

Yajat Yadav

PERSONAL INFORMATION

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Google Scholar	📖 Yajat Yadav
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EDUCATION

The University of Texas at Austin

2026 – Expected 2030

Ph.D., Computer Science

- First-year Ph.D. Student studying reinforcement learning algorithms and robot learning, advised by Prof. Amy Zhang and Prof. Peter Stone
- NSF GRFP Fellowship
- UT Computer Science Chair's Strategic Fellowship

University of California, Berkeley

2022 – 2026

B.S., Electrical Engineering and Computer Sciences; GPA: 4.0 / 4.0

- Advised by Prof. Sergey Levine, researched reinforcement learning and robot learning.
- Selected EECS Coursework (**A+ in bold**, Grad classes underlined): Computer Vision, Learning Theory, **Convex Optimization**, Deep Reinforcement Learning, **Machine Learning**, **Optimization Methods**, Computational Photography, Combinatorial Algorithms, Signal Processing, Controls, Operating Systems, Computer Architecture
- Selected Math Coursework (**A+ in bold**): **Probability Theory and Random Processes**, Abstract Algebra, **Abstract Linear Algebra**, **Discrete Math**, **Multivariable Calculus**
- Eta Kappa Nu (EECS Honor Society), Machine Learning @ Berkeley, Neurotech @ Berkeley

PUBLICATIONS AND PREPRINTS

Robust Fine-tuning of Vision-Language-Action Robot Policies via Parameter Merging 📄 2025

Yajat Yadav, Zhiyuan Zhou, Andrew Wagenmaker, Karl Pertsch, Sergey Levine
International Conference on Learning Representations (ICLR) 2026

ONG: Orthogonal Natural Gradient Descent 📄 2025

Yajat Yadav, Patrick Mendoza, Jathin Korrapati
Poster at NeurIPS 2025: Non-Euclidean Foundation Models and Geometric Learning Workshop, Class Project

VROOM: Visual Reconstruction over Onboard Multiview 📄 2025

Yajat Yadav, Varun Bharadwaj, Tanish Baranwal, Jathin Korrapati
Preprint, Class Project

Agent-Based Modeling for Patient-Centered Clinical Decision Support in Neuro-oncology 📄 2024

Eduardo Rodriguez Almaraz, Brenda Miao, **Yajat Yadav**, J de Groot, J Young, A Vo, A Butte, B S Mitchel, D Raleigh, N Butowski, Ahmed Alaa
Neuro-Oncology, Volume 26 Supplement 5

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

Robotic AI and Learning (RAIL) Lab, UC Berkeley

Aug 2024 - Jun 2026

Undergrad Researcher

- Working with Prof. Sergey Levine on robot learning, foundation models, Vision-Language-Action models (VLA), and reinforcement learning.
- Developed a generalizable finetuning technique to robustly extend robot foundation models to unseen tasks, first-author publication at ICLR 2026.
- Experimented with self-distillation, scaling test-time compute, and reasoning models for planning in long-horizon robotics tasks.
- Researched multi-task reinforcement learning algorithms for VLA steering and adaptation.

Center for Computational Biology, UC Berkeley

Jan 2024 - Jul 2024

Undergrad Researcher

- Worked with Prof. Yun Song on utilizing deep learning in various genomics tasks.
- Designed a machine-learning based approach for choosing DNA primers to serve in HIV genome selective amplification experiments.
- Developed multimodal deep network utilizing DNA sequence, structure, and taxonomy to predict plasmids' origins of transfer.
- Collaborated with biologists to experimentally validate predicted plasmid sites.

Computational Precision Health, UCSF

Jan 2023 - Dec 2023

Undergrad Researcher

- Worked with Prof. Ahmed Alaa on NLP for clinical-decision-making in oncology.
- Developed domain-specific LLM agents to simulate clinical decision-making scenarios in neurooncology diagnosis, management, and treatment.
- Worked with several independent UCSF clinicians to incorporate domain knowledge and validate our method in real clinical settings.

Ley Lab, La Jolla Institute for Immunology

Jun 2021 - Nov 2021

High School Researcher

- Researched immune cell migration to inflammation sites.
- Analyzed gene expression data from millions of cells, as well as clinical data from 15+ hospitals, to identify predictive features of immune cell mobility.

INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE

Amazon Web Services

May 2024 - Aug 2024

Software Engineering Intern

- Developed AWS service for efficient propagation of AWS Orgs information through thousands of worldwide servers.

- Created a client-side library and algorithm for dynamically adjusting network requests, helping reduce 84% of timeout errors.
- Optimized service performance with distributed load testing, ensuring the service was robust to millions of requests/sec.

Borde. Inc.

May 2023 - Aug 2023

Machine Learning Engineering Intern

- A company working on ML-based, high-volume inspection and sorting of various crops.
- Implemented object detection CV models for real-time classification of various crops during machine processing (100+ unit/s).
- Coded a full-stack, websocket-based web app for streamlining the end-to-end process of labeling crop samples for sorting, configuring model training, and deploying/monitoring models at edge devices across 10+ farms.

TEACHING

Teaching Assistant

Spring 2025

EECS 126: Probability and Random Processes, UC Berkeley

Tutor + Reader

Fall 2024, Spring 2024

EE 120: Signals and Systems, UC Berkeley

Academic Intern

Fall 2023, Summer 2023

CS 70: Discrete Math and Probability Theory, UC Berkeley

Academic Intern

Summer 2023

CS 61B: Data Structures, UC Berkeley

Academic Intern

Spring 2023

CS 61A: Structure & Interpretation of Computer Programs, UC Berkeley

PROJECTS

Project Manager, Beagle Technology

Spring 2025

Machine Learning @ Berkeley

- Led a group of developers to prototype an RL-based method for handling agricultural tasks like precision cutting for Beagle Technology

Wetware Computing

Spring 2024

Neurotech @ Berkeley

- Reproducing the DishBrain experiment by culturing neurons and using reinforcement learning with electrical stimulation to teach them simple games like Pong.
- Wrote programs for encoding/decoding electrical signals and interfacing with an OpenAI Gym environment, enabling bidirectional communication with the neurons.

Clarity Dashboard
Neurotech @ Berkeley

Spring 2023

- Developed a React app for neurotechnology company Clarity. Features include secure storage of sensitive information, patient dashboard and live EEG session analytics.

Neural Focus Drviving
Neurotech @ Berkeley

Fall 2022

- Utilized Brainflow and MNE libraries to process raw EEG data in order to compute a running focus metric used to drive a RC car just by thinking.

HONORS AND AWARDS

NSF Graduate Research Fellowship	2026
UT Computer Science Chair's Strategic Fellowship	2026
EECS Evergreen Undergraduate Research Award	2025
EECS Evergreen Undergraduate Research Award	2024
Dean's List (4 semesters)	2022 - 2024
Honors to Date (5 semesters)	2022 - 2025
Eta Kappa Nu EECS Honor Society	2023
US Presidential Scholar Candidate	2022
Top 8 in Nation, USA Biology Olympiad	2020
Top 50 in Nation, USA Biology Olympiad	2021
Gold Medal, British Biology Olympiad	2021, 2020
Gold Medal, iGEM (Intl. Genetically Engineered Machine) Research Competition	2020

SERVICE

Eta Kappa Nu
Department Relations Head

Fall 2025

- Providing department tours to prospective high schoolers interested in UC Berkeley EECS.
- Working with the EECS department to host town halls, infosessions, & advising hours.

Machine Learning @ Berkeley
Education Committee Member

Spring 2026, Fall 2025

- Helping run a student-led UC Berkeley course and an ML workshop for local high school students.

Eta Kappa Nu

Spring 2025, Fall 2024, Spring 2024, Fall 2023

Professional Development Officer

- Organized events like graduate school panel, company infosessions, etc. to connect the EECS community with professional opportunities.

- Provided career-related services like reviewing resumes, conducting mock interviews, and connecting students with industry mentors.

SKILLS

<i>Languages</i>	Python, Java, C++, C, Rust, Ruby, TypeScript, MATLAB, R, HTML/CSS, Bash, SQL, RISC-V, x86
<i>Machine Learning</i>	Jax/Flax, PyTorch, Tensorflow, OpenCV, SciPy, Hugging Face, Weights & Biases
<i>Web Development</i>	Reactt, Express.js, Django, Spring, JUnit, Mockito, Ruby on Rails
<i>Dev Tools</i>	Docker, Azure, AWS (EC2, S3, Lambda, CloudWatch), GitLab, Kubernetes, PostgreSQL, Berkeley DB