Antonia Bronars

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EDUCATION

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Cambridge, MA

PhD Mechanical Engineering, GPA: 4.90/5.00

2020-Present

- Advisor: Prof. Alberto Rodriguez
- Master's Thesis: "Estimating Global Object Pose from Tactile Images"

University of California, Berkeley

Berkeley, CA

B.S. Mechanical Engineering, GPA: 3.89/4.00

2015-2019

Research Experience

MCube Lab @ MIT

Cambridge, MA

Graduate Research Assistant

2020-Present

- Advisor: Prof. Alberto Rodriguez
- My ongoing research is a probabilistic tactile perception algorithm with three primary strengths. First, it accurately tracks global object pose through unique streams of tactile images. Second, it is fast enough to ultimately inform real-time control of an in-hand manipulation sequence. Third, it quantifies the uniqueness of a tactile trajectory to assign solution confidence.

Dynamics @ Berkeley

Berkeley, CA

2019

- Undergraduate Research Assistant
 - Advisor: Prof. Oliver O'Reilly
 - Derived equations of motion and developed Matlab simulations to understand spontaneous jumping phenomena and unusual gliding behavior of a weighted hoop.
 Published findings in the Royal Society: Proceedings A (Fall 2019).

Berkeley Emergent Space Tensegrities (BEST) Lab

Berkeley, CA

Undergraduate Research Assistant

2016-2019

- Advisor: Prof. Alice Agogino
- Formed and led a team of four undergraduates to design a tensegrity robot that uses inertial mechanisms, rather than cable actuation, for locomotion.
 Presented findings at 2019 SURF conference.

Publications

- 1. M. Bauza, A. Bronars, Y. Hou, N. Chavan-Dafle, and A. Rodriguez, "simPLE: a Method Learned in Simulation to Precisely Pick, Localize, and Place Objects without Prior Interaction", in preparation.
- 2. M. Bauza*, A. Bronars*, and A. Rodriguez, "Tac2Pose: Tactile Object Pose Estimation from the First Touch", IJRR 2022, under review.
- 3. **A. Bronars** and O. O'Reilly, "Gliding Motions of a Rigid Body: The Curious Dynamics of Littlewood's Rolling Hoop", *Proceedings of the Royal Society of London A: Mathematical, Physical and Engineering Sciences, 2019.*
- 4. L.-H. Chen, B. Cera, E.L. Zhu, R. Edmunds, F. Rice, A. Bronars, E. Tang, S.R. Malekshahi, O. Romero, A.K. Agogino, and A.M. Agogino, "Inclined surface locomotion strategies for spherical tensegrity robots", *IROS* 2017.

Presentations

1. A. Bronars, Y. Chen, H. Gamliel, and F. Cuellar. "Tensegrity Locomotion Using Inertial Mechanisms", SURF 2019 Conference, August 22-23, 2019, Berkeley CA.

Fellowships and Awards

• Steidel Award for Undergraduate Research

2019

- Awarded to one graduating senior in the UC Berkeley department of Mechanical Engineering for commitment and ingenuity in undergraduate research.
- Drake Scholarship for Mechanical Engineering

2015-2019

- Four-year full-ride academic scholarship for top 10 incoming UC Berkeley ME students.

• SURF Rose Hills Independent Undergraduate Research Fellowship

2019

- Summer research fellowship awarded for original undergraduate research in STEM.

Work Experience

Apple Cupertino, CA

Mac Product Design Internship

Summer 2018

- Designed computer parts and mechanisms for the next generation of Mac products
- Intern project selected as best-in-cohort, escalated to Senior VP of Hardware Engineering

Apple Cupertino, CA

Global Commodity Management Intern

Summer 2017

- Manufacturing and supply chain analysis for metal component parts
- Intern project selected as best-in-cohort, escalated to VP of AppleCare

UC Berkeley Mechanical Engineering Department

Berkeley, CA

Course Reader, Lagrangian Dynamics

Fall 2019

- Wrote solutions for problem sets, and graded problem sets and exams.

MENTORSHIP

• Women's Technology Program at MIT

2021, 2022

- Mentored week-long project on prosthetic device development for high school students
- Undergraduate Students
 - Shreya Skarpoor Nonparametric filtering techniques for tactile perception (2022)
 - Claudia Lozano-Perez Machine learning methods for tactile perception (2021)
 - Ying Ying Chen Mechatronic design for tensegrity robot hardware (2019)
 - Hadar Gamliel Software development and control system design for tensegrity robot (2019)
 - Felipe Cuellar Mechanism design and failure analysis for tensegrity robot hardware (2019)