Fangqiang Ding

Room 3.20, Bayes Centre, 47 Potterrow, Edinburgh, United Kingdom

EDUCATION

University of Edinburgh
PhD Student in Robotics and Autonomous SystemsEdinburgh, UK
2021/09 - Present• Supervisor: Dr. Chris Xiaoxuan Lu (Associate Professor @ University College London)-• Scholarship: EPSRC CDT-RAS PhD FellowshipBeijing, China
2020/08 - 2020/09• Advisor: Dr. Geng Lu (Associate Professor @ Department of Automation)-• Tongji University
BEng in Mechanical EngineeringShanghai, China
2017/09 - 2021/07

- GPA: 4.73/5.0 (equivalent to 92.3/100, ranking: 2/130)
- Scholarship: 2 × National Scholarship (top 1%, Year 2017-8 & 2018-9)
- Award: Academic Stars in Tongji (top 10 from all undergraduates)
- Supervisor: Dr. Changhong Fu (Associate Professor @ School of Mechanical Engineering)

RESEARCH INTERESTS

4D Automotive Radar, Autonomous Driving, Mobile Robotics, Embodied AI, VR/AR

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

MAPS Lab, University of Edinburgh

PhD Student, Supervisor: Dr. Chris Xiaoxuan Lu

• 4D Automotive Radar-enabled Mobile Autonomy

- Exploit multi-level 4D radar data representation, e.g., radar tensor and point cloud, to improve the perception redundancy, robustness and efficiency onboard autonomous vehicles.
- Develop bespoke algorithms to support various 4D radar-based tasks, e.g., moving object detection, segmentation and tracking, 3D occupancy prediction, scene flow estimation and odometry.

• Privacy-aware Human Behaviour Recognition

- Enhance the performance of mmWave-based human sensing tasks, e.g., activity recognition, human parsing and body part tracking by learning scene flow estimation on imaging radar point clouds.
- Build a complete benchmark for human body reconstruction from different types of mmWave data representations, i.e., ADC samples, radar tensor and radar point cloud.

• Egocentric Hand Pose and Action Analysis with Thermal Image

- Investigate using thermal images for first-person two-hand pose estimation and action recognition.
- Develop a benchmark for the above task and evaluate state-of-the-art RGB(D) image-based methods.

UAV Lab, Tsinghua University

Visiting Student, Advisor: Dr. Geng Lu

• Monocular UAV Indoor Self-Localization

- Apply visual object trackers to UAV indoor self-localization under air-ground robot coordination.

Vision4Robotics Group, Tongji University	
Research Student, Supervisor: Dr. Changhong F	u

• Efficient and Robust UAV Visual Object Tracking

 Present novel algorithms to solve task-specific issues in UAV visual object tracking, such as background distractor, temporal incontinuity, adversarial attack, and darkness, without sacrificing the real-time performance on CPUs by using correlation filter-based approaches.

FEATURED PAPERS (* indicates equal contribution.)

[p1] **Fangqiang Ding***, Zhijun Pan*, Haotao Zhong*, Chris Xiaoxuan Lu. "Moving Object Detection and Tracking with 4D Radar Point Cloud" accepted by *ICRA*, 2024. [paper]

[p2] **Fangqiang Ding**, Zhen Luo, Peijun Zhao, Chris Xiaoxuan Lu. "milliFlow: Scene Flow Estimation on mmWave Radar Point Cloud for Human Motion Sensing" in submission to top-tier conference, 2024. [paper]

Beijing, China 2020/08 - 2020/09

Edinburgh, UK

2021/09 - Present

Shanghai, China 2019/05 - 2021/06 [p3] **Fangqiang Ding**, Andras Palffy, Dariu M. Gavrila, Chris Xiaoxuan Lu. "Hidden Gems: 4D Radar Scene Flow Learning Using Cross-Modal Supervision" in *CVPR*, 2023 (top 10% Highlight). [paper] [code]

[p4] **Fangqiang Ding**, Zhijun Pan, Yimin Deng, Jianning Deng, Chris Xiaoxuan Lu. "Self-Supervised Scene Flow Estimation with 4-D Automotive Radar". IEEE *RAL with IROS presentation*, 2022. [paper] [code]

[p5] Bowen Li, Changhong Fu, **Fangqiang Ding**, Junjie Ye, Fuling Lin. "All-Day Object Tracking for Unmanned Aerial Vehicle". IEEE *TMC*, 2022. [paper] [code]

[p6] **Fangqiang Ding**, Changhong Fu, Yiming Li, Jin Jin and Chen Feng. "Automatic Failure Recovery and Re-Initialization for Online UAV Tracking with Joint Scale and Aspect Ratio Optimization" in *IROS*, 2020. [paper] [code]

[p7] Yiming Li, Changhong Fu, **Fangqiang Ding**, Ziyuan Huang and Geng Lu. "AutoTrack: Towards High-Performance Visual Tracking for UAV with Automatic Spatio-Temporal Regularization" in *CVPR*, 2020. [paper] [code]

SELECTED AWARDS

ESPRC CDT-RAS PhD Scholarship	Sept. 2021
Grand Prize of "Challenge Cup" in Shanghai	June 2021
Excellent Graduate of Shanghai (top 2%)	May 2021
Academic Stars in Tongji (top 10)	Nov. 2020
China National Scholarship (top 1%)	Sept. 2019
China National Scholarship (top 1%)	Sept. 2018
First Prize of Tongji Mathematics Competition	June 2018
First Prize of Shanghai Graphics Design Competition	May 2018

ACADEMIC SERVICES

- Invited Reviewer for ECCV, IEEE RA-L, IROS, ICRA, IEEE TII, ACM TOSN, TIV, etc.
- Teaching Support for Introduction to Mobile Robotics (2021-2024) (University of Edinburgh)
- Advisor of Bachelor/Master thesis for Nout Cleef (BSc. 2022), Xuanyu Pan (MSc. 2022), Zhijun Pan (BSc., 2023), Zhen Luo (MRes., 2023), Xinyuan Cui (BEng. 2024), Lawrence Zhu (BSc. 2024), Xiangyu Wen (MRes., 2024)