

AINAZ EFTEKHAR

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EDUCATION

University of Washington (UW)

Ph.D. in Computer Science and Engineering

- Advisor: **Prof. Ali Farhadi** and **Prof. Ranjay Krishna**.

Seattle, WA

09/2022 - present

University of Washington (UW)

M.S. in Computer Science and Engineering

- **GPA: 3.8/4.0**, Advisor: **Prof. Ali Farhadi** and **Prof. Ranjay Krishna**.

Seattle, WA

09/2022 - 12/2024

Ecole Polytechnique Federale de Lausanne (EPFL)

Visiting Student Researcher in VILAB

- Advisor: **Prof. Amir Zamir**

Lausanne, Switzerland

09/2021 - 08/2022

Sharif University of Technology

B.S. in Computer Engineering

- **GPA: 19.22/20**

Tehran, Iran

09/2017 - 08/2022

PUBLICATIONS

MolmoAct2: Action Reasoning Models for Real-world Deployment

Haoquan Fang*, Jiafei Duan*, Donovan Clay, Sam Wang, Shuo Liu, Weikai Huang, Xiang Fan, (Under Submission)
Wei-Chuan Tsai, Shirui Chen, Yi Ru Wang, Shanli Xing, Jaemin Cho, Jae Sung Park, Ainaz Eftekhari, Peter
Sushko, Karen Farley, Angad Wadhwa, Cole Harrison, Winson Han, Ying-Chun Lee, Eli VanderBilt, Rose
Hendrix, Suveen Ellawela, Lucas Ngoo, Joyce Chai, Zhongzheng Ren, Ali Farhadi, Dieter Fox, Ranjay Krishna

MolmoBoT: Large-Scale Simulation Enables Zero-Shot Manipulation

Abhay Deshpande*†, Maya Guru*†, Rose Hendrix*†, Snehal Jauhari*†, Ainaz Eftekhari†, (Under Submission)
Rohun Tripathi†, Max Argus†, Jordi Salvador†, Haoquan Fang†, Matthew Wallingford†, Wilbert Pumacay†,
Yejin Kim†, Quinn Pfeifer, Ying-Chun Lee, Piper Wolters, Omar Rayyan, Mingtong Zhang, Jiafei Duan*,
Karen Farley, Winson Han, Eli VanderBilt, Dieter Fox, Ali Farhadi, Georgia Chalvatzaki, Dhruv Shah, Ranjay
Krishna

PointArena: Probing Multimodal Grounding Through Language-Guided Pointing

Long Cheng*, Jiafei Duan*, Yi Ru Wang, Haoquan Fang, Boyang Li, Yushan Huang, Elvis Wang, (Under Submission)
Ainaz Eftekhari, Jason Lee, Wentao Yuan, Rose Hendrix, Noah A. Smith, Fei Xia, Dieter Fox, Ranjay Krishna

MolmoSpaces: A Large-Scale Open Ecosystem for Robot Navigation and Manipulation

Yejin Kim, Wilbert Pumacay, Omar Rayyan, Max Argus, Winson Han, Eli VanderBilt, Jordi Salvador, RSS 2026
Abhay Deshpande, Rose Hendrix, Snehal Jauhari, Shuo Liu, Nur Muhammad Mahi Shafiullah, Maya Guru,
Arjun Guru, Ainaz Eftekhari, Karen Farley, Donovan Clay, Jiafei Duan, Piper Wolters, Alvaro Herrasti,
Ying-Chun Lee, Georgia Chalvatzaki, Yuchen Cui, Ali Farhadi, Dieter Fox, Ranjay Krishna

The One RING: a Robotic Indoor Navigation Generalist

Ainaz Eftekhari, Luca Weihs, Rose Hendrix, Ege Caglar, Jordi Salvador, Alvaro Herrasti, ICRA 2026 (Oral)
Winson Han, Eli VanderBil, Aniruddha Kembhavi, Ali Farhadi, Ranjay Krishna, Kiana Ehsani, Kuo-Hao Zeng.

Convergent Functions, Divergent Forms

Ainaz Eftekhari*, Hyeonseong Jeon*, Aaron Walsman, Kuo-Hao Zeng, Ali Farhadi, Ranjay Krishna. NeurIPS 2025

Selective Visual Representations Improve Convergence and Generalization for Embodied-AI

Ainaz Eftekhari*, Kuo-Hao Zeng*, Jiafei Duan, Ali Farhadi, Ani Kembhavi, Ranjay Krishna. ICLR 2024 (Spotlight)

Omnidata: A Scalable Pipeline for Making Multi-Task Mid-Level Vision Datasets from 3D Scans

Ainaz Eftekhari*, Alexander Sax*, Jitendra Malik, Amir Zamir. ICCV 2021

WORK EXPERIENCE

General Robotics

Research Intern

Redmond, WA

06/2026 – present

- ★ [Project] A foundation model for mobile manipulation (*Ongoing*)

Allen Institute for Artificial Intelligence (AI2)

Student Researcher, Team: PRIOR

Seattle, WA

03/2025 – 06/2026

- ★ [Project] **MolmoBoT: Large-Scale Simulation Enables Zero-Shot Manipulation** (*Under Submission*): A manipulation policy trained on massive, diverse simulation data that transfers zero-shot to the real world—for both static and mobile manipulation tasks

Allen Institute for Artificial Intelligence (AI2)

Research Intern

Seattle, WA

Summer 2023 – Summer 2024

Supervisors: *Kuo-Hao Zeng, Kiana Ehsani (2024); Ani Kembhavi, Ranjay Krishna (2023)*

- ★ [Project] **2024 – The One RING: a Robotic Indoor Navigation Generalist** (*ICRA 2026 Oral*): A generalist embodiment-agnostic navigation policy trained entirely in simulation with large-scale randomized embodiments, demonstrating strong transfer to real robot platforms.
- ★ [Project] **2023 – Selective Visual Representations for Embodied-AI** (*ICLR 2024 Spotlight*): A parameter-efficient method for selectively filtering visual stimuli in Embodied-AI tasks, inspired by selective human attention.

Ecole Polytechnique Federale de Lausanne (EPFL)

Research Intern, Visual Intelligence and Learning Lab (VILAB), Supervisor: *Amir Zamir*

Lausanne, Switzerland

06/2021 – 08/2022

- ★ [Project] **OmniData: A Pipeline for Making Multi-Task Mid-Level Vision Datasets** (*accepted at ICCV 2021*): a pipeline to generate “steerable” multi-task vision datasets by parametrically sampling and rendering 3D scans, providing a pathway to explore various data sampling effects and create better vision datasets.

Sharif University of Technology

Research Assistant, *Mohammad Hossein Rohban*

Tehran, Iran

09/2019 – 09/2020

- ★ [Project] Self-Supervised Approaches for Anomaly/Novelty Detection in Images and Videos

Indian Institute of Technology (IIT)

Research Intern, Supervisors: *Abir Das, Pabitra Mitra*

Kharagpur, India

07/2019-09/2019

- ★ [Project] Reducing effects of severe dataset imbalance using an end-to-end CycleGAN-Classifer architecture

HONORS AND AWARDS

UW + Amazon Science Hub Fellowship, 2024

EPFL Summer Research Fellowship, Ecole polytechnique federale de Lausanne, 2021

Top 5% Academic Ranking, Sharif University of Technology, 2020

Ranked 92th in Iranian Nationwide University Entrance Exam (Among +300,000), 2017

Bronze Medal, Iranian National Math Olympiad, 2015, 1016

Gold Medal in the 9th International Mathematics Contest, IMC (Singapore) [certificate], 2013

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Washington

Deep Learning

Winter 2024

Sharif University of Technology

Artificial Intelligence, Discrete Structures, Data Structures and Algorithms, Advanced Programming

2018-2020

SKILLS

Programming: Python, Java, C/C++, LaTeX

Machine Learning Tools: PyTorch, OpenCV, scikit-learn, NumPy, pandas, matplotlib

Distribution and Deployment Tools: Kubernetes, Docker, Github's CI/CD

Languages: Persian (native), English (advanced, TOEFL score:109), French (Basic)

RELEVANT COURSEWORK

University of Washington

- *Deep Robotic Learning (CSE 599 G), Deep Learning (CSE 493G1), Computational Neuroscience (CSE 528 A)*

Sharif University of Technology

- *Digital Image Processing (graduate), Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning, Signals and Systems, Advanced Information Retrieval, Linear Algebra, Probability and Statistics, Design of Algorithms, Data Structures*

Online MOOCs

- *CS231n: Convolutional Neural Networks for Visual Recognition by Stanford, Deep Learning Specialization by deeplearning.ai, Machine Learning by Stanford-Online.*

Machine Vision and Learning Winter School

- *Brain Engineering Center and Cognitive Science School, IPM, Iran [certificate]*

ACADEMIC SERVICES

Reviewer of CVPR 2024/2025, CORL 2025, NeurIPS 2025

2024-2025

Reviewing papers in Embodied-AI and Computer Vision

Student Volunteer at ICCV 2023

10/2023

Helped with different logistic tasks at the conference [certificate]

Member of Executive Team in Sharif Artificial Intelligence Challenge

03/2018

Sharif University of Technology

Member of Executive Team in the ACM International Collegiate Programming Contest

12/2017

Sharif University of Technology