

# Prof. Siddhartha Srinivasa

The Personal Robotics Lab  
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## Employment

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|   |         |
|---|---------|
| Professor   | 2023-   |
| Boeing Endowed Professor in Computer Science & Engineering          | 2017-23 |
| Computer Science & Engineering Department, University of Washington |         |
| Finmeccanica Associate Professor in Computer Science                | 2013-17 |
| Associate Professor   | 2011-13 |
| The Robotics Institute, Carnegie Mellon University                  |         |
| Member, Board of Directors, Zordi Inc.                              | 2021-   |
| Distinguished Engineer, Cruise Inc.                                 | 2022-25 |
| Director, Robotics AI, Amazon Inc.                                  | 2018-22 |
| First Wave Founder, Berkshire Grey Inc.                             | 2014-18 |
| Senior Research Scientist, Intel Labs Pittsburgh                    | 2005-11 |

## Education

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| Ph.D., Carnegie Mellon University (CMU)                | August 2005  |
| Advisors: Michael Erdmann & Matthew Mason              | <i>Thesis: Control Synthesis for Dynamic Contact Manipulation</i>          |
| B. Tech., Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IITM) | August 1999  |
| Advisor: A. Radhakrishnan                              | <i>Thesis: Reverse Engineering using the Structured Lighting Technique</i> |

## Honors and Awards

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- ACM/IEEE HRI Best Paper Award Finalist for Systems [50], 2025
- ACM/IEEE HRI Best Demo Award Winner [235], 2024
- ACM/IEEE HRI Best Paper Award Winner for Design [57], 2023
- ACM/IEEE HRI Best Paper Award Winner for Technical Advances in HRI [93], 2019
- ICAPS Best Student Paper Award Winner [99], 2019
- ICAPS Best Paper Award Winner [110], 2018
- IEEE Fellow, 2018
- ACM/IEEE HRI Best Paper Award Finalist [108], 2018
- Boeing Endowed Professorship in Computer Science, 2017-23
- CMU Women's Association outstanding graduating senior advisor (Rachel Holladay), 2017
- IEEE ICRA Best Vision Paper Award Finalist [137], 2016
- RSS Best Systems Paper Award Finalist [157], 2015
- IEEE ICRA Best Conference Paper Award Finalist [151], 2015
- IEEE ICRA Best Video Award Finalist [161], 2014
- Finmeccanica Chair in Computer Science, 2013-16
- RSS Early Career Spotlight Award, 2013
- RSS Best Paper Award Finalist [175], 2013
- IEEE ICRA Best Manipulation Paper Award Finalist [176], 2013
- Robotics Institute Cool Person of the Year Award, 2012

- Okawa Foundation Research Grant, 2012
- Office of Naval Research Young Investigator Award, 2012
- IEEE RO-MAN Best Paper Award Finalist [183], 2012
- RSS Best Paper Award Finalist [182], 2012
- RAS Most Active Technical Committee Award: Mobile Manipulation, 2011
- ACM/IEEE HRI Best Paper Award Winner [203], 2010
- IEEE IROS Best Paper Award Finalist [201], 2010
- IEEE ICRA Best Manipulation Paper Award Finalist [199], 2010
- IEEE ICRA Best Vision Paper Award Finalist [211], 2009
- Intel Corporate Technology Group Divisional Recognition Awards, May, July, Oct 2008
- Intel Research Pittsburgh Lab Research Awards, January, July 2006, January 2007
- Indian National Mathematics Olympiad, 1994

## Mentoring

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### Current Ph.D. Students

|                                |       |
|--------------------------------|-------|
| Ashton Larkin                  | 2024- |
| Yewon Lee                      | 2024- |
| Ethan Pronovost                | 2024- |
| Yunchu Zhang (+Abhishek Gupta) | 2023- |
| Sidharth Talia                 | 2022- |
| Helen Wang (+Dieter Fox)       | 2022- |
| Bernie Zhou                    | 2022- |
| Amal Nanvati (+Maya Cakmak)    | 2019- |
| Matthew Schmittle              | 2018- |

### Current Postdoctoral Fellows

|                         |       |
|-------------------------|-------|
| Taylor Kessler Faulkner | 2022- |
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### Alumni - Postdoctoral Fellows

|                           |                                |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Christoforos Mavrogiannis | 2019-2023                      |
|                           | Assistant Professor @ Michigan |
| Sanjiban Choudhury        | 2018-2019                      |
|                           | Assistant Professor @ Cornell  |
| Matthew Barnes            | 2018-2019                      |
|                           | Researcher @ Google            |
| Tapomayukh Bhattacharjee  | 2017-2021                      |
|                           | Assistant Professor @ Cornell  |
| Oren Salzman              | 2016-2019                      |
|                           | Assistant Professor @ Technion |
| Daqing Yi                 | 2016-2018                      |
|                           | Researcher @ Google            |
| Henny Admoni              | 2015-2017                      |
|                           | Assistant Professor @ CMU      |
| Aaron Johnson             | 2015-2016                      |
|                           | Assistant Professor @ CMU      |

## Alumni - Ph.D.

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| Ethan Gordon<br><i>Tractably Adaptable Food Manipulation for Robot-Assisted Feeding</i>  | 2018-2024<br>Postdoc @ Penn                              |
| Liyiming Ke (+Abhishek Gupta)<br><i>Teach Robot to Use Chopsticks: a Test Bed for Robotic Learning via Fine Manipulation</i>     | 2017-2024<br>Researcher @ Physical Intelligence          |
| William Agnew<br><i>Human Priors for Reinforcement Learning</i>  | 2017-2023<br>Postdoc @ CMU                               |
| Sherdil Niyaz<br><i>Optimizing the Design of Robot Environments via Interleaved Optimization and White-Box Motion-Planning</i>   | 2017-2022<br>Researcher @ Motional                       |
| Brian Hou<br><i>Robot Motion Planning with Uncertainty and Urgency</i>   | 2016-2022<br>Researcher @ Aurora                         |
| Samuel Ainsworth<br><i>Perspectives on Policy Learning</i>   | 2016-2022<br>Researcher @ Cruise                         |
| Patrick Lancaster (+Josh Smith)<br><i>Towards Dexterous In-Hand Manipulation via Electrostatic Braking and Pre-touch Sensing</i> | 2014-2022<br>Postdoc @ Meta                              |
| Aditya Vamsikrishna<br><i>Efficient Robot Motion Planning in Cluttered Environments</i>  | 2016-2021<br>Researcher @ Aurora                         |
| Gilwoo Lee<br><i>Scalable Bayesian Reinforcement Learning</i>  | 2015-2020<br>Founder @ Zordi                             |
| Stefanos Nikolaidis<br><i>Mathematical Models of Adaptation in Human-Robot Collaboration</i>                                     | 2014-2018<br>Assistant Professor @ USC                   |
| Laura Herlant<br><i>Algorithms and Implementation and Studies on Eating with a Shared Control Robot Arm</i>                      | 2013-2018<br>Senior Robotics Research Scientist @ iRobot |
| Zita Marinho (+Geoff Gordon)<br><i>Moment-based Algorithms for Structured Prediction</i>   | 2012-2018<br>Researcher @ Sacoor Brothers                |
| Shervin Javdani (+Drew Bagnell)<br><i>Acting under Uncertainty for Information Gathering and Shared Autonomy</i>                 | 2011-2017<br>Robotics Engineer @ Aurora                  |
| Matt Klingensmith (+Michael Kaess)<br><i>Tracking and Calibrating Robot Arms using SLAM Techniques</i>                           | 2013-2016<br>Robotician @ Boston Dynamics                |
| Jennifer King<br><i>Robust Rearrangement Planning using Nonprehensile Interaction</i>  | 2012-2016<br>Researcher @ Berkshire Grey                 |
| Michael Koval (+Nancy Pollard)<br><i>Robust Manipulation via Contact Sensing</i>   | 2012-2016<br>Software Engineer @ Waymo                   |
| Christopher Dellin<br><i>Completing Manipulation Tasks Efficiently in Complex Environments</i>                                   | 2009-2016<br>Robotician @ Nuro                           |
| Anca Dragan<br><i>Legible Robot Motion Planning</i>  | 2009-2015<br>Associate Professor @ Berkeley              |

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|---|---|
| Mehmet Dogar<br><i>A Framework for Manipulation in Cluttered Environments</i> | 2008-2013<br>Associate Professor @ Leeds    |
| Alvaro Collet (+Martial Hebert)<br><i>Lifelong Robotic Object Perception</i>  | 2009-2012<br>Engineering Lead @ Facebook    |
| Dmitry Berenson (+James Kuffner)<br><i>Constrained Manipulation Planning</i>  | 2006-2011<br>Associate Professor @ Michigan |

### Alumni - M.S.

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| Jeongseok Lee<br><i>A Linear-Time Variational Integrator for Multibody Systems</i>   | 2016-2018<br>Researcher @ Meta               |
| Pengju Jin<br><i>Highly Robust Pose Estimation from Single Frame RGBD</i>  | 2017-2017<br>Researcher @ Aurora             |
| Shushman Choudhury<br><i>Anytime Geometric Motion Planning on Large Dense Roadmaps</i>   | 2015-2017<br>Ph.D. @ Stanford                |
| Rosario Scalise (+Stephanie Rosenthal)<br><i>Human-Centered Design of Robot Explanations</i>   | 2015-2017<br>Ph.D. @ UW                      |
| Shen Li (+Stephanie Rosenthal)<br><i>Automatically Evaluating and Generating Clear Robot Explanations</i>  | 2015-2017<br>Ph.D. @ MIT                     |
| Evan Shapiro<br><i>A Hierarchical Framework for Configuration Space Task Planning</i>  | 2013-2015<br>CEO @ Mina Foundation           |
| Aaron Walsman<br><i>ROCK: Robust Object Constellation for Kinematic Pose</i>   | 2013-2015<br>Ph.D. @ UW                      |
| Elizabeth Cha (+Jodi Forlizzi)<br><i>Robots in the Home: Qualitative and Quantitative Insights into Kitchen Organization</i>                                     | 2012-2014<br>Researcher @ Waymo              |
| Kyle Strabala<br><i>Learning the Communication of Intent Prior to Physical Collaboration</i>   | 2010-2012<br>Scientist @ Near Earth Autonomy |
| Martin Herrmann (+Dr.-Inf. Uwe Hanebeck @ Universitat Karlsruhe)<br><i>Active scene and object reconstruction for robotic manipulation from vision and laser</i> | 2009-2009<br>TU Braunschweig                 |
| Garratt Gallagher (+Drew Bagnell)<br><i>GATMO: A Generalized Approach to Tracking Movable Objects</i>  | 2007-2009<br>Google Robotics                 |

### Alumni - Other

|  |                               |
|--|-------------------------------|
| Ajinkya Kamat, Staff<br>Research: <i>Outdoor Unstructured Mobile Manipulation</i>    | 2018-2019<br>MRSD @ CMU       |
| Youngsun Kim, Staff<br>Research: <i>Robot-Assisted Feeding</i>                       | 2017-2019<br>Engineer @ Zordi |
| Hanjun Song, Staff<br>Research: <i>Sensing Shear Forces During Food Manipulation</i> | 2016-2019<br>Ph.D. @ MIT      |

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|---|---|
| Rachel Holladay, B.S.<br>Thesis: <i>Following Paths in Task Space: Distance Metrics and Planning Algorithms</i> | 2013-2017<br>Assistant Professor @ Penn |
| Pyry Matikainen, Teaching Fellow<br>Research: <i>Visual Computing</i>   | 2015-2017                               |
| Prasanna Velagapudi, Research Scientist<br>Research: <i>Multi-Step Mobile Manipulation</i>                      | 2012-2014<br>CTO @ Agility              |

### Graduate Interns

|   |      |
|---|------|
| Atharva Pradhan (UW)                    | 2024 |
| Jonathan Spencer (Princeton)            | 2022 |
| Yunchu Zhang (CMU)                      | 2022 |
| Rishabh Madan (IIT Kharagpur)           | 2020 |
| Sara Sheikholeslami (UBC)               | 2019 |
| Lerrel Pinto (CMU)                      | 2019 |
| Daniel Gallenberger (TU Munich)         | 2018 |
| Stefania Pellegrinelli (ITIA-CNR)       | 2015 |
| Marco Cognetti (University of Rome)     | 2015 |
| Joshua Haustein (Universitat Karlsruhe) | 2014 |
| Henny Admoni (Yale)                     | 2013 |
| Georg Bartels (TU Bremen)               | 2013 |
| Katie Correll (CMU)                     | 2013 |
| Michael Koval (CMU)                     | 2012 |
| Steven Gray (Penn)                      | 2011 |
| Vincenzo Micelli (University of Parma)  | 2011 |
| Tim Niemueller (RWTH Aachen)            | 2010 |
| Peter Kaiser (Universitat Karlsruhe)    | 2010 |
| Maya Cakmak (Georgia Tech)              | 2010 |
| Alex Sorokin (UIUC)                     | 2010 |
| Lillian Chang (CMU)                     | 2009 |
| Ross Knepper (CMU)                      | 2009 |
| Laura Lindzey (CMU)                     | 2009 |
| Manel Martinez (CMU)                    | 2009 |
| Julius Ziegler (Universitat Karlsruhe)  | 2009 |
| Nico Blodow (TU Munich)                 | 2009 |
| Rosen Diankov (CMU)                     | 2009 |
| Geoffrey Hollinger (CMU)                | 2008 |
| Kevin Peterson (CMU)                    | 2008 |
| Nathan Ratliff (CMU)                    | 2008 |
| Martin Rufli (ETH Zurich)               | 2008 |
| Michael Ashley-Rollman (CMU)            | 2006 |
| Stuart Anderson (CMU)                   | 2006 |
| Michael DeRosa (CMU)                    | 2006 |
| Ashish Deshpande (Michigan)             | 2006 |
| Jiixin Fu (CMU)                         | 2006 |
| Preethi Bhatt (CMU)                     | 2006 |

### Undergraduate Interns

|                           |           |
|---------------------------|-----------|
| Abhay Deshpande (UW)      | 2022-2024 |
| Quanquan Peng (SJTU)      | 2024      |
| Arnav Thareja (UW)        | 2023      |
| Rohan Bajjal (IIT Kanpur) | 2022-2023 |

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| Sriyash Poddar (IIT Kharagpur)                             | 2022-2023 |
| Ramya Challa (UW)  | 2022-2023 |
| Sumegh Roychowdhury (IIT Kharagpur)                        | 2021      |
| Colin Summers (UW)   | 2018-2020 |
| Matthew Rockett (UW)                                       | 2018-2020 |
| Sumegh Roychowdhury (IIT Kharagpur)                        | 2020      |
| Sidharth Talia (Bharati Vidyapeeth College of Engineering) | 2020      |
| Johan Michalov (UW)  | 2018-2019 |
| Rajat Kumar Jenamani (IIT Kharagpur)                       | 2019      |
| Jeffrey Maxwell (UW)                                       | 2019      |
| Shivam Singhal (UW)  | 2019      |
| Minae Kwon (Stanford)                                      | 2018      |
| Savanna Yee (UW)   | 2018      |
| Nanda Sundaresan (UW)                                      | 2018      |
| Kaiden James Field (UW)                                    | 2018      |
| Connor Geiman (UW)   | 2018      |
| Tao Jin (UW)   | 2018      |
| Rahul Vernwal (IIT Kharagpur)                              | 2018      |
| Maha Alrashed (BU)   | 2018      |
| Abdullah Albakry (NC State)                                | 2018      |
| Ramon Qu (UW)  | 2017      |
| Nanda Sundaresan (UW)                                      | 2017      |
| Jeffrey Maxwell (UW)                                       | 2017      |
| Vinitha Ranganeni (CMU)                                    | 2015-2017 |
| Kevin Zhang (CMU)  | 2015-2017 |
| Pengju Jin (CMU)   | 2014-2017 |
| Rachel Holladay (CMU)                                      | 2013-2017 |
| Joey Fernau (CMU)  | 2015      |
| Angela Wang (CMU)  | 2014      |
| Peter McHale (CMU)   | 2014      |
| Vikram Sunder (CMU)  | 2014      |
| Don Zheng (CMU)  | 2014      |
| Neil Jassal (CMU)  | 2014      |
| Myles Blodnick (CMU)                                       | 2014      |
| Scott Martin (CMU)   | 2014      |
| Yuyang Guo (CMU)   | 2013-2014 |
| Andrey Kurenkov (Georgia Tech)                             | 2013      |
| Abhijeet Tallavajhula (IIT)                                | 2012      |
| Bo Xiong (Connecticut)                                     | 2012      |
| Corina Guarau (Jacobs)                                     | 2012      |
| Debidatta Dwebi (IIT)                                      | 2012      |
| Kenton Lee (Penn)  | 2012      |
| Dominic Zirbel (CMU)                                       | 2012      |
| Alex Zirbel (CMU)  | 2011-2012 |
| Tom Mullins (CMU)  | 2011      |
| Nick Stanley (CMU)   | 2011      |
| Tudor Achim (CMU)  | 2009-2010 |
| Andrew Yeager (CMU)  | 2009      |
| Ian-Clanton Thuon (CMU)                                    | 2008-2009 |
| Daniel Dewey (CMU)   | 2007-2008 |

#### **Ph.D Thesis Committees**

|                        |      |
|------------------------|------|
| Vinitha Ranganeni (UW) | 2024 |
| Nick Walker (UW)       | 2024 |
| Nathan Hatch (UW)      | 2024 |
| Mohak Bharadwaj (UW)   | 2024 |

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| Anqi Li (UW)                           | 2024    |
| Ekta Samani (UW)                       | 2023    |
| Christopher Xie (UW)                   | 2021    |
| Senka Krivic (University of Innsbruck) | 2019    |
| Parker Owan (UW)                       | 2019    |
| Arunkumar Byravan (UW)                 | 2019    |
| Rahul Warriar (UW)                     | 2018    |
| Justin Huang (UW)                      | 2018    |
| Connor Schenk (UW)                     | 2017-18 |
| Kiril Solovey (Technion)               | 2018    |
| Sanjiban Choudhury (CMU)               | 2013-17 |
| Venkatraman Narayanan (CMU)            | 2013-17 |
| Breelyn Kane Styler (CMU)              | 2011-18 |
| Mike Phillips (CMU)                    | 2011-15 |
| Alberto Rodriguez (CMU)                | 2007-13 |
| Ross Knepper (CMU)                     | 2006-11 |
| Nathan Ratliff (CMU)                   | 2004-09 |

## Publications ([Google Scholar](#))

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### Refereed Journals

- [1] Vincent Roulet, S.S. Srinivasa, Maryam Fazel, and Zaid Harchaoui. On global and local convergence of iterative linear quadratic optimization algorithms for discrete time nonlinear control. *Journal of Machine Learning Research*, 2025.
- [2] Patrick Lancaster, Christoforos Mavrogiannis, Siddhartha Srinivasa, and Joshua R. Smith. Electrostatic brakes enable individual joint control of underactuated, highly articulated robots. *The International Journal of Robotics Research*, 2024.
- [3] Jaein Lim, Mahdi Ghanei, Connor Lawson, Siddhartha Srinivasa, and Panagiotis Tsiotras. Lazy incremental search for efficient replanning with bounded suboptimality guarantees. *The International Journal of Robotics Research*, 2024.
- [4] Vincent Roulet, S.S. Srinivasa, Maryam Fazel, and Zaid Harchaoui. Iterative linear quadratic optimization for nonlinear control: Differentiable programming algorithmic templates. *Open Journal of Mathematical Optimization*, 5:1–63, 2024.
- [5] C Mavrogiannis, K Balasubramanian, S. Poddar, A. Gandra, and S. S. Srinivasa. Winding through: Crowd navigation via topological invariance. *IEEE Robotics and Automation Letters*, 8(1), 2023.
- [6] Christoforos Mavrogiannis, Jonathan A DeCastro, and Siddhartha S Srinivasa. Abstracting road traffic via topological braids: Applications to traffic flow analysis and distributed control. *The International Journal of Robotics Research*, 2023.
- [7] N. Funk, C. Schaff, R. Madan, T. Yoneda, J. U. De Jesus, J. Watson, E. K. Gordon, F. Widmaier, S. Bauer, S. S. Srinivasa, T. Bhattacharjee, M. R. Walter, and J. Peters. Benchmarking structured policies and policy optimization for real-world dexterous object manipulation. *IEEE Robotics and Automation Letters*, 7(1):478–485, 2022.
- [8] C. Kessens, M. Kaplan, T. Rocks, P.R. Osteen, J. Rogers, E. Stump, A. Hurwitz, J. Fink, L. Quang, M. Gonzalez, J. Patel, M. DiBlasi, S. Patel, M. Weiker, D. Patel, J. Bowkett, R. Detry, S. Karumanchi, L. Matthies, J. Burdick, Y. Oza, A. Agarwal, A. Dornbush, D. Saxena, M. Likhachev, K. Schmeckpeper, K. Daniilidis, A. Kamat, S. Choudhury, A. Mandalika, and S.S. Srinivasa. Human-scale mobile manipulation using RoMan. *Journal of Field Robotics*, 2:1232–1262, 2022.
- [9] J. Spencer, S. Choudhury, M. Barnes, M. Schmittle, M. Chiang, P. Ramadge, and S.S. Srinivasa. Expert intervention learning: An online framework for robot learning from explicit and implicit human feedback. *Autonomous Robots*, 46:99–113, 2022.

- [10] M. Bhardwaj, S. Choudhury, B. Boots, and S. Srinivasa. Leveraging Experience in Lazy Search. *Autonomous Robots*, 45(7):979–996, 2021.
- [11] J.G. Gammell, T. Barfoot, and S.S. Srinivasa. Batch Informed Trees (BIT\*): Informed asymptotically optimal anytime search. *The International Journal of Robotics Research*, 2020.
- [12] B. Yang, P.E. Lancaster, S.S. Srinivasa, and J.R. Smith. Benchmarking robot manipulation with the rubik’s cube. *IEEE Robotics and Automation Letters*, 2020.
- [13] T. Bhattacharjee, G. Lee, H. Song, and S.S. Srinivasa. Towards robotic feeding: Role of haptics in fork-based food manipulation. *IEEE Robotics and Automation Letters*, 2019.
- [14] M. Chen, S. Nikolaidis, H. Soh, D. Hsu, and S.S. Srinivasa. Trust-aware decision making for human-robot collaboration: Model learning and planning. *ACM Transactions on Human-Robot Interaction*, 2019.
- [15] R. Holladay, O. Salzman, and S.S. Srinivasa. Minimizing task-space fréchet error via efficient incremental graph search. *IEEE Robotics and Automation Letters*, 2019.
- [16] Jeongseok Lee, Michael X. Grey, Sehoon Ha, Tobias Kunz, Sumit Jain, Yuting Ye, Siddhartha S. Srinivasa, Mike Stilman, and C. Karen Liu. DART: Dynamic animation and robotics toolkit. *The Journal of Open Source Software*, 3(22):500, feb 2018.
- [17] J.G. Gammell, T. Barfoot, and S.S. Srinivasa. Informed sampling for asymptotically optimal path planning. *IEEE Transactions on Robotics*, 34(4):966–984, 2018.
- [18] S. Javdani, H. Admoni, S. Pellegrinelli, S.S. Srinivasa, and J.A. Bagnell. Shared autonomy via hindsight optimization for teleoperation and teaming. *The International Journal of Robotics Research*, 37(7):717–742, 2018.
- [19] S. Nikolaidis, M. Kwon, J. Forlizzi, and S.S. Srinivasa. Planning with verbal communication for human-robot collaboration. *ACM Transactions on Human-Robot Interaction*, 7(3), 2018.
- [20] B. Calli, A. Singh, J. Bruce, W. W. Aaron, K. Konolige, S.S. Srinivasa, P. Abbeel, and A.M. Dollar. YCB benchmarking project: Object set, data set and their applications. *Journal of The Society of Instrument and Control Engineers*, 56(10):792–797, 2017.
- [21] I. Dryanovski, M.K. Klingensmith, S.S. Srinivasa, and J. Xiao. Large-scale, real-time 3D scene reconstruction on a mobile device. *Autonomous Robots*, 41(6):1423–1445, 2017.
- [22] M. Ghorbel, J. Pineau, R. Gourdeau, S. Javdani, and S.S. Srinivasa. A decision-theoretic approach for the collaborative control of a smart wheelchair. *International Journal of Social Robotics*, pages 1–15, 2017.
- [23] S. Nikolaidis, D. Hsu, and S.S. Srinivasa. Human-robot mutual adaptation in collaborative tasks: Models and experiments. *The International Journal of Robotics Research*, 36(5-7):618–634, 2017.
- [24] A. Johnson, J. King, and S.S. Srinivasa. Convergent planning. *IEEE Robotics and Automation Letters*, 2016.
- [25] M. Klingensmith, S.S. Srinivasa, and M. Kaess. Articulated robot manipulator simultaneous localization and mapping (ARM-SLAM). *IEEE Robotics and Automation Letters*, 2016.
- [26] M.C. Koval, N.S. Pollard, and S.S. Srinivasa. Pre- and post-contact policy decomposition for planar contact manipulation under uncertainty. *The International Journal of Robotics Research*, 35(1–3):244–264, 2016.
- [27] B. Calli, A. Walsman, A. Singh, S.S. Srinivasa, P. Abbeel, and A.M. Dollar. Benchmarking in manipulation research: Using the Yale-CMU-Berkeley object and model set. *IEEE Robotics and Automation Magazine*, 22(3):36–52, 2015.
- [28] A. Collet, B. Xiong, C. Gurau, M. Hebert, and S.S. Srinivasa. HerbDisc: Towards lifelong robotic object discovery. *The International Journal of Robotics Research*, 34(1):3—25, 2015.
- [29] A.D. Dragan, R. Holladay, and S.S. Srinivasa. Deceptive robot motion: synthesis, analysis and experiments. *Autonomous Robots*, 39(3):331–345, 2015.
- [30] M.C. Koval, N.S. Pollard, and S.S. Srinivasa. Pose estimation for planar contact manipulation with manifold particle filters. *The International Journal of Robotics Research*, 34(7):922–945, 2015.



- [31] A. Stentz, H. Herman, A. Kelly, E. Meyhofer, G.C. Haynes, D. Stager, B. Zajac, J.A. Bagnell, J. Brindza, C. Dellin, M. George, J. Gonzalez-Mora, S. Hyde, M. Jones, M. Laverne, M. Likhachev, L. Lister, M.D. Powers, O. Ramos, J. Ray, D.P. Rice, J. Scheifflee, R. Sidki, S.S. Srinivasa, K. Strabala, J.P. Tardif, J. Valois, J.M. Vandeweghe, M.D. Wagner, and C. Wellington. CHIMP, the CMU highly intelligent mobile platform. *Journal of Field Robotics*, 32(2):209–228, 2015.
- [32] A.D. Dragan and S.S. Srinivasa. Integrating human observer inferences into robot motion planning. *Autonomous Robots*, 37(4):351–368, 2014.
- [33] R. Paolini, A. Rodriguez, S.S. Srinivasa, and M.T. Mason. A data-driven statistical framework for post-grasp manipulation. *The International Journal of Robotics Research*, 33(4):600—615, 2014.
- [34] M.R. Dogar, M.C. Koval, A. Tallavajhula, and S.S. Srinivasa. Object search by manipulation. *Autonomous Robots*, 36(1–2):153–167, 2013.
- [35] M.R. Dogar and S.S. Srinivasa. Physics-based manipulation in human environments. *Journal of the Robotics Society of Japan*, 31(4):353–357, 2013.
- [36] A.D. Dragan, K.T. Lee, and S.S. Srinivasa. Teleoperation with intelligent and customizable interfaces. *Journal of Human-Robot Interaction*, 1(3), 2013.
- [37] A.D. Dragan and S.S. Srinivasa. A policy-blending formalism for shared control. *The International Journal of Robotics Research*, 32(7):790–805, 2013. (Conference version was **Best Conference Paper Award Finalist, RSS 2012**).
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## Seminars

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|   |      |
|---|------|
| Keynote @ International Conference on Automated Planning and Scheduling | 2022 |
| Carnegie Mellon University  | 2022 |
| MIT   | 2020 |
| Army Research Laboratories  | 2019 |
| Carnegie Mellon University  | 2019 |
| Northwestern  | 2018 |
| Toyota Technological Institute at Chicago                               | 2018 |
| Georgia Tech  | 2018 |
| Amazon  | 2018 |
| Microsoft Research  | 2017 |
| Carnegie Mellon   | 2017 |
| Princeton   | 2017 |
| University of Washington  | 2017 |
| Harvard   | 2016 |
| MIT   | 2016 |
| National University of Singapore  | 2014 |
| University of Pennsylvania  | 2011 |
| National Taiwan University  | 2010 |
| Indian Institute of Technology Madras                                   | 2010 |
| West Penn Hospital  | 2007 |

**Others:** Too numerous to count.

## Teaching

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### CSE 478 Autonomous Robotics

Winter 2017-

#### Paul G. Allen School for Computer Science & Engineering

Brand new undergraduate-level robotics course on robotics in the real world. The course covers state estimation (particle filters, motion models, sensor models etc), planning/control (search based planners, lattice based planners, trajectory following techniques etc), and perception and learning (object detection, learning from demonstrations etc.). Student teams implement algorithms on the RACECAR platform developed by Prof. Srinivasa for the course.

**CSE 599 Advanced Robotics**

Fall 2017

**Paul G. Allen School for Computer Science & Engineering**

Brand new graduate-level robotics course on motion planning algorithms. The course covers the Piano Movers Problem, sampling-based planning, minimum dispersion graphs, efficient search, lazy and anytime planning, planning under uncertainty with application to mobile manipulators and humanoid robots, with a focus on algorithmic foundations and theorem proving.

**16-843 Manipulation Algorithms**

Fall 2012-16

**The Robotics Institute, Carnegie Mellon University**

Brand new graduate-level robotics course on the theory and algorithms that enable robots to physically manipulate their world. The course covers the geometry of manipulation configuration spaces, motion planning in these spaces, synthesizing robust and stable grasps for dexterous hands, reconfiguring clutter, task-level planning of multi-stage manipulation, physics-based actions, and addressing perception and model uncertainty, with application to mobile manipulators and humanoid robots.

**16-662 Robot Autonomy**

Spring 2012-16

**The Robotics Institute, Carnegie Mellon University**

Brand new graduate-level robotics course on manipulation, motion planning, perception, navigation, and machine learning algorithms for mobile manipulators. The course covers theory and algorithms, and has a strong hands-on component where students implement their assignments and class projects on a real mobile manipulation platform.

**16-741 Mechanics of Manipulation**

Spring 2009

**The Robotics Institute, Carnegie Mellon University**

Co-taught with Matt Mason

Graduate-level robotics core course on model-based robotic manipulation. To develop techniques for rigid body mechanics, kinematic constraint, Coulomb friction, gravity, and impact, and apply these techniques to manipulation problems including picking and placing, parts orienting, assembly, and mobile manipulation.

**Professional Activities**


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|                  |  |           |
|------------------|--|-----------|
| Board Member     | Robotics: Science and Systems Foundation               | 2016-     |
| Board Member     | International Journal of Robotics Research (IJRR)      | 2023-     |
| Editor           | International Journal of Robotics Research (IJRR)      | 2014-2022 |
| Editor           | IEEE/RSJ IROS  | 2014-2016 |
| Editor           | A Roadmap for U.S. Robotics: From Internet to Robotics | 2013      |
| Guest Editor     | IJRR, RSS Special Issue                                | 2013      |
| Guest Editor     | Autonomous Robots, RSS Special Issue                   | 2013      |
| Guest Editor     | IEEE RAM, Special Issue on Mobile Manipulation         | 2012      |
| Associate Editor | IEEE/RSJ IROS  | 2011-2012 |
| Associate Editor | IEEE ICRA  | 2010-2013 |

**Selected Organization**

|                           |   |           |
|---------------------------|---|-----------|
| Organizer                 | UW CSE MSR Summer Institute on Social Robotics                | 2018      |
| General Chair             | Robotics: Science and Systems (RSS)                           | 2018      |
| Program Chair             | Robotics: Science and Systems (RSS)                           | 2017      |
| Organizer                 | Dagstuhl Seminar on Multimodal Manipulation Under Uncertainty | 2015      |
| Presentations Chair       | IEEE IROS   | 2014      |
| Chair                     | IEEE ICRA Best Manipulation Paper Award Committee             | 2013      |
| Publications Chair        | RSS   | 2013      |
| Founding Program Chair    | Robotics Track AAAI   | 2012-2013 |
| Senior Program Committee  | AAAI  | 2012-2013 |
| Founding Chair            | IEEE RAS Technical Committee on Mobile Manipulation           | 2010-2012 |
| Short Presentations Chair | RSS   | 2012      |
| Area Chair                | RSS   | 2011-2012 |

**Workshops Organized:** Too numerous to count.

**Long-term Program Committees:** International Conference on Human-Robot Interaction (HRI), International Conference on Automated Planning and Scheduling (ICAPS), Robotics: Science and Systems (RSS), Workshop on the Algorithmic Foundations of Robotics (WAFR), AAAI Special Track on Physically Grounded AI.

## University Service

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|        |   |           |
|--------|---|-----------|
| Member | UW CSE Undergraduate Admissions Committee     | 2022-     |
| Member | UW CSE Graduate Admissions Committee          | 2017-2022 |
| Member | RI Curriculum Program Committee               | 2015-2017 |
| Member | RI Faculty Hiring Committee                   | 2015-2017 |
| Chair  | SCS ACM Doctoral Dissertation Award Committee | 2014      |
| Chair  | RI Admissions Committee                       | 2014      |
| Member | RI Director Search Committee                  | 2014      |
| Member | SCS Student Teaching Award Committee          | 2014      |
| Member | SCS Graduate Fellowship Committee             | 2012-2014 |
| Member | RI Admissions Committee                       | 2012-2015 |
| Member | QoLT Director Search Committee                | 2012      |

## Grants (excludes unrestricted gifts)

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| National Science Foundation (#0646448)<br><i>Methodology for Applying Haptic Robotics to Agile Manufacturing</i><br>""Small Business Phase II  | William Townsend-2009<br>co-PI, PI: 99,785 |
| ""Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (#DARPA-BAA-12-39)""<br><i>CHIMP: the CMU Highly Intelligent Mobile Platform</i><br>Robotics Challenge Track A   | Tony Stenz-2012<br>co-PI, PI: 000""        |
| ""Office of Naval Research (#ONR N00014-24-S-B001)""<br><i>Learning Multi-Step Dexterous Bimanual Fine Manipulation for Shipboard Maintenance and Urban Exploration</i><br>Long Range BAA for Navy and Marine Corps Science and Technology | 2024-2027<br>PI                            |
| Amazon<br><i>Leveraging the Common-Sense of Large Language Models for Robotic Manipulation</i><br>Amazon Science Hub Research Award  | 2024-2025<br>PI                            |
| Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (#HR0011-23-C-0150)<br><i>Aggressive, Resilient, High-speed Navigation in Off-road Terrain</i><br>Robotic Autonomy in Complex Environments with Resiliency                                       | 2023-2025<br>co-PI, PI: Byron Boots        |
| ""National Science Foundation (#2132848)""<br><i>Towards Efficient, Safe, and Personalized Caregiving Robots</i><br>National Robotics Initiative   | 2022-2025<br>PI                            |
| ""Office of Naval Research (#ONR N00014-22-1-2593)""<br><i>SquadBot v2: High Performance Humanoid Robot for Urban Exploration</i><br>Long Range BAA for Navy and Marine Corps Science and Technology                                       | 2022-2023<br>co-PI, PI: IHMC               |
| ""National Science Foundation (#2007011)""<br><i>A Formalism for Robot-Assisted Feeding while Adjusting to User Preferences</i><br>Human-Centered Computing  | 2020-2023<br>PI                            |
| National Science Foundation (#1839371)<br><i>Safe Imitation Learning for Robotics</i><br>Division of Mathematical Sciences, the Division of Computing and Communication Foundations  | 2018-2021<br>co-PI, PI: Zaid Harchaoui     |

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| <p>""Office of Naval Research (#ONR N00014-16-R-BA01)""<br/> <i>Enabling dexterous physics-based manipulation via a learning framework for shared autonomy</i><br/> Long Range BAA for Navy and Marine Corps Science and Technology</p> | <p>2017-2020<br/> PI</p>                       |
| <p>National Science Foundation (#1748582)<br/> <i>Learning Deep Sensorimotor Policies for Shared Autonomy</i><br/> National Robotics Initiative</p>   | <p>2017-2019<br/> co-PI, PI: Sergey Levine</p> |
| <p>Robotics Collaborative Technology Alliance<br/> <i>Robust Outdoor Mobile Manipulation</i><br/> T3</p>  | <p>2017-2018<br/> PI</p>                       |
| <p>Amazon<br/> <i>Data Efficient Policy Search for Reinforcement Learning</i><br/> Amazon Research Award</p>  | <p>2017-2018<br/> PI</p>                       |
| <p>Richard King Mellon Foundation<br/> <i>Intelligent asisstive technology for individuals with physical disabilities</i><br/> Research Award</p>   | <p>2016-2017<br/> PI</p>                       |
| <p>""National Science Foundation (#1544797)""<br/> <i>Learning control sharing strategies for assistive cyber-physical systems</i><br/> Cyber-Physical Systems</p>  | <p>2015-2018<br/> co-PI, PI: Brenna Argall</p> |
| <p>Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency<br/> <i>An Architecture for Shared Autonomy via Optimal Control</i><br/> Simplifying Complexity in Scientific Discovery (SIMPLEX)</p>  | <p>2015-2016<br/> PI</p>                       |
| <p>National Science Foundation (#1409003)<br/> <i>The Foundations of a Manipulation Repertoire</i><br/> Robust Intelligence, Division of Information &amp; Intelligent Systems</p>  | <p>2014-2018<br/> co-PI, PI: Matt Mason</p>    |
| <p>""National Institute of Health R01 (#R01EB019335)""<br/> <i>A Formalism for Customizing and Training Intelligent Assistive Devices</i><br/> Smart and Connected Health</p>   | <p>2014-2017<br/> co-PI, PI: Brenna Argall</p> |
| <p>Office of Naval Research (#ONR BAA 13-0001)<br/> <i>Mental Simulation of Intentions for Collaborative Human-Robot Learning and Planning</i><br/> ONR Basic Research Challenges in the Science of Autonomy</p>                        | <p>2014-2017<br/> co-PI, PI: Andrea Thomaz</p> |
| <p>Toyota<br/> <i>Physics-based Intelligent Manipulation in Clutter</i><br/> Toyota Motor Engineering &amp; Manufacturing</p>   | <p>2013-2017<br/> PI</p>                       |
| <p>ABB<br/> <i>In-hand manipulation with a simple gripper</i><br/> Research Grant</p>   | <p>2013-2014<br/> co-PI, PI: Matt Mason</p>    |
| <p>Research for Advanced Manufacturing in Pennsylvania<br/> <i>Robotics-enhanced, Cost-effective Motion Test Equipment for Inertial MEMS Devices</i><br/> Research Grant</p>  | <p>2013-2014<br/> co-PI, PI: David Bourne</p>  |
| <p>Office of Naval Research<br/> <i>Enabling Advanced Autonomous Physical Manipulation Capabilities for Robots in Human-Robot Teams</i><br/> Young Investigator Award (ONR-YIP)</p>   | <p>2012-2015<br/> PI</p>                       |



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| Intel<br><i>Lifelong Learning in the Real World</i><br>Embedded Computing Science and Technology Center  | 2012-2014<br>PI                                    |
| ""National Science Foundation (#1208388)""<br><i>Addressing Clutter and Uncertainty for Robotic Manipulation in Human Environments</i><br>National Robotics Initiative             | 2012-2013<br>PI                                    |
| National Science Foundation (#1228906)<br><i>Building Intelligent Mobile Manipulators for Assistive Care</i><br>Robust Intelligence, Division of Information & Intelligent Systems | 2012-2013<br>co-PI, PI: Matt Mason                 |
| Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (#DARPA-BAA-10-28)<br><i>ANDY: Learning for Autonomous Robotic Manipulation</i><br>Autonomous Robotic Manipulation Software Track        | 2011-2013<br>co-PI, PI: Drew Bagnell               |
| Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (#DARPA-BAA-10-28)<br><i>REARM: Robust Extensible Autonomous Robotic Manipulation</i><br>Autonomous Robotic Manipulation Software Track  | 2010-2011<br>co-PI, PI: SRI                        |
| National Science Foundation (#0916557)<br><i>A Simple but General Hand</i><br>Robust Intelligence, Division of Information & Intelligent Systems                                   | 2009-2013<br>co-PI, PI: Matt Mason                 |
| National Science Foundation (#0540865)<br><i>Quality of Life Technology Engineering Research Center</i><br>Engineering Research Centers  | 2006-2016<br>co-PI, PI: Takeo Kanade               |
| HONDA<br><i>Formalizing Mathematical Models of Curiosity</i><br>HONDA Research Institute   | 000""-<br>co-PI, PI: 700                           |
| US Army Research Laboratory<br><i>Safe, Fluent, and Generalizable Outdoor Autonomy</i><br>""Scalable   | ""150-000""<br>co-PI, PI: and Resilient Autonomy"" |

## Selected Press Coverage ([Longer list](#))

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| <a href="#">Amazon robotics leader leaves to join self-driving vehicle venture Cruise</a>        | GeekWire, 2023            |
| <a href="#">New Science Hub to launch at Univ. of Washington with \$1.9M from Amazon</a>         | GeekWire, 2022            |
| <a href="#">Warehouse Robotics Provider Berkshire Grey to Go Public Through \$2.7B SPAC Deal</a> | Wall Street Journal, 2021 |
| <a href="#">These Small Cars Can Help Drive the Autonomous Future</a>                            | Wired, 2019               |
| <a href="#">Robot arm can feed people with mobility issues</a>                                   | BBC News, 2019            |
| <a href="#">The best interactive design of the year</a>  | Fast Company, 2019        |
| <a href="#">Amazon hires top UW computer science prof as new robotics director</a>               | GeekWire, 2018            |
| <a href="#">UW's HERB robot makes cameo on X-Files as automated sushi waiter</a>                 | GeekWire, 2018            |
| <a href="#">Learning to love our robot co-workers</a>  | New York Times, 2017      |
| <a href="#">Robotics expert moves entire team to UW, including famous Oreo-cracking robot</a>    | GeekWire, 2017            |
| <a href="#">Come on, Let's Give the Robots Hands Already</a>                                     | Wired, 2016               |
| <a href="#">Uber Would Like to Buy Your Robotics Department</a>                                  | New York Times, 2015      |
| <a href="#">Robots 3D IMAX Movie</a>   | National Geographic, 2014 |
| <a href="#">HERB: A robot that can unload a dishwasher and (sometimes) take apart an Oreo</a>    | Washington Post, 2014     |
| <a href="#">Going Deep with David Rees: How to open a door</a>                                   | National Geographic, 2014 |
| <a href="#">Robots that Care: The QoLT Center Changing the World of Caregiving</a>               | NPR, 2014                 |
| <a href="#">Helper Robots Are Steered, Tentatively, to Care for the Aging</a>                    | New York Times, 2013      |

When it's too hard to separate Oreos ...  
HERB the Robot Butler Microwaves Your Dinner For You  
What I think about when I think about robots  
Can Robots Be Programmed to Learn from Their Own Experiences?

CNN, 2013  
Popular Science, 2012  
Granta, 2009  
Scientific American, 2009

## Extracurricular

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- 140/13,072=0.01-th Place overall and 12/790=0.01-th Place in age group, Pittsburgh Half Marathon, 2017
- 6th Place overall and 1st Place in age group, Montour Trail Half Marathon, 2016
- 3rd Place, Finish MS 5M Run, 2015
- Fastest advisor-student time, Random Distance Run, 2013
- LaSalle Bank Chicago Marathon 2007, 2008
- Pittsburgh AB Squash League champion 2005
- Pittsburgh C Squash League champion 2002
- Institute silver medalist in Badminton, Indian Institute of Technology Madras 1998
- Institute bronze medalist in Tennis, Indian Institute of Technology Madras 1997, 1998