

SHUO YANG

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RESEARCH INTEREST

I have general interest in formal methods, learning, control, algorithmic game theory, and statistics, with their applications to robotic and multi-agents systems.

EDUCATION

University of Pennsylvania

Ph.D. in Electrical and Systems Engineering

xLAB for Safe Autonomous Systems

Aug. 2021 - present

Advisor: Prof. [Rahul Mangharam](#)

Shanghai Jiao Tong University

B.Eng. in Automation

Thesis: Verification and synthesis of opacity for cyber-physical systems [\[pdf\]](#)

Outstanding Bachelor Thesis Award of SJTU

Sept. 2017 - June. 2021

Advisor: Prof. [Xiang Yin](#)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Toyota Research Institute of North America

Research Scientist Intern

Future Mobility Research Department

May 2023 - Aug. 2023

Mentors: Dr. [Bardh Hoxha](#) & Dr. [Georgios Fainekos](#)

Duke University

Visiting Scholar

June. 2020 - Oct. 2020 (Remote)

Mentor: Prof. [Michael Zavlanos](#)

PUBLICATIONS

(* indicates equal contribution) [\[Google Scholar\]](#)

1. Shuo Yang, Mitchell Black, Georgios Fainekos, Bardh Hoxha, Hideki Okamoto, Rahul Mangharam. "Safe Control Synthesis for Hybrid Systems through Local Control Barrier Functions." 2024 American Control Conference (ACC). [\[pdf\]](#)
2. Luigi Berducci, Shuo Yang, Rahul Mangharam, Radu Grosu. "Learning Adaptive Safety for Multi-Agent Systems." submitted, 2023. [\[pdf\]](#) [\[code\]](#)
3. Jiangwei Wang, Shuo Yang, Ziyang An, Songyang Han, Zhili Zhang, Rahul Mangharam, Meiyi Ma, Fei Miao. "Multi-Agent Reinforcement Learning Guided by Signal Temporal Logic Specifications." submitted, 2023. [\[pdf\]](#)
4. Xiatao Sun*, Shuo Yang*, Rahul Mangharam. "MEGA-Dagger: Imitation Learning with Multiple Imperfect Experts." submitted, 2023. [\[pdf\]](#) [\[code\]](#)
5. Shuo Yang, George J. Pappas, Rahul Mangharam, Lars Lindemann. "Safe Perception-Based Control under Stochastic Sensor Uncertainty using Conformal Prediction." *IEEE Conference on Decision and Control (CDC)*, 2023. [\[pdf\]](#) [\[code\]](#)
6. Zhijie Qiao, Xiatao Sun, Shuo Yang, Helen Loeb, Rahul Mangharam. "Autonomous Vehicle Education Using a Virtual Reality Driving Simulator." *CPS-IoT Week Humans in Cyber-Physical Systems Workshop*, 2023.
7. Yu Chen*, Shuo Yang*, Rahul Mangharam, Xiang Yin. "You Don't Know When I Will Arrive: Unpredictable Controller Synthesis for Temporal Logic Tasks." *22nd IFAC World Congress (IFAC WC)*, 2023. [\[pdf\]](#)

8. Hongrui Zheng*, Zirui Zang*, Shuo Yang*, Rahul Mangharam. “Towards Explainability in Modular Autonomous Vehicle Software.” *IEEE Intelligent Vehicles Symposium (IV)*, 2023. [\[pdf\]](#)
9. Xiatao Sun, Mingyan Zhou, Zhijun Zhuang, Shuo Yang, Johannes Betz, Rahul Mangharam. “A Benchmark Comparison of Imitation Learning-based Control Policies for Autonomous Racing.” *IEEE Intelligent Vehicles Symposium (IV)*, 2023. [\[pdf\]](#)
10. Shuo Yang*, Shaoru Chen*, Victor M. Preciado, Rahul Mangharam. “Differentiable Safe Controller Design through Control Barrier Functions.” *IEEE Control Systems Letters (L-CSS)*, 2022. [\[pdf\]](#)[\[code\]](#)
11. Shuo Yang, Xiang Yin. “Secure Your Intention: On Notions of Pre-Opacity in Discrete-Event Systems.” (Full Paper), *IEEE Transactions on Automatic Control (TAC)*, 2022. [\[pdf\]](#)
12. Shuo Yang*, Junyao Hou*, Xiang Yin, Shaoyuan Li. “Opacity of Networked Supervisory Control Systems over Insecure Communication Channels.” *IEEE Transactions on Control of Network Systems (TCNS)*, 2021. [\[pdf\]](#)
13. Shuo Yang, Xiang Yin, Shaoyuan Li, Majid Zamani. “Secure-by-Construction Optimal Path Planning for Linear Temporal Logic Tasks.” *IEEE Conference on Decision and Control (CDC)*, 2020. [\[pdf\]](#)

RESEARCH AND WORKING EXPERIENCES

Toyota Research Institute of North America

May 2023 - Aug. 2023

Research Scientist Intern (Mentors: [Georgios Fainekos](#) & [Bardh Hoxha](#))

Ann Arbor, USA

I study safe autonomous driving on multi-frictions road and propose a local control barrier functions (CBFs)-based safe framework to provide formal safety guarantees. The proposed algorithm is verified on numerical simulations. Sample publication: [ACC 2024](#).

University of Pennsylvania, Dept. Electrical & Systems Engineering

Aug. 2021 - Present

Research Assistant (Advisor: [Rahul Mangharam](#))

Philadelphia, USA

- My research focuses on the intersection of learning, control, and formal methods, with the applications to robotic and multi-agents systems.
- How to ensure safety for learning-enabled autonomous systems? Sample publications: [L-CSS 2022](#) and [code](#), [ICRA 2024](#) and [code](#), [CDC 2023](#) and [code](#).
- Imitation learning and reinforcement learning for autonomous systems. Sample publications: [ICRA 2024](#), [IV 2023](#), [pre-print](#).
- Working on learning-based algorithmic multi-agent games to understand the complex interactions among multi-agents.

Shanghai Jiao Tong University, Dept. Automation

Mar. 2019 - June 2021

Research Assistant (Advisor: [Xiang Yin](#))

Shanghai, China

- My research focuses on the security properties in cyber-physical systems and robot path planning.
- Security-aware analysis and applications in discrete-event systems. Sample publications: [TAC 2022](#), [TCNS 2021](#), [CDC 2020](#).

SELECTED HONORS AND AWARDS

Global Young PhD Fellow of Linear Capital	2024
ACC Student Travel Grant	2023
The Dean's Fellowship from University of Pennsylvania	2021
Solomon M. Swaab Fellowship from University of Pennsylvania	2021
Outstanding Graduate of SJTU	2021

Outstanding Bachelor Thesis Award of SJTU (top 1%)	2021
Person of the Year of SJTU (highest honor for SJTU students)	2020
COMAP Meritorious Winner in Mathematical Contest in Modelling (top 7.09%)	2020
3rd Prize of National College Student Physics Competition	2020
Excellent Academic Scholarship from SJTU	2018, 2019
3rd Prize of National High School Mathematics Competition	2016

TALKS AND PRESENTATIONS

1. University of Pennsylvania (ASSET Seminar), Philadelphia, Sept 2023
with Prof. Rahul Mangharam (Host: Prof. Rajeev Alur)
Safe and Performant Control for Learning-Enabled Autonomous Systems
2. University of Pennsylvania (FM & ML Seminar), Philadelphia, Sept 2023 (Host: Prof. Eric Wong)
Safe Learning-Enabled Autonomous Systems
3. University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, July 2023 (Host: Prof. Necmiye Ozay)
Safe Learning-Based Control for Autonomous Systems
4. American Control Conference, San Diego, May 2023
Differentiable Safe Controller Design through Control Barrier Functions
5. CPS-IoT Week Humans in CPS Workshop, San Antonio, May 2023
MEGA-Dagger: Imitation Learning with Multiple Imperfect Experts
6. CPS-IoT Week Humans in CPS Workshop, San Antonio, May 2023
Autonomous Vehicle Education Using a Virtual Reality Driving Simulator
7. RTSS Explainability Workshop, remote, Dec 2022
Towards Explainability in Modular Autonomous Vehicle Software
8. University of Michigan, remote, Nov 2022 (Host: Prof. Max Li)
Opacity in Discrete Event Systems: Notions, Algorithms, and Applications
9. 59th IEEE Conference on Decision and Control (CDC), remote, Dec 2020
Secure-by-Construction Optimal Path Planning for Linear Temporal Logic Tasks

ACADEMIC SERVICES

Program Committee	Tiny Papers @ ICLR 2023, 2024 (Area Chair)
Reviewer	American Control Conference (ACC) IEEE Conference on Decision and Control (CDC) International Conference on Learning Representations (ICLR) Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS) AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence (AAAI) IEEE Transactions on Automatic Control (TAC) IEEE Transactions on Intelligent Vehicles (TIV) IEEE Robotics and Automation Letters (RA-L) IEEE Control Systems Letters (L-CSS) Nonlinear Analysis: Hybrid Systems (NAHS) International Conference on Robotics and Automation (ICRA) International Conference on Hybrid Systems: Computation and Control (HSCC) IROS 2023 Workshop on Multi-agent Dynamic Games (MAD-Games) NeurIPS 2023 AI for Science Workshop (AI4Science) etc.

TEACHING EXPERIENCES

Teaching Assitant <i>ESE 5000: Linear Systems Theory (Instructor: Prof. George J. Pappas)</i> <i>Responsibilities: teach 5 recitations, design assignments, hold office hours, etc.</i>	<i>Fall 2023, UPenn</i>
Teaching Assitant <i>ESE 5420: Statistics for Data Science (Instructor: Prof. Hamed Hassani)</i>	<i>Fall 2023, UPenn</i>
Teaching Assitant <i>MA 238: Discrete Mathematics (Instructor: Prof. Xiang Yin)</i>	<i>Fall 2020, SJTU</i>
Lecturer <i>Mathematics Competition</i>	<i>Summer 2018, High School Affiliated to SJTU</i>

SELECTED ACTIVITY EXPERIENCES

Global Education and Training at University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	2019
Volunteer of the Shanghai International Marathon	2018, 2019

LANGUAGE, SKILLS AND INTERESTS

Language	Chinese (native), English (fluent), French (basic)
Programming	Python, C++, R, MATLAB, \LaTeX
Framework & Toolkit	NumPy, JAX, PyTorch, ROS, Docker, Git
Interests	Basketball, Literature, Music, Board Games, Video Games, etc.

Last update: Jan 2024