



Cornell University

Lirong Xiang
Assistant Professor
204 Riley-Robb Hall
Cornell University
Ithaca, NY 14853, US
lxiang@cornell.edu

Fully Funded Ph.D. Opportunities in Ag Robotics & AI

POSITION DESCRIPTION

The [Automation and Robotics Lab](#) at Cornell University is seeking multiple highly motivated Ph.D. students to join our team. Prospective doctoral students will conduct research in robotics, computer vision, and artificial intelligence for agricultural applications under the guidance of [Dr. Lirong Xiang](#). The positions include stipends, tuition coverage, health insurance, and travel support for conferences. The minimum stipend is \$47,548 per year, with eligibility for annual increases based on strong academic performance and research achievements. The anticipated start date is Fall 2026.

QUALIFICATIONS

- B.S. /M.S. in Agricultural Engineering, Computer Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, or other closely related disciplines.
- Background or strong interest in one or more of the following:
 - Robotics and automation, robotic system design and control
 - Artificial intelligence, machine learning, deep learning, reinforcement learning
 - Computer vision and multi-modal perception
 - Mechanical design or electrical design.
- Strong programming (e.g., C++, ROS, Python), written, and oral communication skills.

HOW TO APPLY

If you are interested, please email your CV, transcripts, representative work to Dr. Lirong Xiang at lxiang@cornell.edu with the subject: *Your Name_PhD Application*. Review of applications will begin immediately and continue until the positions are filled. Selected applicants will be invited for virtual interviews. The final decision will be made by the Cornell Graduate School. The application deadline is December 1. Additional details about the application process can be found at [Cornell Graduate Admissions](#).

ABOUT the PI

Dr. Lirong Xiang is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Biological and Environmental Engineering at Cornell University. Her lab is well-funded by federal agencies and industry. She received her B.S. from Zhejiang University and her Ph.D. from Iowa State University. Prior to joining Cornell, she was an Assistant Professor at NC State. Dr. Xiang has published over 30 papers in leading journals and conferences and is the recipient of several prestigious honors, including the FFAR New Innovator Award (awarded to no more than 10 scientists nationwide each year), Cisco Faculty Research Award, NC State Goodnight Early Career Award, and NC State Research Excellence Award. Her students have earned top honors, including 1st Place in the ASABE Robotics Competition, FFAR Fellowships, NC State Scholarly Achievement Award, and Outstanding Teaching Award. Dr. Xiang's long-term vision is to develop intelligent robotic and AI systems that advance the future of agriculture.



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