

- Performed first ever quantum capacitance measurements in monolayer molybdenum disulfide (MoS₂) and MoS₂-graphene electrode systems
- Investigated effect of nanosheet restacking and charging mechanisms in molybdenum disulfide supercapacitor materials
- Optimized nanosheet synthesis methods for consistent monolayer film formation
- Defect engineered nanosheets to maximize intrinsic capacitance of MoS₂ using sulfur vacancies, oxygen defects, and size effects

ETH Zurich

Composite Materials and Adaptive Structures Laboratory

Sep 2016 – Apr 2017

RESEARCH INTERN

- Studied rheological changes caused by incorporating nanoparticles into a polymer melt and the resulting effect on its processing speed for sustainable composite material fabrication
- Optimized nanofilling process to induce a 50% viscosity reduction in the polymer and a two-fold increase in processing speed
- Explored nanofilling effect on coating fluid dynamics and coauthored manuscript
- Characterized material properties and composite structure using rheometry, SEM, and MATLAB

University of Calgary

Egberts Nanotribology Group, Karan Group, Trifkovic Research Group

Jan 2016 – Apr 2016

RESEARCH ENGINEER

- Conducted parameter study on the fabrication of graphene through chemical vapour deposition
- Established standard protocols and written documentation for production of monolayer graphene from synthesis to film transfer
- Investigated and modelled fictional behaviour using MATLAB
- Characterized samples using Raman spectroscopy and AFM

University of Waterloo

Laboratory for Sustainable Nanomaterials and

Functional Colloids

May 2015 – Jan 2016

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCHER

- Designed high performance metal nanocatalysts and supercapacitor materials using sustainable cellulose nanocrystals as a substrate
- Achieved nanoparticle sizes of 1-2 nm through aqueous synthesis
- Co-authored article detailing an organic reduction reaction rate triple that of comparable catalysts
- Performed characterization using TEM, UV-Vis, and impedance spectroscopy

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

ETH Zurich Feb 2021 – Present

THESIS SUPERVISOR

- Supervised the completion of one Bachelor and one Master Thesis
- Organized training, defined projects, and held weekly meetings

ETH Zurich Feb 2021 – Present

TEACHING ASSISTANT

- Taught the Manufacturing of Polymer Composites Laboratory
- Conducted lab introduction sessions, prepared pre-lab exercises, and organized laboratory experiments for 32 graduate students

University of Waterloo May 2019 – Apr 2020

TEACHING ASSISTANT

- Taught ECE 209: Electronic and Electrical Properties of Materials and NE 125: Introduction of Materials Science and Engineering
- Prepared problem sets and explained material science concepts for weekly tutorials for classes of 100 undergraduate students as well as marking duties

OTHER WORK EXPERIENCE

Waterloo Nanotechnology Conference May 2018 – Present

LOGISTICS DIRECTOR

- Organized annual, interdisciplinary conference, that showcases all walks of nano research, featuring notable speakers such as Eli Yablonovitch and Vladimir Bulovic
- Secured funding, handled finances and arranged bookings for 250 delegates, including undergraduate students, graduate students, and members of industry
- Mentored younger students on conference organization

University of Waterloo NanoRobotics Group Oct 2014 – Apr 2017

STUDENT ENGINEER

- Designed and prototyped liquid microrobots for an internationally renowned undergraduate student team that competes at the International Conference for Robots and Automation (ICRA)
- Fabricated hydrophobic surfaces for a fluids-based microrobot

JOURNAL ARTICLES

- 1. **Chen, M.J.**, Pappas, G., Massella, D., Schlothauer, A., Motta, S., Cesarovic, N., Falk, V., and Ermanni, P. (2022) Tailoring PEEK Crystallinity for Hemocompatible and Durable Cardiovascular Devices. Submitted.
- 2. **Chen, J.**, Walker, W.R., Xu, L., Krysiak, O., She, Z., and Pope, M.A. (2020) Intrinsic Capacitance of Molybdenum Disulfide. ACS Nano. 14: 5636–5648.
- 3. Wu, X., Shi, Z., Fu, S., Chen, J., Berry, R.M., and Tam, M.K.C. (2016) Strategy for Synthesizing Porous Cellulose Nanocrystal Supported Metal Nanocatalysts. ACS Sustainable Chemistry & Engineering. 4: 5929–5935.

SELECTED POSTERS AND PRESENTATIONS

- 1. **Chen, M.J.**, Schlothauer, A., Pappas, G., Cesarovic, N., Falk, V., and Ermanni, P. (2021) Thin Polymeric Materials and Processing Routes for Novel Biomedical Implants. International Poster Presentation, NanoBioTech Montreux 2021.
- 2. Chen, J. (2020) Intrinsic Capacitance, Charge Storage Mechanisms, and Defect Engineering of Molybdenum Disulfide Nanosheets. Institutional Oral Presentation, University of Waterloo Nanotechnology MASc Seminar.
- 3. Chen, J., Walker, W.R., Xu, L., Krysiak, O., She, Z., and Pope, M.A. (2019) Intrinsic Capacitance, Charge Storage Mechanisms, and Defect Engineering of Molybdenum Disulfide Nanosheets. Institutional Poster Presentation, 2019 Waterloo Institute of Nanotechnology Research Symposium.
- 4. Chen, J., Kaniselvan, M., Seeleman, C., and Smith, D. (2019) A Real-Time Non-Invasive Sensor for Monitoring Laser-Induced Temperature in Medical Applications. Institutional Poster Presentation, 2019 Nanotechnology Engineering Capstone Design Symposium.
- 5. **Chen, J.**, Walker, W.R., Xu, L., and Pope, M.A. (2018) Structure-dependent Double-layer Charging Mechanisms Probed Using Graphene and Molybdenum Disulfide Monolayer Electrodes. International Oral Presentation, 68th Canadian Chemical Engineering Conference.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Characterization
Fabrication
Programming
Modelling
Languages

AFM, DLS, CV, EIS, Raman, Rheometry, SEM, TEM, TGA, UV-Vis
CVD, Film Transfer, Photolithography, RIE, Sputtering
MATLAB, Python
COMSOL, SolidWorks
English (native), Mandarin (native), French (B1), German (B1)

AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

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