

Vitchyr Pong

750 Sutardja Dai Hall

Desk 90

☎ Contact: 919-279-5683

✉ vitchyr@gmail.com

🌐 <https://people.eecs.berkeley.edu/~vitchyr/>

Education

2016 – Now **UC Berkeley**, Berkeley, CA, USA

Ph.D. Student, Computer Science, Advisor: *Prof. Sergey Levine*

Research: Deep Reinforcement Learning, Robotics

2012 – 2016 **Cornell University**, Ithaca, NY, USA

B.S. Majors (Double): Computer Science, Electrical & Computer Engineering,
Advisors: *Prof. Ross Knepper*, *Prof. Hadas Kress-Gazit*

Research: Verifiable Robotics, Computer Vision

GPA: 4.11, Summa Cum Laude, Dean's list all semesters

Selected Publications

- NeurIPS 2018 Ashvin Nair*, **Vitchyr Pong***, Murtaza Dalal, Shikhar Bahl, Steven Lin, Sergey Levine. Visual Reinforcement Learning with Imagined Goals. Neural Information Processing Systems. 2018.
- ICRA 2018 Tuomas Haarnoja, **Vitchyr Pong**, Aurick Zhou, Murtaza Dalal, Pieter Abbeel, Sergey Levine. Composable Deep Reinforcement Learning for Robotic Manipulation. International Conference on Robotics and Automation. 2018.
- ICLR 2018 **Vitchyr Pong***, Shixiang Gu*, Murtaza Dalal, Sergey Levine. Temporal Difference Models: Model-Free Deep RL for Model-Based Control. International Conference on Learning Representations. 2018.
- ICRA 2016 Spyros Maniatopoulos, Philipp Schillinger, **Vitchyr Pong**, David C. Conner, and Hadas Kress-Gazit. Reactive High-level Behavior Synthesis for an ATLAS. IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation conference. 2016
- ALEA 2015 Sam R. Magura, **Vitchyr Pong**, Rick Durrett, and David Sivakoff. Two evolving social network models. ALEA, Lat. Am. J. Probab. Math. Stat. 12 (2), 713-729 (2015).

Other Work

- arXiv 2017 Gregory Kahn, Adam Villaflor, **Vitchyr Pong**, Pieter Abbeel, Sergey Levine. Uncertainty-Aware Reinforcement Learning for Collision Avoidance. arXiv:1702.01182
- ICML Workshop 2017 **Vitchyr Pong**, Shixiang Gu, Sergey Levine. Learning Long-term Dependencies with Deep Memory States. Lifelong Learning: A Reinforcement Learning Approach Workshop, International Conference on Machine Learning. 2017.
- Broad Street Scientific 2012 Sam R. Magura, **Vitchyr Pong**, Elliot Cartee, and Kevin Valakuzhy. Chomp the Graph. Broad Street Scientific. 2012.

Work Experience

- Summer 2016 **Google Research**, *Software Engineering Intern*, Mountain View, CA, United States. Developed deep learning technologies with Research and Machine Intelligence team.
- Summer 2014 **Facebook**, *Software Engineering Intern*, Palo Alto, CA, United States. Developed infrastructure to scale Internet.org.
- Winter 2013 – Spring 2014 **saund**, *Cofounder and CTO*, Ithaca, NY, United States. Developed circuit and software for a prototype of mind controlled headphones.
- Summer 2013 **Moody's Analytics**, *Software Engineering Intern*, New York, NY, United States. Developed automatic notification system.

Teaching Experience

- Spring 2017 **UC Berkeley**, *Graduate Student Instructor*.
CS188: Artificial Intelligence
- Fall 2015 **Cornell University**, *Teaching Assistant*.
CS 4780/5780: Machine Learning

Awards and Grants

- 2018 Huawei Fellowship.
- 2017 Honorable Mention: Graduate Research Fellowship Program, National Science Foundation.
- 2017 Huawei Fellowship.
- 2016 Honorable Mention: Graduate Research Fellowship Program, National Science Foundation.

- 2016 Jonathan E. Marx Memorial Senior Prize, Computer Science Department, Cornell University (two per graduating class).
- 2015 Engineering Learning Initiatives Student Grant, Cornell University.

Technical Skills

Programming Languages
(Proficient)

Programming Languages
(Experienced)

Libraries and Tools PyTorch, TensorFlow, NumPy, MuJoCo, ROS, git, Mercurial, LaTeX, VIM, bash, fish, Linux

Services

Reviewers 2019: ICML
2018: ICLR, ICRA, AAAI, RA-L
2017: RA-L