

Yifei Dong

Lindstedtsvägen 24, 114 28 Stockholm Sweden Website: yifeidong0.github.io/ Email: yifeid@kth.se

Education

- 2023 Now KTH Royal Institute of Technology, PhD Candidate, Robotics, Computer Science
- 2019 2022 ETH Zurich, M.Sc., Mechanical Engineering
- 2015 2019 **Shanghai Jiao Tong University**, *B.Sc.*, Mechanical Engineering Tsien Hsue-shen Program & Zhiyuan Honors Program of Engineering

Employment

2023 - Now Robotics, Perception and Learning, KTH, Stockholm

Doctoral Student, with Assoc. Prof. Florian Pokorny Planning and co-design for robust manipulation.

- 2022 **Idiap, EPFL**, Martigny, Research Assistant, with Dr. Sylvain Calinon Phase estimation on Riemannian manifold. Code contribution: Robotics Code From Scratch
- 2022 **F&P Robotics**, Zürich, Software Engineer Intern

 Motion planning of door opening and human-robot interaction for a mobile service robot.
- 2018 NIO Inc., Shanghai, Software Engineer Intern LiDAR simulation of an autonomous vehicle in various traffic scenes.

Publications

Journals and Conference Proceedings:

- [J1] Yifei Dong, Xianyi Cheng, Florian T. Pokorny, Characterizing Manipulation Robustness through Energy Margin and Caging Analysis, Robotics and Automation Letters (RA-L), 2024, presented at ICRA 2025, Paper | Workshop
- [C1] Yifei Dong, Florian T. Pokorny, Quasi-static Soft Fixture Analysis of Rigid and Deformable Objects, International Conference on Robotics and Automation (ICRA), 2024, Paper | Website | Workshop
 Preprints (* equal contribution):
 - [1] Haofei Lu, Yifei Dong, Zehang Weng, Jens Lundell, Danica Kragic, Grasping a Handful: Sequential Multi-Object Dexterous Grasp Generation, under review, Preprint
 - [2] David Blanco-Mulero, Yifei Dong, Julia Borras, Florian T. Pokorny and Carme Torras, *T-DOM: A Taxonomy for Robotic Manipulation of Deformable Objects*, under review, *Preprint* | Website
 - [3] Yifei Dong*, Shaohang Han*, Xianyi Cheng, Werner Friedl, Rafael I. Cabral Muchacho, Máximo A. Roa, Jana Tumova, and Florian T. Pokorny, CageCoOpt: Enhancing Manipulation Robustness through Caging-Guided Morphology and Policy Co-Optimization, under review, Preprint | Website

Academic Activities

Talks and Paper Review:

- 2025 Guest lecture at Duke University's graduate course, Robotic Manipulation, 2025 Spring
- 2024 Invited talk at Prof. Joel Burdick's and Prof. Aaron Ames' groups, California Institute of Technology
- 2024 Oral presentation at ICRA 2024, Yokohama, Japan
- 2024 Reviewer for RA-L, IROS, ISRR

Supervision and Teaching:

- 2025 Supervising semester project, "Deformable object manipulation planning through taxonomy-based abstractions and foundation models", Gawtam Chithra Ramesh
- 2024 Supervising master thesis, "Co-designing tools for deformable object manipulation", Kei Ikemura, Li Chen
- 2024, 2025 Teaching assistant in Introduction to Robotics, DD2410, KTH

Experiences

- 2024 Mobile Manipulation Challenge, ABB, Västerås, Sweden
 Team member of KTH: Custom gripper co-design for multi-task manipulation | Slides
- 2021 Robotic Systems Lab, ETH, Zürich, Graduate Researcher, with Prof. Marco Hutter Master thesis: Mobile door state estimation and parameter identification | Thesis Semester thesis: Contact-implicit MPC for mobile manipulation | Video | Thesis
- 2020 Computer Vision and Geometry Lab & Microsoft, Zürich
 Course project: Object mesh reconstruction using RGB-D cameras. | Thesis | Git | Video
- 2019 **SAIC Motor**, Shanghai
 Bachelor thesis: Strategy optimization of autonomous emergency braking
- 2018 Institute of Design and Control Engineering, SJTU, Shanghai 3-DOF plum processing system for surface-curving and core-deprivation. | Video
- 2017 FSAE Racing Team, SJTU, Shanghai, Undergraduate Mechanical Engineer
- 2017 Institute of Intelligent Vehicle, SJTU, Shanghai Structural design and locomotion formulation of a snake robot. | Video

Awards & Grants

- 2024 Travel Grant from the Karl Engvers Foundation
- 2023 European Commission Project (SoftEnable) Grant
- 2021, 2022 ETH Scholarship for International Students
 - 2019 Excellence Award, BAIC Automobile Invitational Tournament
 - 2018 Tan Kah Kee Invention Award
- 2016, 2018 General Motors Scholarship
 - 2017 Huawei Scholarship
- 2016, 2017 Zhiyuan College Honors Scholarship

— Skills

Programming Python, C++, MATLAB, C, C#

Tools ROS, Gazebo, Pybullet, Isaac Gym, Git, Docker, Blender, LaTex, PyTorch, Simulink, Unity3D, ANSYS, SolidWorks, CATIA, NX Unigraphics

Language English (TOEFL 109/120), Chinese (native), German (Goethe B1)