

John Ian R. So

✉ johnianrso@berkeley.edu [in johnianrso](https://www.linkedin.com/in/johnianrso) [G johnrso](https://github.com/johnrso) www.johnrso.xyz

Education

Stanford University

M.S. Computer Science, May 2025

University of California, Berkeley

B.S. Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, May 2023

GPA: 3.96 / 4.00

Relevant Coursework: Introduction to Robotics, Machine Learning, Artificial Intelligence, Probability & Random Processes, Data Structures, Efficient Algorithms, Deep Reinforcement Learning, Advanced Topics in Learning and Decision Making.

Experience

Student Researcher, Berkeley Robot Learning Lab

August 2021-Present

- Researching robot learning, currently in video generation models for policy learning, under Pieter Abbeel and Xingyu Lin.
- Developed novel architecture using pre-trained representations, increasing performance by up to 70% on real-world tasks.
- Implemented real-world robot integration, including demo collection and policy evaluation, using ROS and Python.

President, Machine Learning at Berkeley

May 2022-December 2022

- Premier student-run organization focusing on ML industry consulting, research, education, and professional development.
- Directed officer team of 40 in initiatives including ML career fair, deep learning courses, industry consulting, and recruiting.

Software Engineering Intern, Oracle Corporate Architecture

May 2021-August 2021

- Increased device coverage for Oracle's proprietary server monitoring platform, Integrated Lights Out Manager (ILOM).
- Integrated ILOM with open-source platform OpenBMC, reducing time-to-service for unsupported servers by 90%.

Publications

SpawnNet: Learning Generalizable Visuomotor Skills from Pre-trained Networks ([site](#))

Xingyu Lin*, [John So](#)*, Sashwat Mahalingam, Fangchen Liu, Pieter Abbeel. *In submission*, July 2023.

Sim-to-Real via Sim-to-Seg: End-to-end Off-road Autonomous Driving Without Real Data ([site](#))

[John So](#)*, Amber Xie*, et al. *Conference on Robot Learning (CoRL)*, December 2022

Teaching

Teaching Assistant, CS 189: Introduction to Machine Learning

May 2021-August 2021

- Topics include Bayesian inference, Gaussian discriminant analysis, neural networks, SVMs, and decision trees.

Head Teaching Assistant, CS 61A: Structure and Interpretation of Computer Programs

Jan 2022-May 2022

- Managed weekly curriculum development for CS 61A, UC Berkeley's introductory CS course with >1500 students enrolled.
- Topics included abstraction, recursion, OOP, and interpretation in languages Python, Lisp, SQL.

Skills

Languages: Python, Java, C, C++, JavaScript, SQL, Web Dev. **Tools:** Pytorch, Keras, Linux, ROS, Git, React.