

Daniel Robert McCusker

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Applied Physics Graduate Program
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor
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EDUCATION

- 2023 Ph.D. Applied Physics, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor
Thesis research: stochastic modeling of biological growth and development, analysis of experimental data.
Supervisor: [David K. Lubensky](#)
- 2018 M.Sc. Applied Physics, Delft University of Technology, *cum laude*.
[Fulbright Scholarship](#), awarded by the U.S. Department of State and the TU Delft Faculty of Applied Sciences.
Thesis research: Jamming dynamics of soft active particles. C++ molecular dynamics simulations and visualization, statistical mechanics and jamming transition in active matter. Supervisor: [Timon Idema](#)
- 2016 B.S. Physics, Georgetown University, *magna cum laude* and with departmental honors.
[John Carroll Fellowship](#), “Georgetown’s flagship opportunity for its most academically talented and ambitious undergraduates,” offered to 2% of each graduating class.
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- 2023 Mindfulness Meditation Teaching Certification, Greater Good Science Center at UC Berkeley

EMPLOYMENT

- 2018 *Development Intern*, [Sobolt](#)
Sobolt is a Dutch tech startup in the renewable energy and sustainability sector. Implemented SOTA semi-supervised and unsupervised algorithms for object classification in remote sensing data.

PUBLICATIONS

- 2022 *Fundamental physical limits on size precision in growing organs and cells*, in preparation. Presentation at American Physical Society [March Meeting 2022](#).
- 2019 *Active particle dynamics beyond the jamming density*, [EPL 125 36001](#)

OTHER RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2016 European Organization for Nuclear Research ([CERN](#)): Dark matter phenomenology. Simulations of hypothetical dark matter production channels, visualizations of experimental constraints from LUX and Planck experiments to guide dark matter searches at CMS.
Supervisor: Dr. Tristan du Pree, [Nikhef](#)/CERN

OTHER RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

- [Climate Hack AI](#) finalist
 - ◊ In order to predict cloud cover dynamics, built and trained an auto-encoder network and a linear dynamical model. Competed on-site in the final round at Harvard University, representing the University of Michigan.
- Electrical Engineering and Computer Science 598: Advanced Graph Mining
 - ◊ Term project: Higher-order (non-Markovian) community detection in American air travel data

COMPUTATIONAL PROFICIENCY

- Python, Mathematica