Kelly Yi-Chun Huang

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Kalsi Assistant Professor, Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering
University of Houston

Education

Jul 2021	Ph.D.	Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering	Princeton University
Jan 2018	M.A.	Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering	Princeton University
Dec 2015	B.S.	Mechanical Engineering	Cornell University

Research Interests

Environmental Fluid Mechanics ▪ Turbulence ▪ Surface-Atmosphere Interactions ▪ Boundary-Layer Meteorology ▪ Experiments ▪ Sensing Techniques

Research Experience

University of Notre Dame

2021 — 2023 **Postdoctoral Researcher** supervised by Prof. Harindra J. S. Fernando
- fog and turbulence interactions in the marine atmosphere

Princeton University

2016 — 2021 **Graduate Research Assistant** advised by Prof. Marcus Hultmark
- nano-scale measurements in the atmospheric surface layer
- active grid for studying mosquito tracking behavior

Cornell University

2015 — 2016 **Undergraduate Research Assistant** advised by Prof. Charles Williamson
- innovative blade designs for urban vertical-axis wind turbines

National Renewable Energy Laboratory

Summer 2015 **Science Undergraduate Laboratory Intern** advised by Dr. Katherine Dykes
- optimization of spar supporting structure in offshore wind turbines

Fellowships

2017	**National Defense Science and Engineering Graduate Fellowship** (~ $153k) United States Department of Defense
2016	**Francis Robbins Upton Fellowship in Engineering** (~ $105k) School of Engineering and Applied Science, Princeton University

Honors and Awards

2025	**Teaching Excellence Award** Cullen College of Engineering, University of Houston
2024	**Faculty-Applied Clean Energy Science (FACES) Program Participant** National Renewable Energy Laboratory
2020	**Excellence in Teaching Award** Engineering Council, Princeton University
2019	**The Luigi Crocco Award for Teaching Excellence** Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering, Princeton University
2015	**Undergraduate Student of the Year** Diversity Programs in Engineering, Cornell University

Service

2024 - present	Associate Editor; ARC Geophysical Research
2021 – present	Reviewer; Experiments in Fluids
2024 - present	Reviewer; Physics of Fluids
2024, 2025	Conference organizer; American Physical Society Division of Fluid Dynamics (APS DFD) Annual Meeting

Outreach

2024	Mentor, Student Networking Lunch – *APS DFD*
2021	Trained in Inclusive Leadership Certificate program – *Princeton University*
2021	Panelist, women-in-STEM discussions – *Rutgers University*
2016 – 2021	Led K–12 STEM outreach and developed hands-on demos to counter engineering stereotypes – *Harlem Preparatory School in New York City, French American Elementary School of Princeton.*
2016	Completed ”Inspiring Young Engineers – Outreach” course – *Princeton University*

Professional Memberships

American Physical Society (APS)
American Geophysical Union (AGU)

Invited Presentations

2024	University of Maryland, USA — Aerospace Engineering
	University of Houston, USA — Civil and Environmental Engineering
2023	Duke University, USA — Civil and Environmental Engineering
	U.S. Naval Academy, USA — Department of Mechanical Engineering
	National Taiwan University, Taiwan — Hydrotech Research Institute
	National Central University, Taiwan — Department of Civil Engineering
2021	University of Notre Dame, USA — Environmental Fluid Dynamics Seminar
	University of California, Davis, USA — Environmental Dynamics Lab Seminar
2020	Cooper Union, USA — Albert Nerken School of Engineering Invited Lecture

Select Presentations

2024 [Poster]	American Geophysical Union Annual Meeting *Fog Causality, Reversibility, and Formation Mechanisms.*
2022 [Talk]	American Physical Society: Division of Fluid Dynamics *The role of environmental turbulence in the lifecycle of marine fog.*
2022 [Talk]	American Meterological Society Annual Meeting *The Super Combo Probe for simultaneous high-resolution measurement of velocity and temperature fluctuations in atmospheric turbulence.*
2018 [Talk]	American Physical Society: Division of Fluid Dynamics *Mimicking Atmospheric Flow Conditions to Examine Mosquito Orientation Behavior.*

Publications

Peer-Reviewed

H. J. S. Fernando, … , K. Y. Huang, …, "Fatima-GB: Searching Clarity within Marine Fog," *Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society* (2025).

T. J. Hintz, K. Y. Huang, S. W. Hoch, J. Ruiz-Plancarte, and H. J. S. Fernando, "A mechanism for coastal fog genesis at evening transition," *Quarterly Journal of the Royal Meteorological Society* (2024).

K. Y. Huang, G. G. Katul, T. J. Hintz, J. Ruiz-Plancarte, and H. J. S. Fernando, "Fog intermittency and critical behavior", *Atmosphere* (2023).

H. J. S. Fernando, S. Wang, K. Y. Huang, and E. Creegan, "Fog-laden density staircases in marine atmospheric boundary layer", *Environmental Fluid Mechanics* (2023).

K. Y. Huang, M. K. Fu, C. P. Byers, A. D. Bragg, and G. G. Katul, "Logarithmic scaling of higher-order temperature moments in the atmospheric surface layer", *International Journal of Heat and Fluid Flow* (2023).

K. Y. Huang and G. G. Katul, "Profiles of high-order moments of longitudinal velocity explained by the random sweeping decorrelation hypothesis", *Physical Review Fluids* (2022).

K. Y. Huang, C. E. Brunner, M. K. Fu, K. Kokmanian, T. Morrison, A. O. Perelet, M. Calaf, E. Pardyjak, and M. Hultmark, "Investigation of the Atmospheric Surface Layer Using a Novel High-resolution Sensor Array", *Experiments in Fluids* (2021).

K. Y. Huang, G. G. Katul, and M. Hultmark, "Velocity and temperature dissimilarity in the surface layer uncovered by the telegraph approximation", *Boundary-Layer Meteorology* (2021).

Conference Proceedings

K. Y. Huang, M. K. Fu, C. P. Byers, and G. G. Katul, "Logarithmic scaling of higher-order temperature moments in the atmospheric surface layer", *12th Int. Symp. on Turbulence and Shear Flow Phenomena, Osaka, Japan* (2022).

Teaching

University of Houston

2025 — present — Pathway Professor, appointed to teach foundational engineering courses critical to student retention and success.

- Spr 24 & 25 — MECE 2334 – Thermodynamics
- Fall 24 — MECE 5397/6397 – Introduction to Environmental Fluid Dynamics

Princeton University

2017 — 21 — Graduate Coordinator for the McGraw Learning and Tutoring Center

Assistant in Instruction

- Fall 19 — MAE 305/MAT 391 – Mathematics in Engineering I
- Spr 19 — MAE 222 – Introduction to Fluid Mechanics
- Spr 18 — MAE 224 – Integrated Engineering Science Laboratory
- Fall 17 — MAE 335 – Fluid Dynamics

Guest Lecturer

- Fall 22 — MAE 551 — Fluid Dynamics
- Spr 22 — MAE 553 — Turbulence

Cornell University

Undergraduate Teaching Assistant

- Fall 15 — MAE 3230 – Introduction to Fluid Mechanics
- Fall 15 — MAE 6510 – Advanced Heat Transfer
- Spr 15 — MAE 2250 – Mechanical Synthesis
- Fall 14 — ENGRD 2020 – Statics and Mechanics of Solids

University of Notre Dame

Guest Lecturer

- Fall 21 & 22 — CE/AME 40465/60465 — Mechanics of Environmental Motions
- Fall 21 — Spr 23 — CE 62400 — Environmental Fluid Dynamics Practicum
- Spring 23 — CE 60430 — Fundamentals of Turbulence Theory

Student Thesis Supervision

2021 — 2023 — Hintz, Thomas J. — M. S., University of Notre Dame
A Mechanism for Coastal Fog Genesis at Evening Transition

2024 — Pesenti, Filippo — M. S., University of Houston
Fog Causality, Reversibility, Forming Mechanisms, and Causal Relationships between Fog and Turbulence