

Opening: The Bai group (<https://sites.google.com/view/ruobingbai>) at Northeastern University has multiple fully funded PhD positions for Fall 2027 in areas of mechanics and materials. You are welcome to email (ru.bai@northeastern.edu) for inquiry with your CV and other supporting materials.

About the PI and group: Ruobing Bai is an assistant professor in the Department of Mechanical and Industrial Engineering at Northeastern University. He completed his bachelor, PhD, and postdoc training at Peking University, Harvard University, and California Institute of Technology, all in solid mechanics. He is the recipient of the NSF CAREER Award, ACS Petroleum Research Fund Doctoral New Investigator Award, EML Young Investigator Award, ASME Haythornthwaite Research Initiation Award, JMPS Best Referee Award, and Chun-Tsung Scholar of Peking University. He is currently the vice chair of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) “Mechanics of Soft Materials” Technical Committee and a member of the Extreme Mechanics Letters (EML) Early Career Advisory Board.



Group photo, Fall 2025

Research in the Bai group combines theory and experiment in solid mechanics, materials science, and other multiphysical processes in areas including but not limited to multifunctional materials, fracture, adhesion, strengthening and toughening, sustainable materials, soft robotics, human-machine interfaces, and energy storage systems. The group currently has 5 PhD students. The group has a strong background in theoretical modeling as well as modern laboratory facilities for material synthesis, fabrication, and characterization.

About Northeastern University: Northeastern University is a private research university in Boston, Massachusetts, established in 1898. It is ranked by US News in 2026 as # 34 in Best Engineering School and #1 in Best Co-op/Internships. Northeastern is proud of its flagship co-op program, which connects students with industrial companies for experiential learning. The university also belongs to a unique academic community in the greater Boston area with neighboring institutions including Harvard, MIT, Boston University, Boston College, Tufts University, and Brandeis university. The city of Boston is a major center of education, biomedical, IT, and other high technology industries in the United States.