College of Engineering and Computer Science

FACULTY RESEARCH TALKS

Listen. Learn. Collaborate.

Zoom talk | Friday, Oct. 16, 2026 | Noon to 1 p.m.

Presenter 1:
MINGYO SEO
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR

Electrical and Compuer Engineering

Embodiment-Aware Skill Learning for Diverse Robots

Robotic systems are rapidly diversifying in both form and application, spanning humanoids, mobile manipulators and industrial platforms. Achieving generalist robot autonomy therefore requires skills that can be shared across robots while respecting embodiment-specific constraints. In this talk, Mingyo Seo will present a holistic approach to embodiment-aware skill learning that integrates hardware interfaces, control abstractions and embodiment-aware representations.

Seo's research focuses on developing embodiment-aware skill learning methods that support knowledge sharing and composition across diverse robot embodiments. He received his doctoral degree from the University of Texas at Austin, his master's degree from the University of Illinois Urbana–Champaign, and his bachelor's degree from Tohoku University. He has also conducted research at the Boston Dynamics AI Institute (now the RAI Institute), Dexterity and the Korea Institute of Science and Technology.

Presenter 2:
QIFENG LI
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR

Electrical and Computer Engineering, RISES Cluster

Shaping the Future of Smart Grid via Advanced Optimization and AI technologies

Today's power systems face a multitude of challenges, including but not limited to the high uncertainty associated with the integration of intermittent renewable energy, increasing pressure to decarbonize, growing interdependencies with other infrastructures including water, natural gas and transportation networks, and the rapidly increasing electricity demand driven by AI data centers. In this talk, Qifeng Li will introduce his group's research efforts of applying advanced optimization and AI technologies to address these emerging challenges.

Li is the director of Smart Grid Control and Resilience Lab at UCF. Before joining UCF in 2018, he was a postdoctoral associate at Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He is interested in energy-related interdisciplinary research, and his research efforts have been supported by the National Science Foundation and the Department of Energy. He has served as an associate editor for leading journals and conferences, including several *IEEE Transactions*.

Presenter 3:
LIKE LI
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR

Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering, CATER

Materials, Reactors and Thermal Processes for Energy Conversion and Storage

This presentation highlights research on advanced materials, chemical reactors and thermal processes for energy conversion and storage. Topics include high-temperature thermal and thermochemical energy storage, reactive materials and particle-based reactors, and electrified heating technologies such as resistive and induction heating. The presentation will discuss the integration of materials, heat and mass transfer, reaction engineering, and reactor design to enable efficient energy storage and industrial thermal processes.

Li leads the Thermal Energy Storage Development Lab, with research focusing on thermal and thermochemical energy storage, high-temperature energy conversion, electrified heating, reactive materials and chemical reactors for power generation, energy-intensive industrial processes, and long-duration energy storage. His group has received funding from federal agencies, including the National Science Foundation, Department of Energy and NASA, as well as industry partners, including Duke Energy and the Tennessee Valley Authority.

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