

YU ZHOU

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EXPERIENCE

- Meta Superintelligence Labs** 2026
Research Scientist Intern
 - Peers: Christoph Feichtenhofer, Zi-Yi Dou, Bernie Huang, Daniel Bolya, Chay Ryali
 - Grounding post-training for Muse Wonder and data pipelines for next generation MLLMs.
- Apple** 2025 - 2026
Research Collaboration
 - Peers: Zhe Gan, Yinfei Yang, Zhen Yang, Ruiyi Zhang, Hong-You Chen
 - OpenVLHarness: Real-World Visual Agentic Tool-Use with Multimodal Memory.
 - Benchmarking extremely subtle and precise embodied perception capabilities of MLLMs.
- Meta Superintelligence Labs** 2025
Research Scientist Intern
 - Peers: Pengchuan Zhang, Kate Saenko, Shoubhik Debnath, Didac Suris Coll-Vinent, Nicolas Carion
 - Agentic tool-use with SAM 3 to ground complex referring expressions and reasoning-based queries.
- Stanford University** 2024
Visiting Researcher
 - Mentors: Manling Li, Jiajun Wu, Fei-Fei Li
 - Holistically evaluate MLLMs for dynamic world modeling and embodied decision making.
 - Build large-scale virtual simulation datasets and decision making interface for embodied agents.
- University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign** 2023
Research Intern
 - Peers: Manling Li, Sha Li, Xudong Lin
 - Training models for non-sequential procedural planning from large-scale video and text data.

EDUCATION

- University of California, Los Angeles** 2024 - Present
Ph.D. in Computer Science
Advisors: Kai-Wei Chang, Nanyun Peng
- University of California, Los Angeles** 2019 - 2023
B.S. in Mathematics, minor in Data Engineering

SELECTED WORKS

- OpenVLHarness: Real-World Visual Agentic Tool-Use with Multimodal Memory**  *Preprint*
*Yu Zhou**, Cheng-Fu Yang*, Rui Sun*, Di Wu*, Sibor Peng, Mingyang Zhang, Zhen Yang, Ruiyi Zhang, Nanyun Peng, Zhe Gan, Kai-Wei Chang
- Muse Wonder and Muse Wonder Full: Frontier Models for Agents**  *Technical Blog*
Meta MSL Team
- Does Inference-Time Reasoning Really Improve Video Understanding?**  *NeurIPS 2026*
Zhuohao Yu, Yu Zhou, Zhecan Wang, Rui Sun, Wei Ye, Kai-Wei Chang, Nanyun Peng
- SAM 3: Segment Anything with Concepts**  *ICLR 2026*
Meta SAM 3 Team

- ENACT: Evaluating Embodied Cognition with World Modeling of Egocentric Interaction**  *ICLR 2026*
Outstanding Paper Awards at ICLR 2026 World Models Workshop and Lifelong Agents Workshop
 Qineng Wang*, Wenlong Huang*, **Yu Zhou**, Hang Yin, Tianwei Bao, Jianwen Lyu, Weiyu Liu, Ruohan Zhang, Jiajun Wu, Li Fei-Fei, Manling Li
- TemMed-Bench: Evaluating Temporal Medical Image Reasoning in Vision-Language Models**  *COLM 2026*
 Junyi Zhang, Jiachen Gu, Wenbo Hu, **Yu Zhou**, Robinson Piramuthu, Nanyun Peng
- Contrastive Visual Data Augmentation**  *ICML 2025*
Yu Zhou*, Bingxuan Li*, Mohan Tang*, Xiaomeng Jin, Te-Lin Wu, Kuan-Hao Huang, Heng Ji, Kai-Wei Chang, Nanyun Peng
- Embodied Agent Interface: Benchmarking LLMs for Embodied Decision Making**  *NeurIPS 2024 (Oral)*
Best Paper Award at SoCal NLP Symposium 2024 (1 / 166 accepted papers)
 Manling Li*, Shiyu Zhao*, Qineng Wang*, Kangrui Wang*, **Yu Zhou*** (equal contribution), Sanjana Srivastava, Cem Gokmen, Tony Lee, Li Erran Li, Ruohan Zhang, Weiyu Liu, Percy Liang, Li Fei-Fei, Jiayuan Mao, Jiajun Wu
- Localizing Active Objects from Egocentric Vision with Symbolic World Knowledge**  *EMNLP 2023 (Oral)*
 Te-Lin Wu*, **Yu Zhou*** (equal contribution), Nanyun Peng
- Non-Sequential Graph Script Induction via Multimedia Grounding**  *ACL 2023*
Yu Zhou, Sha Li, Manling Li, Xudong Lin, Shih-Fu Chang, Mohit Bansal, Heng Ji
- LLMs as Scalable, General-Purpose Simulators For Evolving Digital Agent Training**  *LAW @ NeurIPS 2025*
 Yiming Wang*, Da Yin*, Yuedong Cui*, Ruichen Zheng*, Zhiqian Li, Zongyu Lin, Di Wu, Xueqing Wu, Chenchen Ye, **Yu Zhou**, Kai-Wei Chang
- DialectGen: Benchmarking and Improving Dialect Robustness in Multimodal Generation**  *ResponsibleFM @ NeurIPS 2025*
Yu Zhou, Sohyun An, Haikang Deng, Da Yin, Clark Peng, Cho-Jui Hsieh, Kai-Wei Chang, Nanyun Peng
- ARMADA: Attribute-Based Multimodal Data Augmentation**  *WikiNLP @ ACL 2024*
 Xiaomeng Jin, Jeonghwan Kim, **Yu Zhou**, Kuan-Hao Huang, Te-Lin Wu, Nanyun Peng, Heng Ji
- Iterative Strict Density-Based Clustering for News Stream**  *CCIR 2021*
 Kaijie Shi, Jiaxin Shi, **Yu Zhou**, Lei Hou, Juanzi Li
- Measurement methods of radial flow in relativistic heavy-ion collisions**  *Physical Review C*
 Peng Yang, Lin Li, **Yu Zhou**, Zhiming Li, Mingmei Xu, Yeyin Zhao, Yuanfang Wu
- Machine learning phase transitions of the three-dimensional Ising universality class**  *Chinese Physics C*
 Xiaobing Li, Ranran Guo, **Yu Zhou**, Kangning Liu, Jia Zhao, Fen Long, Yuanfang Wu, Zhiming Li
- Investigations into the characteristics and influences of nonequilibrium evolution**  *Physical Review C*
 Xiaobing Li, Mingmei Xu, Yanhua Zhang, Zhiming Li, **Yu Zhou**, Jinghua Fu, Yuanfang Wu
- Locating fixed points in the phase plane**  *Physical Review E*
 Yanhua Zhang, Yeyin Zhao, Lizhu Chen, Xue Pan, Mingmei Xu, Zhiming Li, **Yu Zhou**, Yuanfang Wu
- Relaxation behavior near the first-order phase transition line**  *Physical Review E*
 Xiaobing Li, Ranran Guo, Mingmei Xu, Jinghua Fu, Lizhu Chen, **Yu Zhou**, Yuanfang Wu

AWARDS

- Jun 2026** Amazon AI PhD Fellowship
- Apr 2026** Outstanding paper award at ICLR 2026 World Models Workshop
- Apr 2026** Outstanding paper award at ICLR 2026 Lifelong Agents Workshop
- Dec 2025** Spotlight at NeurIPS 2025 Language, Agent, and World Models Workshop
- Dec 2024** Oral presentation at NeurIPS 2024 (Top 0.4%)
- Nov 2024** Best paper award at SoCal NLP Symposium 2024 (1 / 166 Accepted Papers)
- Sept 2024** UCLA Graduate Student Fellowship
- May 2024** Cohere AI Research Grant

SERVICES

- Workshop Organizer:** Foundation Models Meet Embodied Agents @ CVPR 2025 [↗](#)
- Challenge Organizer:** Embodied Agent Interface Challenge @ NeurIPS 2025 [↗](#)
- Reviewer:** JMLR, NeurIPS, ICLR, ICML, CVPR, ECCV, COLM, AAAI, ACL, EMNLP
- Teaching:** CS146 Machine Learning, CS263 Natural Language Processing

TALKS

- Oct 2026** Amazon Science Hub, California NanoSystems Institute (CNSI) [↗](#)
- Jan 2026** Nuclear Physics Group, UCLA [↗](#)
- Nov 2025** Information Sciences Institute (ISI), USC [↗](#)
- Aug 2025** Salesforce AI Research Future Forum [↗](#)