# JOE KARAM

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## **EDUCATION**

The Pennsylvania State University

Masters of Engineering in Engineering Design

August 2022

California State University – Chico

Bachelor of Science in *Mechanical Engineering* 

3.085 Cumulative GPA (3.6 during junior and senior years)

Jan 2019 – May 2021

Aug 2015 – Dec 2018

**Lebanese American University – Byblos (Lebanon)** 

Course Emphasis in Mechanical Engineering

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

**Undergraduate Research Assistant** 

California State University - Chico

*Mar* 2020 – *Dec* 2020

Chico. CA

- Researched the design exploration of indoor agricultural systems

- Assisted the faculty in executing algorithms (3D convex hull) and monitoring the resulting data

**Control Systems Design Grader** 

Oct 2020 - Dec 2020

California State University – Chico

Chico, CA

- Evaluated student assignments (homework/exams) related to this course

**Industrial Internship** 

Jul 2019 – Aug 2019

Tabarja, Lebanon

Phoenix Machinery s.a.l

- Modeled a firefighting hydrant system for Phoenix's plant
- Collaborated in HVAC and plumbing projects for industrial applications
- Enhanced my skillset in "Elite Fire Software" and "AutoCAD"

**PROJECTS** 

### Compliant and Intelligent Grasping with Parallel Kinematic Mechanism and its Agricultural Application

- Designed the chassis with both static and dynamic analysis
- Implemented transformation matrices and velocity predictions (timing) in the main code
- Optimized and analyzed the budget for the whole project

#### Robotic Collaboration for Timber Construction (MECA-470 Robotics Engineering Project)

- Developed and organized a 17 Degree of Freedom system based on ETH Zurich's work
- Provided a controller for the system in python and established a connection to ROS
- Algorithm (automation in construction) work in progress in Grasshopper (CAD, Rhino with GH)

#### Design Exploration for Indoor Agricultural System (Summer 2020 Research)

- Generated a geometrical simplification algorithm for various plant geometries in Rhino (3D convex hull)
- Researched towards geometrical optimization (light, reachability) for plant placements

## CORE TECHNICAL SKILLS

**Languages:** English (Fluent), French (Fluent), Arabic (Native)

Software: Rhino 6.0 (with Grasshopper), SolidWorks, nTopology, NI LabView 2019, Autodesk Fusion 360, Siemens NX, CoppeliaSim (former V-Rep), Robo DK 5.0, ROS 1.0 (some certifications can be found in my LinkedIn "Licenses & certifications" section)

Languages (Programming): Python, R (statistical computing), Arduino, MATLAB