

Quentin Thomas Carino Clark

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I am a graduate student researcher interested in developing methods to allow robots and other computer agents to learn transferable, robust skills and the ability to plan from data or experience.

Education

University of Toronto , Department of Computer Science/Robotics Institute Ph.D., Computer Science	2024 – Present
Boston University , College of Engineering/College of Arts and Sciences B.S., Computer Engineering, concentration in Machine Learning (Magna Cum Laude) B.A., Philosophy (Cum Laude)	2020 – 2024

Research

[UofT] Robot Vision and Learning Lab – Graduate Researcher	2024 – Present
- Currently working on project investigating stitching properties of generative models for decision making problems. - Demonstrated that aligning the architecture of diffusion planners with natural inductive biases for stitching enables more creative generations without a degradation in quality, in navigation and manipulation environments.	
[BU] Peac Lab - Undergraduate Research Assistant	2023 – 2024
- Examined use of quantile sketching algorithms for internet microservice traces, including designing and implementing new algorithms in Python to compare them to existing works. - Explored methods for accelerating the optimal selection of power and reserve energy bids for large-scale data center demand response participation programs.	
[BU] Sharifzadeh Group - Undergraduate Research Assistant	2021 – 2023
- Benchmarked performance of machine learning models in the context of a data-driven analysis of band gap renormalization in 2D materials, with DFT calculation workflows automated using an in-house framework. - Used the SHAPley extrinsic explainability method to infer physical interpretations of ML predictions.	

Leadership, Activities, Honours

Secretary/Organizer, Vector Institute Machine Learning Lunch Seminar	2024 – 2025
BU ECE Undergraduate Outstanding Research Award	2024
Peter M. Nelson Philosophy Award Recipient for Distinguished Work by a Junior	2023
Senior Editor and Secretary, Arche (BU Undergraduate Philosophy Journal)	2021 – 2024
Secretary, BU Undergraduate Philosophy Association	2022 – 2024
BU Undergraduate Research Opportunity Award Recipient	2021/2023

Relevant Skills

Expertise: Reinforcement Learning, Diffusion Models, Imitation Learning, Deep Learning, Generative Models, Natural Language Processing, Computer Vision.

Software Languages: Python, MATLAB, C++, Java, C, RISC Assembly

Libraries: PyTorch, Scikit-Learn, Hugging-Face Transformers, NumPy, Matplotlib

Other Work Experience

Teaching Assistant at UofT DCS , University of Toronto, Toronto ON CAN	2024 – Present
TA for several classes in computer science	
Grader at Boston University , Boston University, Boston MA USA	2024
Graded for an undergraduate course in Reinforcement Learning	
Assistant Debate Coach/Research Assistant , The Harker School, San Jose CA USA	2020 – Present
Coach students in Lincoln-Douglas debate during tournaments, including in late elimination rounds of national championships	

Publications and Preprints

Quentin Clark and Florian Shkurti. "What Do You Need for Diverse Trajectory Stitching in Diffusion Planning?." *arXiv preprint arXiv:2505.18083* (2025). In review.

Quentin Clark, Fatih Acun, Ioannis Ch. Paschalidis, and Ayse K. Coskun. "Learning a Data Center Model for Efficient Demand Response". Presented at the Workshop on Sustainable Computer Systems (HotCarbon 2024), July 2024. Appears in ACM SIGENERGY Energy Informatics Review 4.5 (2024): 98-105.

Quentin Clark*, Anubhab Halder*, Marios Zacharias, Feliciano Giustino, and Sahar Sharifzadeh. "Machine learning electron-phonon interactions in two-dimensional semiconducting materials: The case of zero-point renormalization." *Physical Review Materials Letters* 8, no. 10 (2024): L101001.

Polizzi, Vincenzo, Stephen Yang, **Quentin Clark**, Jonathan Kelly, Igor Gilitschenski, and David B. Lindell. "VibES: Induced Vibration for Persistent Event-Based Sensing." *arXiv preprint arXiv:2508.19094* (2025). In review.

Ayse K. Coskun, Fatih Acun, **Quentin Clark**, Can Hankendi, Daniel C. Wilson. "Data Center Demand Response for Sustainable Computing: Myth or Opportunity?". *Design Automation and Test in Europe (DATE'24)*, pp. 1-2, March 2024. (Invited Paper).

Syed Qasim, Mert Toslali, **Quentin Clark**, Srinivasan Parthasarathy, Fabio Oliviera, Allen Liu, Gianluca Stringhini, Ayse K. Coskun. "Efficient Navigation of Cloud Performance with 'nuffTrace". Poster Paper at International Conference on Cloud Engineering (IC2E), September 2023, Boston, USA.