EDUCATION

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

B.S. in Physics and Computer Science (intended)

Tsinghua University, Institute for Interdisciplinary Information Sciences (IIIS)

Freshman Year; GPA: 3.95/4.00

Tsinghua University, Institute for Interdisciplinary Information Sciences (IIIS)

Preparatory Program; GPA: 4.00/4.00

Cambridge, MA

Expected May 2028

Aug. 2024 – July. 2028

Beijing, China

Preparatory Program; GPA: 4.00/4.00

Feb. 2024 – July. 2024

Honors & Awards

• 54th International Physics Olympiad (IPhO): Gold Medal, 1st Place in Theoretical Round	July~2024
• 9th Romanian Master of Physics (RMPh): Gold Medal, 3rd Place	March~2023
• 40th Chinese Physics Olympiad (CPhO): Gold Medal	Oct 2023
• 39th Chinese Physics Olympiad (CPhO): Gold Medal	Oct 2022
• China Young Physicists' Tournament: Team First Place (Team Leader)	March~2023
• Tsinghua University: Xuetangban Scholarship & Freshman Scholarship	Dec 2024

EXPERIENCE

Undergraduate Researcher, Learning-based Control

Beijing, China

Email: zehuaw@mit.edu

Website: zehuaw1.github.io

Tsinghua University; Supervised by Prof. Huazhe Xu

Anticipated: Oct. 2024 - June 2025

- Investigated a novel RIR (Reinforcement Learning to Imitation Learning to Real-world) framework for robot manipulation on a Franka robotic arm (simulated), leveraging PPO and DrQ-v2 for initial RL training.
- Designed a multi-stage approach for specialist training in simulation and multitask generalization via imitation learning, addressing complexities of sim-to-real transfer and policy generalization.
- Conducted comprehensive literature reviews on advanced robot learning, informing experimental design and gaining experience in problem formulation and conceptual design.

PROJECTS

- Enhancing Diffusion Models with RL and Adversarial Rewards: Developed a novel framework leveraging Reinforcement Learning and adversarial discriminators to enhance pre-trained diffusion models. Formulated the reverse diffusion process as an MDP to optimize perceptual quality, achieving up to a 21.7% FID score reduction compared to baseline. Demonstrated a plug-and-play enhancement for existing models. [Code & Report]
- Consistent Local Edits in Videos via Attention Manipulation in Diffusion Models (CLEVAM-DM): Engineered CLEVAM-DM, a novel training-free framework for consistent local video editing with diffusion models. Designed a multi-stage pipeline integrating BrushNet inpainting, DDIM inversion, full attention sharing, and PerVFI for temporal coherence. [Code & Report]
- Algorithm Design for the Metric k-Center Problem: Authored a comprehensive survey and developed a unified evaluation framework for the metric k-center problem. Proposed three novel algorithms, one achieving a significant performance increase, reaching an empirical approximation ratio of 1.049 (compared to SOTA SCR's 1.064). [Code & Survey]
- LLM-Powered Knowledge Database: Initiated and led development of an AI agent-driven file-to-knowledge system using Llama 3. Architected and implemented core knowledge inference module, demonstrating foresight in knowledge management and AI applications. [Code] [Demo]
- Minimal Reinforcement Learning Framework (RL-Zero): Developed a modular RL framework in Python from scratch for reproducible experimentation and fundamental understanding. Implemented key features like configuration-driven training, experiment tracking, and video logging. [Code]
- Centralized Visual Package Router (CVPR): Led full-stack development of Centralized Visual Package Router (CVPR), a type-safe logistics management and visualization system. Engineered type-safe backend in Scala and responsive frontend in TypeScript with React, emphasizing functional programming principles. [Code]

Relevant Coursework

- Deep Learning: Mastered theoretical foundations (convergence analysis, DDPMs) and modern architectures (Transformers, GNNs). Applied through projects: implemented autograd, trained VAEs/GANs, and fine-tuned a 1B+ parameter LLM.
- Computer Vision: Implemented classical and modern algorithms (e.g., SIFT for panorama stitching, 3D-to-2D projections for autonomous driving visualization) from scratch, and trained a semantic segmentation model.
- Algorithm Design: Rigorous study of algorithm design and analysis (Kleinberg & Tardos), covering approximation and randomized algorithms.
- Intro to Computer Systems: Explored OS, computer architecture, and networking concepts. Projects: optimized performance on Raspberry Pi with SIMD (40x speedup), implemented concurrent data structures, and built a distributed service with gRPC.