DINGQI ZHANG PH.D. CANDIDATE

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EDUCATION

University of California, Berkeley

Berkeley, CA

Ph.D. in Control and Robotics

Aug 2021 - May 2026 (expected)

- Advisor: Prof. Mark W. Mueller, Prof. Jitendra Malik
- Research area: Adaptive Control for Aerial Vehicles

Cornell University

Ithaca, NY

B.S. in Computer Science and Mechanical Engineering

Aug 2017 - May 2021

• GPA: 4.00, Summa Cum Laude

EXPERIENCE

Robotics and AI Institute (formerly Boston Dynamics AI Institute)

Boston, MA

Research Intern

June 2025 - Aug 2025 (expected)

University of California, Berkeley

Berkeley, CA

Graduate Researcher

Aug 2021 - present

The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Hong Kong

Visting Researcher, advised by Prof. Ben M. Chen

May 2024 - July 2024

Zipline International Inc.

South San Francisco, CA May 2023 - Aug 2023

Engineer Intern

PUBLICATIONS

- 1. D. Zhang, J. Tang, T.-H. Wang, J. Malik, and M. W. Mueller, "A learning-based quad-copter controller with extreme adaptation," arXiv preprint arXiv:2409.12949, 2024. (Accepted by *IEEE Transactions on Robotics (T-RO)* in April 2025)
- 2. R. Zhang, D. Zhang, M. W. Mueller, "ProxFly: Robust Control for Close Proximity Quadcopter Flight via Residual Reinforcement Learning," in 2025 IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation (ICRA), IEEE, 2025
- 3. D. Zhang, A. Loquercio, X. Wu, A. Kumar, J. Malik, and M. W. Mueller, "Learning a single near-hover position controller for vastly different quadcopters," in 2023 IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation (ICRA), IEEE, 2023, pp. 1263–1269

Ignite Grant, the Jacobs Institute Innovation Catalysts, UC Berkeley

Top 3% award for advanced student-led design and technology projects.

Jan 2024

Fellowship and Grant

Spark Grant, the Jacobs Institute Innovation Catalysts, UC Berkeley

Top 7% award for early-stage innovative ideas in design and technology. Sept 2023

Graduate Division Block Grant Award, UC Berkeley

Fellowship recognizing academic excellence and research potential. Aug 2021

Reviewer for:

Academic Service

Journals: IEEE Transactions on Robotics (T-RO), IEEE Robotics and Automation Letters (RA-L), IEEE/ASME Transactions on Mechatronics (TMECH)

Conferences: Robotics: Science and Systems (RSS), International Conference on Robotics and Automation (ICRA), International Conference on Intelligent Robots and Systems (IROS)

Educational Activities	Teaching Assistant, ME136/236 Dynamics and Control of Autonomous Flight, UC Berkeley	Fall 2024
	Teaching Assistant, Master of Future Energy Systems and Technology degree program, jointly by Dubai Electricity and Water Authority (DEWA) and UC Berkeley	Jan 2023 - Sept 2024
	Teaching Assistant, ME136/236 Dynamics and Control of Autonomous Flight, UC Berkeley	Fall 2023
Invited Speaker	keynote: A Learning-based Quadcopter Controller for Extreme Adaptation, Control Seminar, UC Berkeley	Apr 2025
	poster and keynote: Bay Area Robotics Symposium, UC Berkeley	Oct 2024
	Presentation at Prof. Ben M. Chen's group, Chinese University of Hong Kong	July 2024
	Presentation at the Intelligent Positioning and Navigation Laboratory, Hong Kong Polytechnic University	July 2024
	poster and keynote: Bay Area Robotics Symposium, UC Berkeley	Oct 2022
Media Coverage	IEEE Spectrum, Video Friday: Your weekly selection of awesome robot [link]	Oct 4, 2024