

Evanns Morales-Cuadrado

U.S. Citizen

Robotics PhD Student Georgia Institute of Technology

CONTACT

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Github: <https://github.com/evannsm>

Research Website: <https://www.evannsmc.com/>

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TECHNICAL SKILLS

- **Programming Languages:** Python, C/C++, Matlab/Simulink
- **Frameworks & Libraries:** JAX, PyTorch, acados, CasADi, ROS 2, PX4, ArduPilot
- **Development & DevOps Tools:** Docker, Continuous Integration, Git/GitHub
- **Hardware & Experimentation:** UAV assembly, repair, and deployment
- **Motion-Capture:** OptiTrack and Vicon
- **Languages:** Spanish (Native), English (Native)

EDUCATION

Georgia Institute of Technology | 2022-2027

Ph.D. in Robotics

- GPA: 4.0/4.0
- Advisor: Dr. Samuel Coogan
- Goizueta Fellow

University of Texas at Arlington | 2018-2022

Honors Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering

Minor in Mathematics

Minor in Physics

Certificate in Unmanned Vehicle Systems

- GPA: 3.9/4.0 Summa Cum laude
- Full National Merit Scholarship Awarded
- Electrical Engineering Honors Scholar

WORK EXPERIENCE

Graduate Research Assistant | FACTS Lab

August 2022 - Present

Georgia Institute of Technology

Atlanta, GA

- Advised by Dr. Samuel Coogan
- Implemented novel aggressive tracking control methods on quadrotor hardware
- Developed novel nonlinear control methods for safe autonomy
- Published and presented novel research at top conferences and journals in the fields of robotics and control theory

Teaching Assistant | Vertically Integrated Project in Robotics

January 2024 - Present

Georgia Institute of Technology

Atlanta, GA

- Aided professor in his instruction of this research-based course
- Provided promising undergraduates with guidance performing applied research in the field of robotics
- Taught control theoretical concepts in an accessible manner for undergraduates

Research Assistant | Autonomous Systems Lab

November 2021 - May 2022

University of Texas at Arlington

Arlington, TX

- Advised by Dr. Frank Lewis
- Received personal mentorship from a leading researcher in the field of controls and reinforcement learning (ranked 12th in the USA and 23rd in the world during my time in his lab)
- Aided graduate students on reinforcement learning research applied to quadrotor control

Teaching Assistant | Graduate-Level Intelligent Systems Course

January 2022 - May 2022

University of Texas at Arlington

Arlington, TX

- Aided professor in his instruction of the course
- Hosted review sessions for students in preparation for exams
- Gained teaching experience in a graduate-level course while still an undergraduate

Research Assistant | Dynamical Networks and Control Lab
University of Texas at Arlington

October 2019 - May 2022
Arlington, TX

- Advised by Dr. Yan Wan
- Gained experience with Robot Operating System (ROS), OpenCV, and path planning
- Original research in learning-based minimum time and energy path-planning for multi-vehicle systems

**SELECTED
PUBLICATIONS**

E. Morales-Cuadrado, C. Llanes, Y. Wardi and S. Coogan, “Newton-Raphson Flow for Aggressive Quadrotor Tracking Control.” *2024 American Control Conference (ACC)*

L. Baird, **E. Morales-Cuadrado**, and S. Coogan, “Runtime Assurance for Uncertain Systems from Interval Signal Temporal Logic.” Submitted to IEEE Transactions on Robotics. (*under revision*)

E. Morales-Cuadrado, L. Baird, Y. Wardi and S. Coogan, “Lightweight Tracking Control for Computationally Constrained Aerial Systems with the Newton-Raphson Method.” Submitted to IEEE Transactions on Control Systems Technology. *arXiv preprint available. (under revision)*

**RESEARCH
INTERESTS**

- Safe Autonomy
- Hardware Deployment
- Unmanned Ground and Aerial Vehicles
- Advanced Nonlinear Control
- Learning-Based Control
- Trajectory Generation and Planning

**OPEN-SOURCE
CONTRIBUTIONS**

- **PX4 Autopilot**: Contributed documentation improvements to the official PX4 Autopilot manual.
- **Vicon4PX4**: Developed and open-sourced a ROS 2 C++ Vicon–PX4 interface enabling external vision fusion for indoor quadrotor flight experiments; adopted and showcased by Georgia Tech’s Indoor Flight Lab as part of its official codebase. Also created a parallel package for OptiTrack motion capture systems.

**SERVICE &
LEADERSHIP**

Co-Founder and President of Puerto Rican Student Association
Georgia Institute of Technology

August 2024 - Present
Atlanta, GA

- Addressed the need for an organization to help Puerto Rican students feel at home and stay connected to our culture
- Formed a three-member co-founder board and identified a faculty advisor
- Raised funds for the organization and recruited members from campus
- Hosted professional, social, and cultural events to meet the needs of the growing Puerto Rican student population at Georgia Tech

**HONORS AND
AWARDS**

Top-3 Finalist at a Deep Learning Research Symposium

November 2023

Professor-sponsored award for novel research in deep learning and robotics

Goizueta Fellowship at Georgia Tech

August 2022

Highly selective fellowship for graduate students of Latin-American descent

Summa Cum Laude Honors at University of Texas at Arlington

May 2022

Exceptional academic distinction in top GPA tier for graduation honors

Electrical Engineering Honors Scholar at University of Texas at Arlington

December 2021

Inaugural member of the electrical engineering honors cohort

IEEE-HKN International Electrical Engineering Honor Society Membership

August 2021

Selective undergraduate society recognizing outstanding academic achievement and community service

Chance Vought Engineering and Science Endowment Scholarship

August 2020

Highly selective award given annually to three recipients across the entire College of Engineering

National Hispanic Scholar

March 2018

Recognition of top national performers of Latin descent on the SAT

National Merit Scholar

March 2018

Recognition of top national performers on the SAT