

# Lawrence Yunliang Chen

✉ [yunliang.chen@berkeley.edu](mailto:yunliang.chen@berkeley.edu) • [github.io](https://github.com/yunliangchen) • [in /in/lawrence-yunliang-chen](https://www.linkedin.com/in/lawrence-yunliang-chen) • [Google Scholar](https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=...)

## ■ Research Interests

Multimodal LLM, Robot Learning & Manipulation, Computer Agents

## ■ Education

### University of California, Berkeley

*Ph.D. Industrial Engineering & Operations Research* (Advisor: **Ken Goldberg**)

Berkeley, CA

Aug 2020 – May 2025

*M.S. Electrical Engineering & Computer Sciences*

Aug 2024 – May 2025

- GPA: **4.00/4.00**; **NSF Graduate Research Fellow**
- Selected graduate coursework: Deep RL (A+), Robotic Manipulation (A+), Computer Vision (A+), DNNs (A+), NLP (A), Graphics (A), Parallel Computing (A), Computer Architecture (A+), Security (A+), Linear/Nonlinear Optimization (A+/A+), Stochastic Processes (A+), Network Flows and Graphs (A+), Financial Engineering (A+), Supply Chain Management (A+)

### University of California, Los Angeles

*B.S. Applied Mathematics & Statistics (Summa Cum Laude)*

Los Angeles, CA

Sept 2016 – Jun 2020

- GPA: **4.00/4.00**
- Relevant courses: Linear Algebra (A+), Real/Complex Analysis (Honors) (A+/A+), Numerical Analysis (A+), Stochastic Processes (A+), Algorithms (A+), Mathematical Modeling (A+), Mathematical Statistics (A), Computational Statistics (A+), Data Mining (A+), Monte Carlo Methods (A+), Statistical Consulting (A+)

### Summer School (scholarship funded): University of Southern Denmark

*Robotics & Entrepreneurship* (Grade: 12/12 (Denmark 7-point grading scale))

Odense, Denmark

Summer 2022

### Summer School: London School of Economics and Political Science

*Intermediate Microeconomics* (A+)

London, UK

Summer 2017

## ■ Research & Industry Experience

### OpenAI

*Member of Technical Staff*

San Francisco, CA

May 2025 – Present

- Post-Training Research (ChatGPT Agent)

### NVIDIA

*Robotics Research Intern*

Seattle, WA & Santa Clara, CA

Jun 2024 – May 2025

- Investigated sim-and-real co-training; accepted by RSS'25.

### Cigna Corporation

*Financial Planning and Analysis Intern*

Bloomfield, CT

Jun 2019 – Aug 2019

- Automated financial reporting templates; identified business drivers and proposed improvement opportunities to senior management

### Pacific Life Insurance Company

*Risk Management Intern*

Newport Beach, CA

Jun 2018 – Aug 2018

- Built option/swap pricing tool; generated economic scenarios for the valuation team; trained lapse-prediction model

## ■ Selected Publications

[19] **OXE-AugE: A Large-Scale Robot Augmentation of OXE for Scaling Cross-Embodiment Policy Learning** Preprint

G. Ji\*, H. Polavaram\*, **L. Y. Chen\***, S. Bajamahal, Z. Ma, S. Adebola, C. Xu, K. Goldberg

[arXiv:2512.13100](https://arxiv.org/abs/2512.13100)

[18] **Sim-and-Real Co-Training: A Simple Recipe for Vision-Based Robotic Manipulation** RSS 2025

A. Maddukuri\*, Z. Jiang\*, **L. Y. Chen\***, S. Nasiriany\*, Y. Xie, Y. Fang, W. Huang, Z. Wang, Z. Xu, N. Chernyadev, S. Reed, K. Goldberg, A. Mandlekar, L. Fan, Y. Zhu

[arXiv:2503.24361](https://arxiv.org/abs/2503.24361)

[17] **In-Context Imitation Learning via Next-Token Prediction**

ICRA 2025

L. Fu\*, H. Huang\*, G. Datta\*, **L. Y. Chen**, W. C.-H. Panitch, F. Liu, H. Li, K. Goldberg

[arXiv:2408.15980](https://arxiv.org/abs/2408.15980)

- [16] **Robo-DM: Efficient Robot Big Data Management** ICRA 2025  
K. Chen, L. Fu, D. Huang, Y. Zhang, **L. Y. Chen**, H. Huang, K. Hari, A. Balakrishna, P. R. Sanketi, J. Kubiatowicz, K. Goldberg (**Best Paper on Robot Learning**) arXiv:2505.15558
- [15] **RoVi-Aug: Robot and Viewpoint Augmentation for Cross-Embodiment Robot Learning** CoRL 2024  
**L. Y. Chen\***, C. Xu\*, K. Dharmarajan, Z. Irshad, R. Cheng, K. Keutzer, M. Tomizuka, Q. Vuong, K. Goldberg (**Oral (4.3%)**) arXiv:2409.03403
- [14] **Mirage: Cross-Embodiment Zero-Shot Policy Transfer with Cross-Painting** RSS 2024  
**L. Y. Chen\***, K. Hari\*, K. Dharmarajan\*, C. Xu, Q. Vuong, K. Goldberg arXiv:2402.19249
- [13] **DROID: A Large-Scale In-The-Wild Robot Manipulation Dataset** RSS 2024  
A. Khazatsky\*, K. Pertsch\*, **incl. L. Y. Chen**, *et al.* arXiv:2403.12945
- [12] **Octo: An Open-Source Generalist Robot Policy** RSS 2024  
D. Ghosh\*, H. R. Walke\*, K. Pertsch\*, **incl. L. Y. Chen**, *et al.* arXiv:2405.12213
- [11] **Open X-Embodiment: Robotic Learning Datasets and RT-X Models** ICRA 2024  
**Open X-Embodiment Collaboration (incl. L. Y. Chen) (Best Paper)** arXiv:2310.08864
- [10] **Language Embedded Radiance Fields for Zero-Shot Task-Oriented Grasping** CoRL 2023  
A. Rashid\*, S. Sharma\*, C. M. Kim, J. Kerr, **L. Y. Chen**, A. Kanazawa, K. Goldberg (**Oral (6.6%), Best Paper/Best Student Paper Finalist**) arXiv:2309.07970
- [9] **Semantic Mechanical Search with Large Vision and Language Models** CoRL 2023  
S. Sharma\*, H. Huang\*, K. Shivakumar, **L. Y. Chen**, R. Hoque, B. Ichter, K. Goldberg arXiv:2302.12915
- [8] **Bagging by Learning to Singulate Layers Using Interactive Perception** IROS 2023  
**L. Y. Chen**, B. Shi, R. Lin, D. Seita, A. Ahmad, R. Cheng, T. Kollar, D. Held, K. Goldberg (**Best Industrial Robotics Finalist**) arXiv:2303.16898
- [7] **AutoBag: Learning to Open Plastic Bags and Insert Objects** ICRA 2023  
**L. Y. Chen**, B. Shi, D. Seita, R. Cheng, T. Kollar, D. Held, K. Goldberg arXiv:2210.17217
- [6] **Fleet-Dagger: Interactive Robot Fleet Learning with Scalable Human Supervision** CoRL 2022  
R. Hoque, **L. Y. Chen**, S. Sharma, K. Dharmarajan, B. Thananjeyan, P. Abbeel, K. Goldberg (**Oral (6.5%)**) arXiv:2206.14349
- [5] **Efficiently Learning Single-Arm Fling Motions to Smooth Garments** ISRR 2022  
**L. Y. Chen\***, H. Huang\*, E. Novoseller, D. Seita, J. Ichnowski, M. Laskey, R. Cheng, T. Kollar, K. Goldberg arXiv:2206.08921
- [4] **Optimal Shelf Arrangement to Minimize Robot Retrieval Time** CASE 2022  
**L. Y. Chen**, H. Huang, M. Danielczuk, J. Ichnowski, K. Goldberg (**Best Student Paper Finalist**) arXiv:2206.08607
- [3] **Real2Sim2Real: Self-Supervised Learning of Physical Single-Step Dynamic Actions for Planar Robot Casting** ICRA 2022  
V. Lim\*, H. Huang\*, **L. Y. Chen**, J. Wang, J. Ichnowski, D. Seita, M. Laskey, K. Goldberg arXiv:2111.04814
- [2] **Understanding and Mitigating Annotation Bias in Facial Expression Recognition** ICCV 2021  
**Y. Chen**, J. Joo arXiv:2108.08504
- [1] **A Multi-Chamber Smart Suction Cup for Adaptive Gripping and Haptic Exploration** IROS 2021  
T. M. Huh, K. Sanders, M. Danielczuk, M. Li, **Y. Chen**, K. Goldberg, H. S. Stuart arXiv:2105.02345

## ■ Invited Talks

- **Towards More Generalizable Robot Policies** — Tsinghua Embodied AI Lab Reading Group Oct 2024

- **Bagging by Learning to Singulate Layers Using Interactive Perception** — Bay Area Robotics Symposium Oct 2023
- **Combining Pre-Approval Clinical Trials and Post-Approval Spontaneous Adverse Event Reporting for Improved Safety Signaling** — INFORMS Annual Meeting Oct 2021; INFORMS Healthcare Aug 2021

## ■ Honors & Awards

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- **NSF Graduate Research Fellowship** 2022–2025
  - **Grassi Fellowship** (Berkeley IEOR endowed PhD fellowship; one awardee/year) 2023–2024
  - **Katta G. Murty Prize for Best Paper in Optimization** 2023
  - **Scholarship** — International Elite Summer School in Robotics & Entrepreneurship 2022
  - **Chiang Fellowship for Graduate Scholars in Manufacturing and Engineering** (Berkeley IEOR Departmental Fellowship) 2020 – 2021

## ■ Teaching

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- IEOR 262A, 263A (Graduate): Stochastics and Optimization** *UC Berkeley*  
*Tutor for first-year PhD students* 2023 – 2024
  - IEOR 215 (Graduate): Analysis and Design of Databases** *UC Berkeley*  
*Graduate Student Instructor* Spring 2022

## ■ Academic Service

### Workshop Organizer

**ICRA 2025:** Reflections on Representations and Manipulating Deformable Objects

**CoRL 2024:** X-Embodiment Robot Learning

**ICRA 2024:** Representing and Manipulating Deformable Objects

**Conference Reviewer:** ICRA, IROS, CoRL

**Journal Reviewer:** IJRR, T-ASE, T-RO, RA-L, TPAMI, IJCV, Neurocomputing, THRI, TIP

**Application Reviewer:** UC Berkeley Master of Analytics program (2023)

**BAIR Social Media (Volunteer Manager):**

Managed Twitter/LinkedIn/Facebook (~130K+ followers) (2024)

## ■ Technical Skills

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**Programming:** Python, C/C++, Java, ROS, R, MATLAB, Mathematica.

## ■ Test Scores

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**GRE:** 169Q, 165V, 4.5AW | **GRE Math Subject:** 940 (99%)

## ■ Other

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**Interests:** UCLA Symphony (Violinist), 2016–2018.