

# Ding Zhao | Curriculum Vitae

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## Professional Interests

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My research interests focus on robotics, machine learning, and design, with applications on *autonomous driving*, *connected/smart city*, and *cybersecurity*. Specifically, My research covers

- **Design/Test intelligent-physical-systems** to improve safety, efficiency, security, and cognition
- **Build smart cities** with self-driving, connected transportation, and human machine interactions
- **Develop learning algorithms** on rare event analysis, Bayesian modeling and unsupervised learning
- **Design** virtual, augmented, and mixed reality for the development of robots

## Education

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### University of Michigan

*Ph.D. in the Department of Mechanical Engineering*

Faculty advisor: Prof. Huei Peng

Dissertation Title: "Accelerated Evaluation of Automated Vehicles"

**Ann Arbor**

*2011–2016*

### Jilin University

*Bachelor (Summa Cum Laude) in the Department of Automotive Engineering*

Faculty advisor: Prof. Hsin Guan

Thesis Title: "Design a Full-Size Four-wheel-steering and Four-wheel-drive Vehicle"

**Changchun, China**

*2006–2010*

## Academic and Industrial Experience

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2017 – Present    **Assistant Research Scientist**, Michigan Institute for Data Science, Ann Arbor

2017 – Present    **Assistant Research Scientist**, Robotics Institute, University of Michigan

2017 – Present    **Assistant Research Scientist**, Mechanical Engineering, University of Michigan

2016 – 2017    **Postdoctoral Research Fellow**, Transportation Research Institute, Ann Arbor

2011 – 2016    **Research Assistant**, Mechanical Engineering, University of Michigan

May 2012 – Dec 2012 (8 months)    **Design Engineer (Intern)**, Research and Innovation Center, Ford Motor, Dearborn, MI

## Funded Research Projects

My funding mainly comes from automotive industry and the federal government. The following tables list the ongoing or accomplished projects. **I wrote the first proposal drafts for seven out of the eight projects I led as PI or Co-PI and got \$1.29 million funding under my name.** I also have a few proposals currently under review at NSF, Ford, and Toyota as the PI.

**Table I Projects led by me as PI or Co-PI**

Sponsor	Dates	Role	Project title	Budget
Denso	10/1/17-9/30/19	Sole PI	A unified, auto-checking, and self-analyzing data platform for intelligent driving applications	\$198,445
DOE <sup>1</sup>	3/1/17-2/28/20	Project Manager	Integrated power and thermal management for connected and automated vehicles through real-time adaptation and optimization	\$1,600,000
SFMotor	1/1/17-5/10/18	PI	Platform construction and basic function developments for autonomous vehicle	\$150,000
Mcity	5/1/16-12/31/17	PI	Development of evaluation approaches and the certificate system for automated vehicles based on the accelerated evaluation	\$200,000
SAIC <sup>2</sup>	6/1/17-12/31/17	Co-PI	Methodology on Connected and Automated Vehicles Testing and Evaluation based on Accelerated Evaluation Theory	\$118,316
Toyota Research Institute	3/1/17-2/28/19	Co-PI	Development of a "primary other test vehicle" for the testing and evaluation of high-level automated vehicles	\$723,748
Mcity	5/1/16-12/31/17	Co-PI	Towards centimeter accurate localization using low cost GPS: algorithms for data fusing within V2X networks	\$200,000
<b><i>Accomplished Projects</i></b>				
Denso	9/1/16-8/31/17	Co-PI	Development of a simulation tool for AV testing and evaluation	\$83,300
				<b>\$3,273,809</b>

**Table II Projects conducted by me as Research Fellow (RF) or Research Assistant (RA)**

Sponsor	Dates	Role	Project title	Budget
Ford	5/1/16-8/31/18	RF	Accelerated evaluation of automated vehicles	\$200,000
Toyota	5/1/16-12/31/16	RF	Crash avoidance systems safety evaluation of an important class of electronic control systems	\$3,000,000
MTRAC <sup>3</sup>	9/1/14-8/31/15	RA	Computationally efficient and robust design codes for power-split hybrid powertrains	\$20,000
NIOSH <sup>4</sup>	5/1/16-12/31/17	RA	Evaluation of commercial vehicle active safety systems and their effect on truck driver behaviors	\$60,000
Ford	6/1/17-12/31/17	RA	A portable brake control and diagnosis system for stopping distance reduction and braking efficiency assessment	\$200,000
				<b>\$3,480,000</b>

<sup>1</sup> DOE: The United States Department of Energy

<sup>2</sup> SAIC: Shanghai Automotive Industry Corporation

<sup>3</sup> MTRAC: Michigan Translational Research and Commercialization

<sup>4</sup> NIOSH: National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health

## Publication

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### *Journal Papers (In Review)*

\* Corresponding authors.

- [J19] D. Yang\*, J. Kun\*, **D. Zhao\***, C. Yu, C. Zhong, S. Xie, Z. Xiao, X. Jiao, S. Wang, K. Zhang, "Intelligent and Connected Vehicles: Current Status and Future Perspectives", *Science China, Technological Sciences*, (**invited paper**), 2017.
- [J18] W. Wang, **D. Zhao\***, "Extracting Traffic Primitives Directly from Naturalistically Logged Data for Self-Driving Applications," *IEEE Robotics and Automation Letters*, 2017.
- [J17] W. Wang, J. Xi, **D. Zhao\***, "Driving Style Analysis Using Primitive Driving Patterns With Bayesian Nonparametric Approaches," *IEEE Transactions on Intelligent Transportation Systems*, 2017.
- [J16] W. Wang, J. Xi\*, J. K. Hedrick, **D. Zhao\***, "Learning-Based Personalized Driver Model Using Bounded Generalized Gaussian Mixture Method," *IEEE Transactions on Cybernetics*, 2017.
- [J15] M. Shen, J. Sun, H. Peng, **D. Zhao\***, "Improving Localization Accuracy in Connected Vehicle Networks Using Rao-Blackwellized Particle Filters: Theory, Simulations, and Experiments," *IEEE Transactions on Intelligent Transportation Systems*, 2017.
- [J14] W. Wang, J. Xi\*, W. Han, **D. Zhao\***, "A Learning-Based Approach for Lane Departure Warning Systems with a Personalized Driver Model," *IEEE Transactions on Vehicular Technology*, 2017.
- [J13] W. Wang, J. Xi\*, J. K. Hedrick, **D. Zhao\***, "Learning and Inferring a Driver's Brake Action in Car-Following Scenarios," *IEEE Transactions on Vehicular Technology*, 2017.
- [J12] **D. Zhao\***, M. Shen, Y. Guo, B. Chen, W. Wang, "On Modeling Pedestrian Crossing and Its Application in Automated Vehicle Testing", *IEEE Transactions on Intelligent Vehicle*, 2017.

### *Journal Papers (Accepted)*

- [J11] W. Wang, **D. Zhao\***, "Evaluation of Lane Departure Correction Systems Using a Stochastic Driver Model," *IEEE Transactions on Intelligent Vehicle*, 2017.
- [J10] M. Shen, J. Sun, **D. Zhao\***, "The Impact of Road Configuration in V2V-based Cooperative Localization: Mathematical Analysis and Real-world Evaluation," *IEEE Transactions on Intelligent Transportation Systems*, 2017.
- [J9] Z. Huang, H. Lam, D. J. LeBlanc, **D. Zhao\***, "Accelerated Evaluation of Automated Vehicles using Piecewise Mixture Models," *IEEE Transactions on Intelligent Transportation Systems*, 2017.
- [J8] W. Wang, C. Liu, **D. Zhao\***, "How Much Data is Enough? - A Statistical Approach with Case Study on Longitudinal Driving Behavior," *IEEE Transactions on Intelligent Vehicle*, 2017.
- [J7] X. Huang\*, **D. Zhao\***, H. Peng, "Empirical Study of DSRC Performance Based on Safety Pilot Model Deployment Data," *IEEE Transactions on Intelligent Transportation Systems*, 2017.
- [J6] **D. Zhao\***, X. Huang, H. Peng, H. Lam, D. J. LeBlanc, "Accelerated Evaluation of Automated Vehicles in Car-Following Maneuvers," *IEEE Transactions on Intelligent Transportation Systems*, 2017.
- [J5] **D. Zhao\***, H. Lam, H. Peng, D. J. LeBlanc, S. Bao, K. Nobukawa, C. S. Pan, "Accelerated Evaluation of Automated Vehicles Safety in Lane-Change Scenarios Based on Importance Sampling

Techniques," *IEEE Transactions on Intelligent Transportation Systems*, vol. 18, no. 3, pp. 595-607, March 2017.

- [J4] W. Zhuang\*, X. Zhang, **D. Zhao**, H. Peng, L. Wang, "Optimal Design of Three-planetary-gear Power-split Hybrid Powertrains," *International Journal of Automotive Technology*, vol. 17, no. 2, pp. 299-309, Apr. 2016.
- [J3] K. Nobukawa\*, S. Bao, D. J. LeBlanc, **D. Zhao**, H. Peng, C. S. Pan, "Gap Acceptance During Lane Changes by Large-Truck Drivers - An Image-Based Analysis," *IEEE Transactions on Intelligent Transportation Systems*, vol. 17, no. 3, Mar. 2016.
- [J2] **D. Zhao**\*, W. Cui, H. Sun, "The Design and Analysis of Integrated-wheel Drive and Electric Steering Vehicle Traveling mechanism," *Science Technology and Engineering*, vol. 10, no. 19, pp. 4687-4692, 2010.
- [J1] J. Li\*, **D. Zhao**, L. Zhu, J. Liu, "Matching of Velocity Threshold for Vehicle Driving Fuel Economy Control Strategy," *Journal of Jilin University (Engineering and Technology Edition)*, vol. 40, no. 02, pp. 0320-0323, 2010.

### **Conferences Papers (In Review)**

- [C20] Z. Huang, Y. Guo, H. Lam, **D. Zhao**\*, "A Versatile Approach for the Evaluation and Testing of Automated Vehicles based on Kernel Methods," *American Control Conference (ACC)*, June 27-29, Milwaukee, 2018.
- [C19] M. Shen, H. Zhao, J. Sun, **D. Zhao**\*, "Semi-Interpenetrating Cooperative Localization in Connected Vehicle Networks," *IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation (ICRA)*, Brisbane, May 21-25, 2018.
- [C18] Y. Guo, Z. Su, D. Berenson, **D. Zhao**\*, "Kinodynamic-based Aggressive Trajectory Planner For Narrow Passage," *IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation (ICRA)*, Brisbane, May 21-25, 2018.

### **Conferences Papers (Accepted)**

- [C17] **D. Zhao**\*, Y. Guo, Y. J. Jia, "TrafficNet: An Open Naturalistic Driving Scenario Library," *Proceedings of the IEEE 20th International Intelligent Transportation Systems Conference (ITSC)*, Yokohama, Japan, October 16-19, 2017.
- [C16] Z. Huang, H. Lam, **D. Zhao**\*, "Learning the Performances of Intelligent Vehicles with Gaussian Mixture and Monotonicity Information," *Proceedings of the IEEE 20th International Intelligent Transportation Systems Conference (ITSC)*, Yokohama, Japan, October 16-19, 2017.
- [C15] Z. Huang, H. Lam, **D. Zhao**\*, "Towards Affordable On-track Testing for Autonomous Vehicle - A Kriging-based Statistical Approach," *Proceedings of the IEEE 20th International Intelligent Transportation Systems Conference (ITSC)*, Yokohama, Japan, October 16-19, 2017.
- [C14] M. Shen, Jin Sun, **D. Zhao**\*, "Optimization of Vehicle Connections in V2V-based Cooperative Localization," *Proceedings of the IEEE 20th International Intelligent Transportation Systems Conference (ITSC)*, Yokohama, Japan, October 16-19, 2017.
- [C13] Z. Huang\*, H. Lam, **D. Zhao**, "Sequential Experimentation to Evaluate Automated Vehicles," *Winter Simulation Conference (WSC)*, Las Vegas, U.S.A., December 3-6, 2017.
- [C12] X. Wang, **D. Zhao**\*, H. Peng, D. J. LeBlanc, "Analysis and Modeling of Unprotected Intersec-

tion Left-Turn Conflicts based on Naturalistic Driving Data," *IEEE Intelligent Vehicle Symposium (IV)*, Redondo Beach, U.S.A., June 11-14, 2017.

- [C11] **D. Zhao**<sup>\*</sup>, W. Wang, D. J. LeBlanc, "Evaluation of Semi-autonomous Lane Departure Assistant System with Naturalistic Driving Data," *IEEE Intelligent Vehicle Symposium (IV)*, Redondo Beach, U.S.A., June 11-14, 2017.
- [C10] Y. J. Jia, **D. Zhao**<sup>\*</sup>, Qi A. Chen, Z. M. Mao, "Towards Secure and Safe Appified Automated Vehicles," *IEEE Intelligent Vehicle Symposium (IV)*, Redondo Beach, U.S.A., June 11-14, 2017.
- [C9] B. Chen, **D. Zhao**<sup>\*</sup>, H. Peng, "Evaluation of Automated Vehicles Encountering Pedestrians at Unsignalized Crossings," *IEEE Intelligent Vehicle Symposium (IV)*, Redondo Beach, U.S.A., June 11-14, 2017.
- [C8] M. Shen, **D. Zhao**<sup>\*</sup>, J. Sun, "Effect of Road Configurations on GNSS-based Cooperative Localization Using Map Matching," *IEEE 85th Vehicular Technology Conference (VTC)*, Sydney, Australia, June 4-7, 2017.
- [C7] Z. Huang, **D. Zhao**<sup>\*</sup>, H. Lam, D. J. LeBlanc, H. Peng, "Evaluation of Automated Vehicles in the Frontal Cut-in Scenario - an Enhanced Approach using Piecewise Mixture Model," *IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation (ICRA)*, Singapore, May 29-June 3, 2017.
- [C6] W. Wang, **D. Zhao**, J. Xi<sup>\*</sup>, D. J. LeBlanc, J. K. Hedrick, "Development and Evaluation of Two Learning-Based Personalized Driver Models for Car-Following Behaviors," *American Control Conference (ACC)*, Seattle, U.S.A., May 24-26, 2017.
- [C5] M. Shen, **D. Zhao**<sup>\*</sup>, J. Sun, "Enhancement of Low-cost GNSS Localization in Connected Vehicle Networks using Rao-Blackwellized Particle Filters," *Proceedings of the IEEE 19th International Intelligent Transportation Systems Conference (ITSC)*, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, Nov 1-4, 2016.
- [C4] **D. Zhao**<sup>\*</sup>, H. Peng, H. Lam, S. Bao, K. Nobukawa, D. J. LeBlanc, C. S. Pan, "Accelerated Evaluation of Automated Vehicles in Lane Change Scenarios," in *Proceedings of the ASME 2015 Dynamic Systems and Control Conference (DSCC)*, Columbus, U.S.A., Oct 28-30, 2015.
- [C3] **D. Zhao**<sup>\*</sup>, H. Peng, S. Bao, K. Nobukawa, D. J. LeBlanc, C. S. Pan, "Accelerated Evaluation of Automated Vehicles using Extracted Naturalistic Driving Data," *Proceedings of the 24th Symposium of the International Association for Vehicle System Dynamics (IAVSD)*, Graz, Austria, August 17-21, 2015.
- [C2] **D. Zhao**<sup>\*</sup>, H. Peng, K. Nobukawa, S. Bao, D. J. LeBlanc, C. S. Pan, "Analysis of Mandatory and Discretionary Lane Change Behaviors for Heavy Trucks," in *the 14th International Symposium on Advanced Vehicle Control (AVEC)*, Tokyo, Japan, September 22-26, 2014.
- [C1] **D. Zhao**<sup>\*</sup>, H. Sun, and W. Cui, "Research on the Platform Design and Control System for the Wheel-side Steering-driving Coordination Vehicle," in *the 2010 IEEE International Conference on Mechatronics and Automation (ICMA)*, Xi'an, China, August 4-7, 2010.

## Patents/Inventions

- [P7] "Blue Hybrid Software" (45% contribution, under review).
- [P6] CN 101973307 B, Main pin zero bias wire-controlled independent driven and steering automobile running mechanism and electric vehicle.
- [P5] CN 201842130 U, Electromobile and drive-by-wire independent driving and steering automobile

traveling mechanism with zero-offset master pin.

[P4] CN 101648573 B, Automobile traveling mechanism with wheel hub comprehensively drive and turning.

[P3] CN 201494493 U, Vehicle walking mechanism with wheel edge combination driving and steering.

[P2] CN 201198869 Y, Bidirectional bearing.

[P1] CN201187538 Y, Sliding clutch.

## Invited Talks

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**University of California, Berkeley - Mechanical Engineering** **Berkeley, USA**

*"Mapping Cities into Mcity - Develop a Statistically Certified CAV Test Protocol* 11/21/2017  
*Leveraging on Traffic Primitives, Accelerated Evaluation, and Augmented Reality"*

**Stanford University, - Stanford Intelligent Systems Laboratory (SISL)** **Palo Alto, USA**

*"Learning Methods of Rare Events and Its Application on Autonomous Evaluation"* 11/20/2017

**Detroit Chinese Engineers Association** **Troy, USA**

*"Testing and Evaluation of Automated Vehicles"* 11/12/2017

**The 24th World Congress on Intelligent Transport Systems** **Montreal, Canada**

*"Using Traffic Data to Build a Safer and Smarter Transportation"* 11/2/2017

**China Automotive Technology and Research Center** **Tianjin, China**

*"Using Traffic Data to Build a Safer and Smarter Transportation"* 10/20/2017

**National Intelligent Vehicles and Smart Transportation Demo Zone** **Beijing, China**

*"Virtual Testing, On-Road Testing, and Mixed Reality Testing"* 10/20/2017

**Uber** **Pittsburgh, USA**

*"Accelerated Evaluation Methods"* 8/12/2017

**GM** **Webex**

*"Modeling Simulation Environment for the Development and Testing of Automated Vehicles"* 8/11/2017

**GM** **Webex**

*"Towards Zero Crash - The Modern Testing of AVs"* 7/29/2017

**Mcity** **Ann Arbor, USA**

*"White Paper on Accelerated Evaluation"* 7/17/2017

**China Academy of Telecommunication Research** **Beijing, China**

*"Development of Test Scenarios for Connected and Automated Vehicles* 5/17/2017

- Our Work at Mcity"

**Tongji University** **Shanghai, China**

*"Learning the Limitations of Intelligent Agents - a New Accelerated Evaluation Approach"* 4/28/2017

**Shanghai Automotive Industry Corporation** **Shanghai, China**

*"Accelerated Evaluation, Big Naturalistic Driving Data, and How They Work Together for AV Testing"* 4/29/2017

<b>University of Michigan Transportation Institute</b> <i>"OpenCAV: an Open Collaborative Platform for Connected and Autonomous Vehicle Research"</i>	<b>Ann Arbor, USA</b> 4/14/2017
<b>Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory</b> <i>"Building Trust in Connected and Automated Vehicles"</i>	<b>Berkeley, USA</b> 1/12/2017
<b>Tsinghua University</b> <i>"Is an Automated Vehicle Safe? - Evaluation methods of Automated Vehicles"</i>	<b>Beijing, China</b> 7/6/2016
<b>Yutong Bus</b> <i>"Test and Evaluation of Automated Vehicles"</i>	<b>Zhengzhou, China</b> 7/5/2016
<b>Yutong Bus</b> <i>"Cooperative Localization in Connected Vehicle Networks"</i>	<b>Zhengzhou, China</b> 7/5/2016
<b>Baidu</b> <i>"Testing Highly Intelligent Vehicles"</i>	<b>Beijing, China</b> 7/1/2016
<b>University of California, Berkeley - Civil Engineering</b> <i>"Accelerated Evaluation based on Importance Sampling Theory"</i>	<b>Berkeley, USA</b> 5/18/2016

## Awards

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- Best poster awards, 2nd place in UMTRI Transportation Safety Research Symposium, 2015
- Fellowship Award, Mechanical Engineering, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, 2011
- Summa Cum Laude (0.034%), highest honor among 40,000 undergraduate students in Jilin University, 2010
- Honor Student of Changchun City, Changchun city Government, China, 2010
- The Red Flag Scholarship, First Automobile Works Group Corporation, 2010
- National Scholarship, the Ministry of Education of the P.R. of China, 2010
- National Scholarship, the Ministry of Education of the P.R. of China, 2009
- Academic Research Star, Jilin University, 2009
- National Innovation Funds (highest level), "Analysis of dynamics for the next generation electric vehicle", Ministry of Education of the People's Republic of China, 2009
- National Innovation Funds (highest level), "Study on the fuel consumption of a new type of clutch", Ministry of Education of the People's Republic of China, 2007
- 8<sup>th</sup> place in the National Formula SAE competition, Society of Automotive Engineers, 2011.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the National Honda Energy-Saving Sports Tournament, Honda, 2008.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the National Honda Energy-Saving Sports Tournament, Honda, 2007.

## Dissertation Committees (Ph.D.)

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- [Proposal] Yunhan Jack Jia, "Securing Modern Appified Platform through Systematic Program Analysis and Design", Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Sciences, University of Michigan, November 2017
- Zhiyuan Huang, "Learning-based Robust Optimization for Data Integration in Optimization under Uncertainty", Department of Industrial and Operations Engineering, University of Michigan

## Professional Activities

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### Committees and Panels Membership:

- **Technical Program Committee**                      **Dynamic Systems and Control Conference, 2016**  
ASME Committee on Automotive and Transportation Systems  
IEEE Committee on Automotive Controls of the Control Systems Society
- **Technical Program Committee**                      **American Control Conference, 2017**  
ASME Committee on Automotive and Transportation Systems  
IEEE Committee on Automotive Controls of the Control Systems Society

### Reviewer for the Following Journals and Conferences:

- IEEE Transaction on Intelligent Transportation Systems
- IEEE Transaction on Vehicular Technologies
- IEEE Transaction on Intelligent Vehicles
- IEEE Transaction on Industrial Electronics
- IEEE Transaction on Industrial Informatics
- IEEE Transaction on Human-Machine Systems
- IEEE Vehicular Technology Magazine
- IEEE Sensors Journal
- IEEE Intelligent Transportation Systems Conference
- IEEE Vehicular Technology Conference
- IEEE Intelligent Vehicle Symposium
- IET Intelligent Transport Systems
- International Journal of Vehicle Design
- Transportation Research Part C
- Applied Energy
- Traffic Injury Prevention
- Mechatronics



- Simulation Modeling Practice and Theory
- Simulation Modelling Practice and Theory
- ASME Validation and Verification Symposium
- SAE International

## Teaching and Mentorship

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### ***Current Group Members:***

#### **Postdoc**

- Xun Gong, @ME

#### **Ph.D. Students, Co-supervised**

- Zhiyuan Huang, @IOE, with Henry Lam
- Yunhan Jack Jia, @CS, with Morley Mao
- Xinpeng Wang, @ME, with Huei Peng
- Songan Zhang, @ME, with Huei Peng

#### **Master Research Assistants | Independent Study**

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|---------------------|-------------------------------|
| - Yaohui Guo, @Robo | - Xinzhi Fan, @Robo           |
| - Kai Jia, @Robo    | - Sisi Li, @Robo              |
| - Zhaolun Su, @CS   | - Mansur Maturidi Arief, @IOE |
| - Ping Yu, @EE      | - Aditya Ramesh, @EE          |
| - Xiaoshu Liu, @EE  | - Ashish Sajwan, Auto@ME      |
| - Huajing Zhao, @ME | - Weilun Peng, @ME            |
| - Jiacheng Zhu, @ME |                               |

#### **Visiting Students**

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|---------------------------------------|---|
| - Zhaobin Mo, Undergrad@Auto-Tsinghua | - Wenshuo Wang, PhD@ME-BIT  |
| - Zhong Cao, PHD@Auto-Tsinghua        | - Junjie Chen, PhD@Electronic and Information Engineering-Beijing Jiaotong Univ |

### ***Previous Group Members:***

Macheng Shen, Master@UM → PhD@MIT

Xinpeng Wang, Undergrad@Tsinghua → PhD@UM

## References

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