

JOHN SEBASTIAN

2johnsebastian@gmail.com ♦ john-seb.github.io

Research Interests

Fluid Mechanics; Applied and Computational Mathematics; Engineering for Biology

Education

College of Engineering, Trivandrum
University of Kerala

July 2013 - May 2017

Bachelor of Technology (Mechanical Engineering)

First Class with Distinction - Top 10%

Professional Research Experience

MRF Tyres (Research & Development)

July 2017 - September 2020

Research Engineer

Chennai, India

- Computational modelling of tyre composites; development of functional tread patterns by manipulation of geometry and material properties
- Designed novel experiments to derive the dynamic characteristic curves of motorcycle tyres
- Developed image analysis methods to estimate complex deformations at the tyre contact patch and established its effect on higher harmonic vibrations
- Devised a numerical method for optimising the geometry of cross ply motorcycle tyres using Class Shape Transformation (CST) parameterisation, originally developed for airfoils

STAD TechnoInnovations

October 2015 - April 2016

Mechanical Design Intern

Ernakulam, India

- Reverse engineered the complex shape and material characteristics of the tibial bone implant to arrive at an internal mesh structure suitable for 3D printing

Academic Research Projects

Detection of Microplastics in Inland Waters using Impedance Spectroscopy

Supervisor: Dr Manu Prakash (Stanford)

October 2020 - Present

- Developing an instrument to detect, quantify and characterise microplastics in natural water samples exploiting the large difference in dielectric properties of plastics and water
- Built a water sampler prototype; mathematically modelled as a capacitance module for parametric studies

Design of Short Span Hydrofoils

Bachelor's Thesis, 2017

Supervisor: Dr Ranjith S Kumar

- Developed a general panel based inverse design method for foil sections with improved prescription of structural properties
- Formulated a simple method to integrate the effect of the free surface on hydrofoil lift

Rapid and Low- Cost Fabrication of Microfluidic Panels

Supervisor: Dr Ranjith S Kumar

Micro/nanofluidics Research Laboratory, 2016

- Contrived a rapid prototyping procedure to make expendable, cheap and accessible microfluidic lab-on-a-chip panels on plastic sheets (sandwiched and layered), with fluid channels as small as 150 microns

Honors and Awards

- The Macquarie Group Scholarship from edX

edX, 2021

Leadership and Mentorship Roles

Member, Emergency Design Collective (EDC)

June 2020 - Present

- Part of a global team of problem solvers working together to mitigate new challenges in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic
- Nominated to top three projects under “Pandemic Era Educational Challenges”

Student Coordinator, Innovation Center CET

2016 - 17

- Coordinated weekly meetings, brainstorming sessions and training programs in the state run facility
- Organised the first undergraduate thesis project expo, Innov-EXPO in May 2017

Project Coordinator, Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE)

2015 - 16

- Launched and mentored eight projects and maximized participation in national design competitions

Selected Achievements

- Institute Topper - IET PATW 2016 Presentation Competition “*Microfluidics for the Future*”
Institution of Engineering and Technology (IET)- Present Around The World (PATW)
- Founded CETALKS, an in- campus talk show in 2015
- Attended Indian Science Congress 2010 as Student Delegate

Additional Courses (Relevant)

- Advanced Fluid Mechanics *MIT, edx*
- BIOE 271: Frugal Science *Stanford*
- Advanced MATLAB for Scientific Computing *Stanford Lagunita*
- Statistical Learning *Stanford, Lagunita*
- Basics of Transport Phenomena *TU Delft, edx*

Technical Strengths

Computational Tools	MATLAB, Abaqus, COMSOL, R, CATIA, SolidWorks
Experimental Tools	Image Processing, Thermography, Digital Image Correlation, Wind Tunnel Testing, Optical Microscopy, Impedance Spectroscopy

Extra Curricular Engagement

- Selected as travel photographer for a Swiss documentary project, “Yuujou” into the final team of five, out of 30,000 global applicants in 2019
- DIY Microscopy, Photography, Origami, Toy making

References

Ranjith S. Kumar, PhD

Assistant Professor
Micro/nanofluidics Research Laboratory
Department of Mechanical Engineering
College of Engineering, Trivandrum
Kerala, India - 695 016

Abhilash Suryan, PhD

LM AIAA, LM AeSI, LM ISTE
Assistant Professor
Department of Mechanical Engineering
College of Engineering, Trivandrum
Kerala, India - 695 016

Sagar Vasant Telrandhe, PhD

Assistant Manager
MRF Research Center, MRF Ltd
Chennai, India - 600 019

A. Sreekumaran Nair, PhD

Senior Manager
MRF Research Center, MRF Ltd
Chennai, India - 600 019