

# DEVON TAO

340 E Foothill Blvd ◊ Claremont, CA 91711  
(774) · 407 · 4798 ◊ vtao@g.hmc.edu ◊ <https://v-tao.github.io/>

## EDUCATION

---

### Harvey Mudd College

B.S. in Computer Science and Mathematics  
Concentration in Chinese  
Overall GPA: 4.0

*Expected May 2025*

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

---

### MIT Lincoln Laboratory, Group 41 AI Software Architectures & Algorithms

*Student Research Intern*

May 2024 - Present  
*Lexington, MA*

- Research anomaly detection algorithms

### Harvey Mudd College, Computer Science Department

*Human Computer Interaction Student Researcher*

September 2021-May 2022, December 2023 - Present  
*Claremont, CA*

- **Advisor:** Lucas Bang
- Used p5.js to create simulator of philosophy book *Vehicles: Experiments in Synthetic Psychology* by Valentino Braitenberg for use in an educational setting. Link: <https://hmc-alpaqa.github.io/braitenberg-vehicles/>.
- Designed and administered survey assessing educational efficacy and enjoyment of simulator.
- Performed quantitative and qualitative analysis of survey results and drafted an academic manuscript.

### Harvey Mudd College, Computer Science Department

*Machine Learning Student Researcher*

May 2022-May 2024  
*Claremont, CA*

- **Advisors:** George Montañez, Lucas Bang.
- Read about Neural Architecture Search (NAS) algorithms and search spaces.
- Applied concepts from evolutionary biology to an analysis of a popular NAS search space.
- Analyzed results, visualized data using Matplotlib, and drafted an academic manuscript.

## WORK EXPERIENCE

---

### Harvey Mudd College, Computer Science Department

*Grader/Tutor*

September 2022 - Present  
*Claremont, CA*

- **Classes:** Intro Computer Science, Data Structures, Information Theory, Machine Learning, Programming Languages
- Communicate concepts from a variety of computer science disciplines to students of varying backgrounds.
- Read both code and proofs for correctness and clarity.
- Coordinate with instructor to organize other graders/tutors for the course.
- Run grader/tutor training at the beginning of every semester.

### Allstate Protection Plans, MINT Team

*Engineering Intern*

June 2023 - August 2023  
*Remote*

- Used Angular and Spring Boot to create a dynamically generated form UI based on JSON Schema, replacing the need to write boilerplate code.
- Automated the warranty registration system, replacing manual data entry.

### Harvey Mudd College, Computer Science Department

*CS Student Ambassador*

September 2022-Present  
*Claremont, CA*

- Organize social events for the computer science department and run computer science department social media.

## MANUSCRIPTS

---

### *Under Review*

Devon Tao and Lucas Bang. "Fitness Landscape Analysis of a Cell-based Neural Architecture Search Space."

Devon Tao and Lucas Bang. "Braitenberg Vehicle Simulator: Visualizing the Classic Thought Experiment."

## AWARDS AND HONORS

---

### **Honorable Mention, COMAP's Interdisciplinary Contest in Modeling**

May 2023

For the submission "Light Pollution: A Glaring Problem."

### **Harvey Mudd College First-Year Platt Prize**

September 2022

Awarded to one first-year student who demonstrates excellence in academics and community.

## SKILLS

---

### **Programming Languages**

Python, R, Javascript, Java, C++, Haskell, HTML, CSS

### **Libraries & Frameworks**

NumPy, Pandas, Matplotlib, scikit-learn, p5.js, React, Angular, Node.js, Spring Boot

### **Databases**

MongoDB, PostgreSQL

### **Languages**

Mandarin (advanced), Spanish (intermediate)

## EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

---

### **CS Professor of Fun**

December 2023 - Present

- YouTube channel aimed at making fun and clear explanations of undergraduate level computer science concepts.
- Link: <https://www.youtube.com/@CSProfessorofFun/>

### **Ace and Aro Space**

March 2022 - Present

*Co-founder and co-president*

- Co-founded an affinity group for asexual and aromantic individuals at the Claremont Colleges with 50+ members.
- Host weekly dinners and group socials, and do educational outreach to broader Claremont Colleges community.

### **Class President**

August 2023-May 2024

- Organized events for Harvey Mudd College Class of 2025 and represented Class of 2025 in student government.

## REFERENCES

---

### **Lucas Bang**

Associate Professor of Computer Science

Harvey Mudd College

Email: [bang@cs.hmc.edu](mailto:bang@cs.hmc.edu)