Carlos Morales

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EDUCATION

Purdue University | West Lafayette, IN   August 2020 - May 2024
Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering
- GPA: 3.80 / 4.00

University of Washington | Seattle, WA   September 2024 – June 2026
Master of Science in Aeronautics and Astronautics – Concentration in Optimal Guidance and Control Theory

TECHNICAL SKILLS & RELEVANT COURSEWORK

Skills: MATLAB, Simulink, Python, C++, CVXPY, Convex Programming, Trajectory Optimization, Creo, SOLIDWORKS, NX, Embedded Electronics, Arduino, Laser Cutting, 3D Printing, Dynamic System Modeling and Identification, Kalman Filtering

Coursework: Convex Optimization, Linear Systems Theory, Automatic Control Systems, Intro to Computational Fluid Dynamics, Fluid Mechanics, Ordinary and Partial Differential Equations, Linear Algebra, Dynamics, Heat and Mass Transfer, Thermodynamics, Machine Design, Mechatronics, Noise Control, Mechanics of Materials, Multivariable Calculus, Aeroelasticity

PROJECTS | https://carlosmgnc.github.io/

Sequential Convex Optimization for Real-Time 6-DOF Powered Descent Guidance   December 2024 – January 2025
- Implemented a successive convex optimization algorithm to solve the 6-DOF powered descent guidance problem
- Leveraged efficiency of interior point methods with CVXPY to enable iterative nonconvex trajectory optimization
- Wrote a direct multiple shooting, First-Order-Hold discretization scheme from scratch using Python
- Validated generated trajectory feasibility and accuracy using Monte Carlo analysis

Lossless Convexification Model-Predictive Control for 6-DOF Landing   August 2024 – January 2025
- Implemented the Lossless Convexification algorithm for 3-DOF powered descent trajectory generation
- Simulated the full 6-DOF dynamics of the rocket landing problem using lossless convexification in an MPC framework
- Synthesized a closed-loop guidance and control system including an attitude controller to meet pointing constraints

Active Fin-Controlled Rocket   April 2024 – September 2024
- Successfully designed, manufactured, launched, and recovered a model rocket with active attitude control on ascent
- Developed a 6-DOF aerodynamic flight control simulation in MATLAB and Simulink to tune control parameters
- Created embedded quaternion-based attitude estimation using integrated gyro measurements in C++
- Designed and built custom actuators to control aft fins used to aerodynamically stabilize rocket's yaw, pitch, and roll

Optimal State-Space Control for Inverted Pendulum   May 2023 – December 2023
- Designed and built an inverted pendulum benchmark system to implement state space control methods
- Performed linearization of the nonlinear equations of motion and learned Kalman filtering method for state estimation
- Implemented Full-State Feedback with Linear Quadratic Regulator (LQR) to stabilize pendulum at its vertical equilibrium

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Automation and Controls Eli Lilly and Company, *Automation and Control Intern*   May 2023 – August 2023
- Designed and implemented a fluid dynamic automatic control system using Delta-V DCS for a reactor unit used to showcase Lilly's advancements in their proprietary reactors for siRNA synthesis
- Implemented script to automate the process of importing and exporting recipes from Delta-V for an oligonucleotide synthesizer, allowing for an increase in productivity and quality assurance

Viscoelastic Programmable Materials Research, *Undergraduate Research Assistant*   June 2022 – August 2022
- Performed mechanical characterization for materials that present both viscous and elastic properties for use in programmable lattices used to set desired vibrational response characteristics
- Conducted ASTM testing including tensile and compression tests on composite viscoelastic materials

LEADERSHIP

VEX Competitive Robotics, *Lead Controls Engineer, and Mechanical System Designer*   August 2016 – December 2021
- Led an interdisciplinary team to consistently develop successful robots that competed at the highest international level for over four years. Top Achievement: 2019 & 2020 World Championship Divisional 1st place
- Implemented autonomous control systems for accurate motion control of both holonomic and non-holonomic drive trains using PID, Odometry Position Tracking, Pure Pursuit Guidance, and Motion Profiling
- Built autonomous motion control libraries in C++ for incoming Purdue students to use the existing control algorithms we already developed and tested in previous years