

# Yash Yardi

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*Research-driven CS & Physics student specializing in Machine Learning and Applications; aspiring to advance applied AI across industries.*

## EDUCATION

<b>University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign</b> <i>B.S. in Computer Science &amp; Physics</i> — GPA: 4.0/4.0 <i>Awards: James Scholar, GFX Leadership Scholar, Grainger Engineering Scholarship</i>	<i>Champaign, IL</i> Aug. 2025 – May 2028
<b>Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy</b> <i>Computer Science Focused Student</i> — GPA: 3.9/4.0, ACT 36/36	<i>Aurora, IL</i> Aug. 2022 – May 2025

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

<b>Argonne National Laboratory</b> <i>AI/ML Research Intern</i>	<i>Lemont, IL</i> Aug 2023 – Aug 2025
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Utilized <b>Gaussian Processes and Model-Based Search</b> to predict ALD saturation; identified conditions of deposition simulations from <b>&lt; 7 samples per experiment</b>.</li></ul>	
<b>MIT – Improbable AI Lab</b> <i>Student Researcher – Simulation-to-Reality Transfer</i>	<i>Cambridge, MA</i> Jul 2024 – Present
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Conducted the <b>largest encoder benchmark</b> to date for visuomotor control, <b>testing 20+ pretrained vision models</b> across robotic policies.</li><li>Developed novel quantitative performance metric to identify encoder bottlenecks in Sim2Real transfer.</li></ul>	
<b>AI x Education</b> <i>K-12 AI Initiative Leader &amp; Newsletter Writer</i>	<i>Remote</i> Jul 2023 – Present
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Moderated national conference panel <b>5,000+ attendees</b> from OpenAI, Google, and Microsoft.</li><li>Authored <b>10+ articles</b> for the AI x Education newsletter (<b>6,000+ subscribers</b>)</li><li>Designed outreach programs introducing AI literacy to K-12 schools.</li></ul>	

## PROJECTS

<b>1755 Robotics - Robotics Organization</b> <i>Founder, Coach, Lead Programmer</i>	<i>Aurora, IL</i> Jul 2022 – Present
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Formed and led a private robotics organization with <b>2 competitive teams</b></li><li>Competed in the <b>VEX World Championship 2025</b></li><li>Secured <b>corporate sponsorship from Polymaker</b> and guided teams to <b>7+ awards</b> in 2024 and 25.</li></ul>	

## PUBLICATIONS

Cherukuri, Kalyan, Aarav Lala, and Yash Yardi (2025). <i>Q-Policy: Quantum-Enhanced Policy Evaluation for Scalable Reinforcement Learning</i> . arXiv: <a href="https://arxiv.org/abs/2505.11862">2505.11862</a> [cs.LG]. URL: <a href="https://arxiv.org/abs/2505.11862">https://arxiv.org/abs/2505.11862</a> .	
Yardi, Yash, Samuel Biruduganti, and Lars Ankile (2025). <i>Bridging the Sim2Real Gap: Vision Encoder Pre-Training for Visuomotor Policy Transfer</i> . arXiv: <a href="https://arxiv.org/abs/2501.16389">2501.16389</a> [cs.R0]. URL: <a href="https://arxiv.org/abs/2501.16389">https://arxiv.org/abs/2501.16389</a> .	

## SKILLS

<b>Programming:</b> Python, C++, Java, JavaScript, Lua, HTML, PyTorch, TensorFlow, ROS, Pandas, Matplotlib, Manim, Linux/Unix, Git, Docker
<b>Domains:</b> Machine Learning, Robotics, Quantum Simulation, Scientific Computing
<b>Business:</b> Product Management, Leadership, Research Analytics, Data Analysis