

# Kevin Yuanbo Wu

Last updated: June 2026

📍 New York, NY | ✉ [k.wu@nyu.edu](mailto:k.wu@nyu.edu) | 🌐 [kevinwu.github.io](https://kevinwu.github.io) | 🎓 [Google Scholar](#) | 🗣 [KevinYWu](#) | 🔗 [LinkedIn](#)

## Education

---

<b>New York University</b> <i>PhD in Computer Science, Courant Institute of Mathematical Sciences</i> <i>Advisor: Lerrel Pinto</i>	Sept. 2025 – Present GPA: 4.00/4.00 <i>DoD NDSEG Fellowship</i>
<b>University of Chicago</b> <i>BS in Computational &amp; Applied Mathematics, MS in Computer Science</i> <i>Advisor: Matthew Walter</i>	Sept. 2020 – June 2024 GPA: 3.95/4.00 <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>

## Awards

---

<b>DoD NDSEG Fellowship</b> – One of ten recipients in Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning	2025 – 2028
<b>NYU Henry M. MacCracken Doctoral Fellowship</b> – Covers full tuition and stipend for five years	2025 – 2030
<b>Enrico Fermi Scholar</b> – Top 5% of Physical Sciences Division at UChicago	2023 – 2024
<b>Dean’s List</b> – Awarded after each year of undergraduate study	2021 – 2024
<b>Robert Maynard Hutchins Scholar</b> – Top 10% of class at UChicago	2022

## Publications

---

† denotes equal contribution; ‡ denotes equal advising.

- Human Universal Grasping**  
Kevin Yuanbo Wu, Tianxing Zhou, Isaac Tu, Billy Yan, Irmak Guzey, David Fouhey, Dandan Shan<sup>†</sup>, Lerrel Pinto<sup>‡</sup>  
*arXiv Preprint, 2026*  
[arXiv](#) | [Website](#) | [Code](#)
- Contact-Anchored Policies: Contact Conditioning Creates Strong Robot Utility Models**  
Zichen Jeff Cui, Omar Rayyan, Haritheja Etukuru, . . . , Kevin Yuanbo Wu, . . . , Soumith Chintala, Lerrel Pinto, Nur Muhammad Mahi Shafiullah (19 authors)  
*Robotics: Science and Systems (RSS), 2026*  
[arXiv](#) | [Website](#) | [Code](#)
- PROGRESSOR: A Perceptually Guided Reward Estimator with Self-Supervised Online Refinement**  
Tewodros W. Ayalew, Xiao Zhang<sup>†</sup>, Kevin Yuanbo Wu<sup>†</sup>, Tianchong Jiang, Michael Maire, Matthew R. Walter  
*International Conference on Computer Vision (ICCV), 2025*  
[arXiv](#) | [Website](#) | [Code](#)
- EMERGENET: A Digital Twin of Sequence Evolution for Scalable Emergence Risk Assessment of Animal Influenza A Strains**  
Kevin Yuanbo Wu, Jin Li, Aaron Esser-Kahn, Ishanu Chattopadhyay  
*arXiv Preprint, 2024*  
[arXiv](#) | [Website](#) | [Code](#)

## Invited Talks

---

<b>Meta Research Summit for Egocentric Intelligence</b> – “Human Universal Grasping”	July 2026
<b>LG AI Research</b> – “Human Universal Grasping”	July 2026
<b>Global AI Frontier Lab Workshop</b> – “Human Universal Grasping”	July 2026

## Experience

---

<b>General-purpose Robotics and AI Lab (GRAIL), NYU</b> <i>Advisor: Lerrel Pinto</i> Dexterous multi-fingered robotic manipulation via learning from humans and reinforcement learning.	Sept. 2025 – Present
<b>MathWorks</b> <i>Software Engineer (Full-time &amp; Intern)</i> Robotics Systems Toolbox team, Simscape Multibody team, Deep Learning Compression team.	June 2022 – Sept. 2025

**Robotic Intelligence through Perception Lab (RIPL), TTIC** Mar. 2024 – Sept. 2024  
*Advisor: Matthew Walter*  
Self-supervised dense visual reward learning for goal-conditioned reinforcement learning.

**Zero Knowledge Discovery Lab (ZeD), UChicago Medicine** Nov. 2021 – Mar. 2024  
*Advisor: Ishanu Chattopadhyay*  
Machine learning for pandemic emergence risk assessment of zoonotic influenza strains.

## Teaching

---

**Toyota Technological Institute (TTIC)** June 2024 – Aug. 2024  
*Lead Instructor, Robotic Manipulation*  
Designed and taught a six-week, hands-on robotic manipulation course for high-school interns from underrepresented communities, in which they built and programmed a 5-DOF robotic arm to autonomously play tic-tac-toe.

**University of Chicago** Sept. 2023 – Mar. 2024  
*Course Grader*  
MPCS 50103 Discrete Mathematics (96 students); CMSC 27200 Theory of Algorithms (180 students)

## Research Mentoring

---

**Tianxing Zhou** – BS, Tsinghua University, IIIS 2026 – Present  
**Isaac Tu** – BS, New York University 2025 – Present