

# Nathan Chun

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## EDUCATION

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### University of Southern California

Los Angeles, CA

*Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering, Minor in Artificial Intelligence Applications*

*Aug. 2022 – May 2026*

### Relevant Coursework

GPA: 3.95

*Linear Control Systems, Mechanics of Materials & Structures, Materials Behavior & Processing,  
Applied Natural Language Processing & Gen AI, Measurement & Instrumentation Lab, MEMS, Optimal Control*

## EXPERIENCE

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### USC Dynamic Robotics and Control Lab | Provost & CURVE Fellow

Los Angeles, CA

*Humanoid Pose Optimization | [Demonstration Video](#)*

*May 2025 – Present*

- Implemented kinodynamic pose optimization and MPC with 6 ROS2 packages to control [HECTOR v2](#)
- Simulated in MuJoCo to debug and ensure expected behavior

*Teleoperated Construction Robotics | [Demonstration Video](#)*

*Aug 2024 – Present*

- Developed ROS2 & Gazebo robot simulation on Linux with barrier avoidance to demonstrate enhanced user safety
- Implemented 2-stage control framework with RRT\* path planning algorithm and joy stick modes
- Explored LiDAR sensor configurations & utilized point cloud data for object detection & avoidance
- Investigated encoder integration for joint tracking to transition from simulation to real hardware

*HECTOR Humanoid v2 | [More about HECTOR v2](#)*

*Aug 2023 - Aug 2024*

- Designed 8+ iterations of control board PCB to manage RS485, CAN, & ethernet communication
- Advised on PCB design and perused data sheets to ensure proper usage of electronics for signal integrity
- Coordinated with electrical and mechanical team members to ensure compatibility between systems
- Tracked and documented iterative design changes using Git version control

*Robotic Quadruped Arm*

*June 2024 - July 2024*

- Engineered robotic arm mounted on 2 Unitree Go1 quadrupeds for collaborative manipulation of large objects
- Collaborated with PhD team to ensure arm design met research needs; finalized in 2 weeks

*Wheelchair Stabilizer | [Demonstration Video](#)*

*Jan 2023- Sept 2024*

- Designed 4 prototypes of an automated wheel for wheelchairs, accounting for ease of use, cost, and compactness
- Slashed material cost and weight by 50% using ANSYS stress and topology optimization and low-cost sensors
- Specified, tested, and assembled embedded system to control motorized wheel using low-cost, efficient components
- Proved concept with Simulink and MATLAB to model control system and simulating stabilizer triggering situations

### USC Viterbi Baum Family Makerspace

May. 2024 – Present

*CNC Machinist/Student Worker/Robotician*

*Los Angeles, CA*

- Developing interactive web-based feeds and speeds calculators tailored for amateur machinists
- Operating & programming manual & CNC mills & lathes using MasterCAM for USC design teams and projects
- Proposed design for manufacturing (DFM) practices & designed tools (e.g. fixtures) to facilitate machining
- Created GD&T drawings for designed parts including custom fixtures to allow replication by other machinists

## PROJECTS

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### Desktop CNC Router | *CNC Milling, Waterjet, CAD*

Apr 2025 – May 2025

- Designed structural components based on available scrap metal sizes to simplify manufacturing and cut costs
- Utilized spare aluminum extrusion and low-cost linear guide rails for rigid, precise travel along y & z axes
- Programmed and operated HAAS VF-2 and waterjet to manufacture and assemble all custom parts

### Energy-Generating Shoes | USC Makers | *Circuits, MEMS Sensors, Prototyping*

Jan 2023 – May 2023

- Investigated energy harvesting technology and boost converters to step up low voltage from piezoelectric effect
- Experimented with various insole materials & placement of piezoelectric crystals for highest voltage generation

## TECHNICAL SKILLS

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**Languages:** English (Native), Mandarin (Fluent)

**Software:** C++, Python, MATLAB, Simulink, Wolfram Mathematica, ROS, Julia, GitHub, Excel

**Mechanical:** SolidWorks, NX, ANSYS, FEA, 3D Printing, DFM, GD&T, CNC, Material Selection, Manufacturing

**Electrical:** PCB Design (KiCad), Soldering, Arduino, EPS32, Teensy 4.1, Oscilloscope, Multimeter, Logic Analyzer