

Work Experience

- **Full-Time Developer at ANSYS** Boulder, CO
 - *Lead Software Developer* *June 2019 - Present*
 - **Leadership: PyAnsys Project Lead** - Working with a talented group of developers at *Ansys* to create the latest generation in software interfaces to Ansys products. This includes, but is not limited to, cloud based software utilizing *gRPC* with Protobuf support, Microsoft Azure, Kubernetes, C++, Python, and FORTRAN. Software is actively in use internally within Ansys and externally among several engineering companies.
 - **Software: PyMAPDL** - Developed the initial Pythonic interface to MAPDL using a variety of communication protocols, the latest being *gRPC*. Software being used by several multi-billion dollar companies across the world to automate design and solution analysis. When hired by Ansys, collaborated across multiple business units to create an official, Ansys supported release of PyMAPDL, now hosted on <https://github.com/pyansys>.
- **Contractor Supporting AFRL, AFLCMC, and NASIC** *Apr 2014 - Present*
 - *Principle Scientist and Software Engineer*
 - **Software: As-Manufactured Mesh Metamorphism** - Lead developer for *femorph*, a patent pending revolutionary software that allows finite element model updating to new geometric configurations. This tool is an enabler for the AFRL/RQTI HIT research agenda, AFRL Digital Twin program, and has transitioned to P&W as an integral software to their manufacturing quality control efforts. This is the first ever DoD software license agreement and *femorph* includes yearly of license fees in excess of \$100K/yr. See <https://www.wpafb.af.mil/News/Article-Display/Article/1503043/afrl-signs-first-of-its-kind-software-license-with-pratt-whitney/>
 - **Software: Automated Traveling Wave Excitation** - Developed software to interface using Python and ctypes to directly control laser position, drive hardware, and collect data for AFRL's Turbine Engine Fatigue Facility TWE. Software bypasses original LabView software to directly control the National Instruments hardware using a Python interface through *ctypes*. Improved software gives more repeatable results and allows for the automation of batches that would have required hourly manual intervention. Software is regularly used for RQTI traveling wave testing and batch testing times have been reduced from 5 days to 4 hours while improving accuracy.
 - **Research: Strain Energy Super-convergence** - Estimates finite element model (FEM) eigenfrequency convergence using higher order interpolated elements. Enables up to an order of magnitude improvement in frequency convergence at a smaller computational cost than refining a finite element mesh. Software runs without mesh refinement, potentially eliminating the need for a grid convergence study. Research was presented ASME IGTI 2015 and published in 2016. Currently in use at AFRL to evaluate model convergence.
 - **Research: Mistuned Blade Tip Timing Limits** - Wrote software that calculates blade tip timing (BTT) limits for engine testing using as-measured geometry. Software evaluates the signal to noise ratio of blade to blade variations in probe measured stress to deflection ratios. Enables user to place BTT spot probes in a more ideal location to improve mode detect-ability. Research was presented at ASME IGTI and is in use in AFRL in conjunction with Gauge Map software. Enables AEDC testing of damped F112s to support a \$1M RQTI effort.
 - **Research: Analytical Mistuning Identification** - Using personally developed mesh metamorphosis software, generated a FEM representative of an as-manufactured rotor and verified analytical blade response amplification by correlating the results from traveling wave excitation (TWE). Obtained over 95% correlation to sector mistuning, and for the first time in experimental research achieved positive correlation between a geometric mistuned model and experimental results. Research presented at several engineering conferences, to include SciTech and ASME IGTI.

- **Amazon Seller**

Owner

Mar 2009 - Mar 2021

- **Business: Amazon Seller *Brooke's Books*** - Sole owner of Amazon textbook seller specializing in textbook purchasing and selling based on market timing and retail arbitrage. Business grossed nearly \$1,000,000 yearly during the last 7 years of operation. Sold business in early March 2021.
- **Data Analysis: Amazon Price History API** - Prior to *keepa*, personally maintained large database of price and demand history for a variety of Amazon products. Developed an automated workflow to determine ideal purchasing and selling times as well as identifying potential new products. Transitioned to using *keepa* for data acquisition and a cloud-based python database and auto-pricer using Google Cloud and Microsoft Azure.
- **Leadership: Contractor Personnel Management** - Managed several contractors to handle textbook repackaging over the past 6 years due to volume and demand. Heavily integrated with fulfillment by Amazon and required additional labor to repackage, bin, store, and ship textbooks to a variety of fulfillment warehouses.

- **Captain, United States Air Force**

Wright-Patterson AFB, OH

Principal Engineer

Mar 2011 - Apr 2014

- Provided analysis of a variety of United States Air Force turbo-mechanical components, both fielded and in development, with an emphasis on stress limits, mistuning, and high cycle fatigue. Developed advanced algorithms to reverse engineer and analyze as manufactured components and their analytical response due to deviation from the designed geometry. Major accomplishments listed below.
- **Automated reverse engineering through optical scanning** - Pioneered an approach to modify an existing finite element model to match the surface geometry from a disorganized point cloud. This enables the automated reverse engineering of a variety of engineering structures through optical scanning. Approach used to recreate a turbine using direct metal laser sintering.
- **Performed IBR reverse engineering using novel approach** - Analyzed a retired cruise missile IBR and calculated blade tip timing limits using as-manufactured geometry without existing CAD or drawings. Determined fleet variability and maximum allowable engine operating conditions using an ANSYS and MATLAB batch written from scratch.
- **Determined root cause of critical part failure** - Tasked by USAF to generate a T-6 control linkage CAD and FEM to determine root cause for failure. Generated CAD using schematics, verified geometry through optical scanning, and identified failure region through robust modeling. Presented USAF with a modified design to eliminate failure region and reinforce structure to eliminate Class A aircraft mishaps.

Education

- **Air Force Institute of Technology**

Wright Patterson AFB, OH

Master of Science in Mechanical Engineering

Jul 2009 - Mar 2011

- Thesis: X-Hale: The Development of the Research Platform for the Validation of Nonlinear Aeroelastic Codes
- Advisor: Lt Col Chris Shearer
- GPA: 3.383

- **United States Air Force Academy**

Colorado Springs, CO

Bachelor of Science in Astronautical Engineering

Jun 2005 - May 2009

- Senior Capstone: Chief of Integration, Analysis, and Testing for FalconSAT-5
- *Distinguished Graduate*
- GPA: 3.52

Skills

Languages: English (native speaker), German (B1)

Programming Languages: Python, C/C++, Bash Shell, L^AT_EX, FORTRAN

Operating Systems: Linux (Debian, Cent OS, RHEL), Windows, Mac OS X

Software: Emacs, Tensorflow, NumPy, SciPy, PyQt, Git, ANSYS APDL, Cython, MATLAB, Solidworks, Geomagic Design X

Open Source Projects

pyvista <https://github.com/pyvista/pyvista>

Created python module to interface with VTK through numpy and direct array access. This simplifies mesh creation and plotting wrapping existing VTK classes. This module can be used for scientific plotting for presentations and research papers as well as a supporting module for other mesh dependent Python modules. Over 1k GitHub stars and used in a variety of closed and open source research and commercial projects.

pyansys <https://github.com/pyansys/pymapdl>

Python module to extract data from ANSYS binary files and to display them if vtk is installed. Supports (.rst) and (.full) files. Programmed in Python, Cython, and C. In use by universities, Air Force Research Labs, and several commercial agencies.

keepa <https://github.com/akaszynski/keepa>

Python module to interface to <https://keepa.com/> to query for Amazon product information and history. Achieves fast and efficient queries using a non-synchronous server queries using multi-threading.

pymeshfix <https://github.com/pyvista/pymeshfix>

Python/Cython wrapper of Marco Attene's award-winning MeshFix software. This module brings the speed of C++ with the portability and ease of installation of Python.

tetgen <https://github.com/pyvista/tetgen>

Python interface to automated manifold tetrahedral generation. Integrated with *pyvista* and *pymeshfix*, and *pyansys* to generate all-tetrahedral meshes from surface scans for modern FEA solvers.

PyACVD <https://github.com/pyvista/pyacvd>

This module takes a vtk surface mesh (vtkPolyData) surface and returns a uniformly meshed surface also as a vtkPolyData. It is based on research by S. Valette, and J. M. Chassery in Approximated Centroidal Voronoi Diagrams for Uniform Polygonal Mesh Coarsening. An advanced version of the clustering module is a core piece of the global metamorphosis step for FEMORPH.

Summary: Total monthly downloads as reported by PyPi are upwards of 50 thousand, and are rapidly increasing due to the collaboration of several new projects.

Publications

Alex A. Kaszynski, Joseph A. Beck, and Jeffrey M. Brown. Uncertainties of an automated optical 3d geometry measurement, modeling, and analysis process for mistuned integrally bladed rotor reverse engineering. *Journal of Engineering for Gas Turbines and Power*, 135(10):102504–102504–8, Sep 2013

Alexander Kaszynski, Joseph A. Beck, and Jeffrey M. Brown. Uncertainties of an automated optical 3d geometry measurement, modeling, and analysis process for mistuned ibr reverse engineering. In *SME Turbo Expo 2013: Turbine Technical Conference and Exposition*

Alexander A. Kaszynski, Joseph A. Beck, and Jeffrey M. Brown. Automated finite element model mesh updating scheme applicable to mistuning analysis. Number 45776, 2014

Alexander Kaszynski, Jeff Brown, and Joseph Beck. Experimental validation of an optically measured geometric mistuning model using a system id approach. Jan 2015

Joseph A. Beck, Alexander Kaszynski, Onome E. Scott-Emuakpor, and Jeffrey Brown. AIAA SciTech Forum. American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics, Jan 2015. 0

- Joseph A. Beck, Jeffrey M. Brown, Alex A. Kaszynski, Charles J. Cross, and Joseph C. Slater. Geometric mistuning reduced-order models for integrally bladed rotors with mistuned disk blade boundaries. *Journal of Turbomachinery*, 137(7):071001–071001–11, Jul 2015
- Alexander A. Kaszynski, Joseph A. Beck, and Jeffrey M. Brown. Experimental validation of a mesh quality optimized morphed geometric mistuning model. Number 56765, page V07AT27A005, 2015
- Alexander A. Kaszynski and Jeffrey M. Brown. Accurate blade tip timing limits through geometry mistuning modeling. Number 56765, page V07AT27A007, 2015
- Alexander A. Kaszynski, Joseph A. Beck, and Jeffrey M. Brown. Harmonic convergence estimation through strain energy superconvergence. Number 56765, page V07AT27A010, 2015
- Joseph A. Beck, Jeffrey M. Brown, Alexander A. Kaszynski, Joseph C. Slater, and Charles J. Cross. Mistuned response prediction of dual flow-path integrally bladed rotors with geometric mistuning. *Journal of Engineering for Gas Turbines and Power*, 137(6):062501–062501–9, Jun 2015
- Alexander A. Kaszynski, Joseph A. Beck, and Jeffrey M. Brown. Harmonic convergence estimation through strain energy superconvergence. *Journal of Engineering for Gas Turbines and Power*, 138(10):102501–102501–9, Apr 2016
- Daniel Gillaugh, Alexander Kaszynski, Jeffrey M. Brown, David A. Johnston, and Joseph C. Slater. Accurate strain gage limits through geometry mistuning modeling. AIAA SciTech Forum. American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics, Jan 2017
- Emily B. Henry, Jeffrey M. Brown, and Joseph A. Beck. Mistuned rotor reduced order modeling with surrogate-modeled airfoil substructures. AIAA SciTech Forum. American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics, Jan 2017. 0
- John P. Clark, Joseph A. Beck, Alex A. Kaszynski, Angela Still, and Ron-Ho Ni. The effect of manufacturing variations on unsteady interaction in a transonic turbine. Number 50794, page V02BT41A029, 2017
- John P. Clark, Joseph A. Beck, Alex A. Kaszynski, Angela Still, and Ron-Ho Ni. The effect of manufacturing variations on unsteady interaction in a transonic turbine. *Journal of Turbomachinery*, 140(6):061007–061007–9, Apr 2018
- Joseph A. Beck, Jeffrey M. Brown, Alex A. Kaszynski, and Emily B. Carper. Active subspace development of integrally bladed disk dynamic properties due to manufacturing variations. *Journal of Engineering for Gas Turbines and Power*, 141(2):021001–021001–10, Sep 2018
- Jeffrey M. Brown, Joseph Beck, Alexander Kaszynski, and John Clark. Surrogate modeling of manufacturing variation effects on unsteady interactions in a transonic turbine. *Journal of Engineering for Gas Turbines and Power*, 141(3):032506–032506–12, Oct 2018
- Jeffrey M. Brown, Joseph Beck, Alexander Kaszynski, and John Clark. Surrogate modeling of manufacturing variation effects on unsteady interactions in a transonic turbine. Number 51135, page V07AT32A010, 2018
- Joseph A. Beck, Jeffrey M. Brown, Alex A. Kaszynski, and Emily B. Carper. Active subspace development of integrally bladed disk dynamic properties due to manufacturing variations. Number 51135, page V07AT32A011, 2018
- Alex A. Kaszynski, Joseph A. Beck, and Jeffrey M. Brown. Automated meshing algorithm for generating as-manufactured finite element models directly from as-measured fan blades and integrally bladed disks. Number 51159, page V07CT35A024, 2018
- Joseph A. Beck, Alex A. Kaszynski, Jeffrey M. Brown, Daniel L. Gillaugh, and Onome E. Scott-Emuakpor. Selection of dynamic testing measurement locations for integrally bladed disks. Number 51159, page V07CT35A037, 2018

- Joseph Beck, Jeffrey M. Brown, Onome E. Scott-Emuakpor, Alexander Kaszynski, and Emily B. Henry. Modal expansion method for eigensensitivity calculations of cyclically symmetric bladed disks. AIAA SciTech Forum. American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics, Jan 2018. 0
- Joseph A. Beck, Jeffrey M. Brown, Onome E. Scott-Emuakpor, Emily B. Carper, and Alex A. Kaszynski. Modal expansion method for eigensensitivity calculations of cyclically symmetric bladed disks. *AIAA Journal*, 56(10):4112–4120, Jul 2018
- Daniel L. Gillaugh, Alexander A. Kaszynski, Jeffrey M. Brown, David A. Johnston, and Joseph C. Slater. Accurate strain gauge limits through geometry mistuning modeling. *Journal of Propulsion and Power*, 34(6):1401–1408, Sep 2018
- Daniel L. Gillaugh, Alexander A. Kaszynski, Jeffrey M. Brown, Joseph A. Beck, and Joseph C. Slater. Mistuning evaluation comparison via as-manufactured models, traveling wave excitation, and compressor rigs. Number 51159, page V07CT35A039, 2018
- Daniel L. Gillaugh, Alexander A. Kaszynski, Jeffrey M. Brown, Joseph A. Beck, and Joseph C. Slater. Mistuning evaluation comparison via as-manufactured models, traveling wave excitation, and compressor rigs. *Journal of Engineering for Gas Turbines and Power*, 141(6):061006–061006–13, Jan 2019
- Joseph A. Beck, Jeffrey M. Brown, Alex A. Kaszynski, Emily B. Carper, and Daniel L. Gillaugh. Geometric mistuning reduced-order model development utilizing bayesian surrogate models for component mode calculations. *Journal of Engineering for Gas Turbines and Power*, 141(10), Sep 2019. 101013
- Jeffrey M. Brown, Emily B. Carper, Joseph A. Beck, and Alexander A. Kaszynski. Emulation of as-manufactured transonic rotor airfoil modal behavior and the significance of frequency veering. Jun 2019. Volume 7B: Structures and Dynamics
- C. Bane Sullivan and Alexander A. Kaszynski. Pyvista: 3d plotting and mesh analysis through a streamlined interface for the visualization toolkit (vtk). *Journal of Open Source Software*, 4(37):1450, 2019
- Daniel L. Gillaugh, Alexander A. Kaszynski, Jeffrey M. Brown, Joseph A. Beck, and Joseph C. Slater. Strain gage ramifications on mistuning in as-manufactured models and experimental testing. *Journal of Engineering for Gas Turbines and Power*, 142(5), Feb 2020. 051005
- Daniel L. Gillaugh, Timothy J. Janczewski, Alexander A. Kaszynski, Jeffrey M. Brown, Joseph A. Beck, and Chase Nessler. Forced response variation of a compressor utilizing blade tip timing, strain gages, and as-manufactured finite element models. Sep 2020. Volume 11: Structures and Dynamics: Structural Mechanics, Vibration, and Damping; Supercritical CO2
- Jeffrey M. Brown, Alex A. Kaszynski, Daniel L. Gillaugh, Emily B. Carper, and Joseph A. Beck. Optimization of airfoil blend limits with as-manufactured geometry finite element models. Sep 2020. Volume 11: Structures and Dynamics: Structural Mechanics, Vibration, and Damping; Supercritical CO2
- Joseph A. Beck, Jeffrey M. Brown, Daniel L. Gillaugh, Emily B. Carper, and Alex A. Kaszynski. Integrally bladed rotor mistuning identification and model updating using geometric mistuning models. Sep 2020. Volume 11: Structures and Dynamics: Structural Mechanics, Vibration, and Damping; Supercritical CO2

Patents

Alexander A. Kaszynski, Brown. M, Jeffrey. 2016. Mesh metamorphosis software for as-manufactured, digitally modified, and Monte Carlo analysis. Patented USAF\AFRL\RQTI.

Interests and Hobbies

Open source “hobby” programming, computer hobbyist (Linux & Raspberry PI), photovoltaics, technical and non-fiction literature, bicycle building and repair, and athletics (cycling and skiing).