Amy T. Lam, PhD

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Education

Columbia University
 PhD, Biomedical Engineering
 MS, Biomedical Engineering
 February 2012

California Institute of Technology

BS, Applied Physics (with Honors)

Work Experience

Scientist 2022 – present

Enable Medicine, Menlo Park, CA

- Performed spatial proteomic analysis on a variety of tissue types and disease indications, including cell segmentation, phenotyping, and single-cell level spatial analysis for hundreds of CODEX tissue images
- Published multiple papers, blog posts, and tutorials related to spatial analysis of biological data, establishing best practices for working with mid- to high-plex proteomic images
- Developed methods for working with and processing large image files in Python

Application Scientist

2020 - 2022

2006 - 2010

June 2010

ClearLight Biotechnologies, Sunnyvale, CA

- Interfaced between the customers and the science team to define tissue clearing, 3D immunohistochemistry, and tissue imaging and analysis lab service projects
 - Drafted over 100 lab service Scope of Work documents for customers
 - Used Bitplane Imaris software to generate customer deliverables such as 3D renderings and videos of tissue samples
- Co-authored a methods chapter on 3D IHC Imaging

Postdoctoral Scholar

2015 - 2020

Stanford University, Stanford, CA University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ **Biophysics of Multi-Cellular Patterns Laboratory** Adviser: Prof. Ingmar Riedel-Kruse

Projects

- Designed a setup for investigating fundamental principles of active matter and controllable swarming using *Euglena gracilis* as a model agent
- Developed a programming paradigm for controlling biological/microrobotic swarm agents
- Designed and built prototype exhibits for interactive biology education at the Exploratorium to determine how modes of interactivity affect learning outcomes

A. T. Lam 1 of 5

- Investigated active self-assembly with genetically modified *E. coli* as a model system
- Run user studies on an ultra-low-cost liquid handling robot for STEM education

Graduate Research Assistant

2010 - 2015

Columbia University, New York City, NY
Laboratory for Nanobiotechnology and Synthetic Biology
Adviser: Prof. Henry Hess

Projects

- Created a proof-of-concept dynamically self-assembling system out of molecular motors and filaments capable of force-production, adaptation, and self-healing
- Developed a non-fouling surface coating functionalized with kinesin motor binding sites, weak enough to allow the kinesin to adsorb and desorb, but strong enough to support microtubule motility
- Controlled the size of structures formed through active self-assembly through motor protein gradient surfaces
- Determined the entropic cost to adsorption kinetics
- Compared structures arising from diffusion-driven and actively driven (i.e. propelled) selfassembly

Summer Undergraduate Research Fellow

2008 and 2009

California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, CA
Cellular Morphodynamics and Imaging Lab

Adviser: Prof. Chin-Lin Guo

- Designed and created controllable PDMS microenvironments for the study of cellular differentiation and morphogenesis
- Optimized procedures for photolithography and production of microfluidic devices
- Performed basic biology lab protocols for gel electrophoresis, culturing cells, PCR, gene amplification, and protein purification

Summer Undergraduate Research Fellow

2007

California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, CA
Caltech Nanofabrication Group

Adviser: Professor Axel Scherer

• Wrote and debugged C software for concurrent operation of lab equipment

Publications

- 1. S. L. White, **A. T. Lam**, H. D. Buck. "3D Imaging for Cleared Tissues and Thicker Samples on Confocal and Light-Sheet Microscopes" in *Methods in Molecular Biology: Signal Transduction Immunohistochemistry, 3rd ed.*, edited by J. M. Walker and A. E. Kalyuzhny, Springer Nature, 143-161 (2022).
- 2. DIY liquid handling robots for integrated STEM education and life science research. E. Li‡, A. T. Lam‡, T. Fuhrmann, L. Erikson, M. Wirth, M. L. Miller, P. Blikstein, I. H. Riedel-Kruse, PLoS One, 17(11), e0275688 (2022).
- 3. Scientific Inquiry in Middle Schools by combining Computational Thinking, Wet Lab Experiments, and Liquid Handling Robots. T. Fuhrmann, D. I. Ahmed, L.Arikson, M. Wirth, M. L. Miller, E. Li, **A. T. Lam**, P. Blikstein, I. H. Riedel-Kruse, *Interaction Design and Children*, 444-449 (2021).

A. T. Lam 2 of 5

- 4. Pac-Euglena: A Living Cellular Pac-Man Meets Virtual Ghosts. A. T. Lam, J. Griffin, M. Loeun, N. Cira, S. A. Lee, I. H. Riedel-Kruse, *Proceedings of the 38th Annual ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems*, 1-13 (2020).
- 5. First-hand and immersive full-body experiences with living cells and biotechnology through interactive museum exhibits. **A. T. Lam**, J. Ma, C. Barr, P. Taylor, I. H. Riedel-Kruse, *Nature Biotechnology*, 37(10), 1238-1241 (2019).
- 6. Polygonal motion and adaptable phototaxis via flagellar beat switching in the microswimmer Euglena gracilis. A. Tsang, A. T. Lam, I. H. Riedel-Kruse, *Nature Physics*, 14(12), 1216-1222 (2018).
- 7. Adaptive non-equilibrium molecular-scale systems with reversibly-bound molecular building blocks. **A. T. Lam**, S. Tsitkov, Y. Zhang, H. Hess, *Nano Letters*, 18(2), 1530-1534 (2018).
- 8. Device and programming abstractions for spatiotemporal control of active micro-particle swarms. A. T. Lam, K. G. Samuel-Gama, J. Griffin, M. Loeun, L. C. Gerber, Z. Hossain, N. J. Cira, S. A. Lee, I. H. Riedel-Kruse, *Lab on a Chip*, 17(8), 1442-1451 (2017).
 - Listed as a "HOT" article (top 10% score during peer-review)
- 9. *Cytoskeletal motor-driven active self-assembly in in vitro systems.* **A.T. Lam**, V. VanDelinder, A.M.R. Kabir, H. Hess, G.D. Bachand, and A. Kakugo, **Soft Matter**, 12(4), 988-997 (2016).
- 10. Controlling self-assembly of microtubule spools via kinesin motor density. **A.T. Lam**, C. Curschellas, D. Krovvidi, and H. Hess, **Soft Matter**, 10(43), 8731-8736 (2014).
- 11. Modeling negative cooperativity in streptavidin adsorption onto biotinylated microtubules. S. He‡, A.T. Lam‡, Y. Jeune-Smith‡, and H. Hess, ‡ indicates equal contribution, *Langmuir*, 28(29), 10635-10639 (2012).
- 12. Nanoscale transport enables active self-assembly of millimeter-scale structures. O. Idan, A.T. Lam, J. Kamcev, J. Gonzales, A. Agarwal, and H. Hess, *Nano Letters*, 12, 240-245 (2011).

Presentations

- 1. Directed by light: microswimmer biophysics, swarm programming, and interactive exhibits. A. T. Lam, A. C. H. Tsang, I. Riedel-Kruse, (talk) Molecules, Materials, Devices and Systems in Medicine, New York City, NY (2018).
- 2. Compression and release dynamics of an active matter system of Euglena gracilis. A. T. Lam, A. C. H. Tsang, N. Ouellette, I. Riedel-Kruse, (talk) American Physical Society March Meeting, New Orleans, LA (2017).

Awards and Honors

- Finalist for the Katharine McCormick Advanced Postdoctoral Scholar Fellowship awarded to support women in academic medicine (2018).
- Morton B. Friedman Memorial Prize awarded periodically to an undergraduate or graduate student in the School of Engineering and Applied Sciences at Columbia University who best exhibits Dean Friedman's characteristics of academic excellence, visionary leadership, and outstanding promise for the future (2016).
- The Yuen-huo Hung and Chao-chin Huang Award in Biomedical Engineering given to a graduating doctoral student in the Department of Biomedical Engineering at Columbia University who demonstrated great potential for making significant contributions to the fields of biomedical engineering and public health, and for serving as an ambassador of biomedical engineering (2016).
- Honorable Mention for National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship (2011).

A. T. Lam 3 of 5

- Semi-finalist for **Doris S. Perpall Speaking Competition**, an undergraduate science presentation competition (2009).
- Alexander P. and Adelaide F. Hixon Prize for Writing awarded to an undergraduate student for the best composition in a freshman humanities course. The prize recipient is chosen by a humanities committee (2007).

Teaching and Mentoring

Part-time faculty, Axiom Learning Center

2019 - 2022

• Tutor K-12 students to improve their learning efficiency and executive functioning

Co-mentor for Motorocracy BIOMOD team, Columbia University

2014

Project earned Gold Project Award, 2nd Best Presentation, and the MOLBOT award

Tutor for Star Learning Center, *Goddard Riverside Community Center*

2013

Tutored an elementary school student from low-income household

Teaching assistant, Columbia University

2011 - 2012

Thermodynamics of Biological Systems

 Ran weekly recitations, created answer keys for homeworks and exams, and graded all assignments

Consultant, *Hixon Writing Center*

2007 - 2010

- Provide one-on-one consultations on any piece written communication, including grants, humanities essays, and applications
- Presented at the Southern California Writing Center's Conference in March 2009

Other Work Experience

Treasurer and Board Member, Art of Practicing Institute

2016 - 2019

Duties include fundraising, grant writing, and accounting for the 501(c) non-profit Institute

Staff Writer, Intern, Engineering and Science Magazine

2009

Staying Firm Under Pressure. Amy Lam. Engineering and Science Magazine. Fall 2009, 5-6

Editor, little t publication

2008 - 2009

- The Caltech undergraduate guidebook
- Duties include recruiting advertisers, book layout, generating content
- The first *little t* in several years to be published on time and within budget

Skills

- Nanofabrication: Photolithography, mask design, process development, soft lithography, microfluidics, surface treatment and functionalization
- *Microscopy:* Custom light microscope setup, total internal reflection fluorescence (TIRF) microscopy, single-molecule imaging
- *Instrumentation*: CAD design (OpenSCAD, Autodesk, LayoutEditor), 3D printing, free space optics, liquid handling robots, user interface (UI) design (Python, Processing)
- Biology: Cell culturing, gel electrophoresis, gene amplification, protein purification, PCR
- Modeling: MATLAB, Mathematica

A. T. Lam 4 of 5

- **HCI**: User study design, interviewing
- Classical piano:
 - Solo recital at Klavierhaus (2013, New York City, NY)
 - Performed as a soloist with the Vienna International Orchestra (2012, Vienna, Austria)
 - Performed in AMEROPA International Music Festival (2010, Prague, Czech Republic)

A. T. Lam 5 of 5