

Zach Kutschke

Portfolio: <https://zkutschke.github.io/>

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Education

Johns Hopkins University

Ph.D. in Mechanical Engineering

Baltimore, MD

August 2024 – Present

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

B.S. / M.S. in Mechanical Engineering

Cambridge, MA

September 2017 - June 2023

- Exchange student at ETH Zürich, Switzerland in 2020.

Professional Experience

Applied Physics Laboratory (JHU)

Combat System Analyst – Air & Missile Defense Sector

Laurel, MD

August 2023 – Present

- Streamlining data analysis and reporting of Aegis & TSCE ship testing & events. Analyzing weapon control system data.
- Assisted in research and development for a novel maritime search and rescue system.

Mechanosynthesis Group (MIT)

Graduate Research Assistant

Cambridge, MA

September 2021 – June 2023

- Finalized and characterized a modular precision LPBF system to enable in house multilayer metal printing.
- Created a novel LPBF-inkjet system to enable printing functionally graded parts in new refractory alloys.

Pure Watercraft

Mechanical Engineer

Seattle, WA

February 2021 – July 2021

- Created a rig and performed log strike testing on outboard motors to ensure user safety.
- Developed test equipment for a variety of PCBs and other system components.
- Designed and constructed an end of line dynamometer to verify the functionality of completed outboards.

Impact and Crashworthiness Lab (MIT)

Undergraduate Researcher

(Remote)

May 2020 – December 2020

- Developed physics-informed neural networks to solve unsteady heat transfer problems and supplant finite element solvers in modelling thermal runaway of damaged lithium-ion batteries.

Pure Watercraft

Mechatronics Intern

Seattle, WA

June 2020 – August 2020

- Developed test equipment to validate the BMS, battery control boards, and throttle construction.
- Designed and implemented data acquisition unit to analyze gearbox pressures and inform decisions on its valving.

BD Medical - Advanced Diabetes Care

Research and Development Intern

Andover, MA

June 2019 - August 2019

- Prototyped automated testing equipment to improve manufacturing efficiency of latest insulin delivery device.
- Supported the development of a new leak rate test method for critical modules of new insulin delivery device.

Musashi Auto Parts - Michigan

Engineering Intern

Battle Creek, MI

June 2017 - August 2017 & June 2018 - August 2018

- Designed and fabricated a computer-controlled tool cart to aid in machine installation.
- Determined the acceptable leak rate of gear assemblies and generated production specifications to reduce bad parts.

Leadership Experience

MIT Solar Electric Vehicle Team

Business Lead & Mechanical Engineer

Cambridge, MA

September 2018 – December 2020

- Designed & manufactured parts of the mechanical system. Trained teammates on machining, welding, and basic FEA.
- Spearheaded team sponsorship efforts leading to an acquisition of over \$90k to support team operations.

Skills

SolidWorks, Arduino, MATLAB, Python, COMSOL, Machining & Welding.