
Research Interests

Space situational awareness, space object characterization, inverse problems, high-performance computing for astrodynamics.

Education

Purdue University – West Lafayette, IN

Ph.D. Aeronautical and Astronautical Engineering – 4.0 GPA

May 2027

MS Aeronautical and Astronautical Engineering – 4.0 GPA

December 2023

BS Aeronautical and Astronautical Engineering – 4.0 GPA

December 2022

Fellowships, Awards, and Honors

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| • Best graduate presentation – <i>Purdue Aeronautics and Astronautics Symposium</i> | May 2025 |
| • National Defense Science and Engineering Graduate Fellowship (NDSEG) | May 2023 |
| • NSF Graduate Research Fellowship (GRFP) | May 2023 |
| • NASA National Space Technology Graduate Research Opportunity Fellowship (NSTGRO) | May 2023 |
| • 3 rd place graduate presentation – <i>Purdue Aeronautics and Astronautics Symposium</i> | May 2023 |
| • Best research talk – <i>Undergraduate Research Conference</i> | May 2022 |
| • Best interdisciplinary research – <i>Undergraduate Research Conference</i> | May 2022 |
| • Best undergraduate presentation – <i>Purdue Aeronautics and Astronautics Symposium</i> | May 2022 |

Peer-Reviewed Publications

Burton, A., **Robinson, L.**, Frueh, C., “Light curve attitude estimation using particle swarm optimizers”. In: *Advances in Space Research* (2024). DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.asr.2024.09.008>.

Burke, P. A., Ehlmann, B. L., Steckel, A. V., Masiero, J., Fajardo-Acosta, S., Lazio, T. J. W., Strauss, R., Brozovic, M., Trilling, D., **Robinson, L.**, Lantoine, G., Klima, R., “Determination of Lunar Trailblazer’s Spin State using Ground-Based Optical and Radar Observations”. In: *Earth and Space Science* (2025). Submitted to the Lunar Trailblazer special collection.

Ehlmann, B., Bellerose, J., Lantoine, G., Furlan, E., Scire, E., Fajardo-Acosta, S., Bennett, L., Sanchez Net, M., Lazio, T. J. W., Brozovic, M., Masiero, J., Steckel, A. V., Burke, P. A., Kimura, M., Foxman, S., Zaw, M. P. M., Lee, L. M., Clarke, F., Hauge, M., McDonald, D., Adler, J., Strauss, R., Trilling, D., Edwards, C. S., Nolan, M. C., Lyster, D., **Robinson, L.**, Klesh, A. T., Seybold, C. C., “Lunar Trailblazer Spacecraft Tracking and Mission Recovery Attempt: Characterization of Status and Behavior of a Non-Cooperative Object in Cis-Lunar Space”. In: *Earth and Space Science* (2025). Submitted to the Lunar Trailblazer special collection.

Robinson, L., Frueh, C., “A CCD/CMOS Telescope Digital Twin for Space Situational Awareness”. In: *Advances in Space Research* 76.5 (2025), pp. 3074–3097. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.asr.2025.06.053>.

Robinson, L., Frueh, C., “Global Light Curve Attitude Estimation With Noisy Measurements and Inertia Uncertainty”. In: *Journal of Astronautical Sciences* (2025). Revisions submitted.

Robinson, L., Steckel, A., Frueh, C., Ehlmann, B., “Lunar Trailblazer Attitude Inversion from Ground-Based Light Curves with Material Sensitivity Analysis”. In: *Earth and Space Science* (2025). Submitted to the Lunar Trailblazer special collection.

Conference Proceedings

Frueh, C., Burton, A., Kobayashi, D., **Robinson, L.**, “Space Object Characterization from Light Curves”. In: *44th COSPAR Scientific Assembly. Held 16-24 July 44* (2022), p. 3159.

Robinson, L., Frueh, C., “Light Curve Inversion for Reliable Shape Reconstruction of Human-Made Space Objects”. In: *Proceedings of the 32nd AIAA/AAS Astrodynamics Specialist Conference*. Sept. 2022, pp. 1–19.

Burton, A., **Robinson, L.**, Frueh, C., “Attitude Estimation from Scratch for Human-Made Objects Using Light Curves”. In: *The Second International Orbital Debris Conference*. 2023.

Burton, A., **Robinson, L.**, Frueh, C., “Attitude Estimation Using Light Curves: A Particle Swarm Approach”. In: *AIAA SciTech 2024 Forum*. 2024.

Robinson, L., Frueh, C., “Optimal Light Curve Attitude Inversion with Measurement Noise: Two Case Studies”. In: *Proceedings of the 9th European Conference on Space Debris*. European Space Agency. Bonn, Germany, Apr. 2025.

Robinson, L., Frueh, C., “High-Fidelity Measurement Model for Space Debris Laser Ranging”. In: *Proceedings of the AIAA/AAS Astrodynamics Specialist Conference*. In preparation. 2026.

Robinson, L., Frueh, C., “Simultaneous Attitude and Shape Constraints Using Space Debris Laser Ranging”. In: *Proceedings of the AIAA/AAS Astrodynamics Specialist Conference*. In preparation. 2026.

Symposiums and Presentations

“Light curve inversion for shape reconstruction of human-made space objects”. In: *AAE Research Symposium, Purdue University*. 2023.

“Non-Convex Shape Inversion from Light Curves”. In: *AAE Research Symposium, Purdue University*. 2023.

“Modeling and Observation Processing for Advanced Shape and Attitude Estimation”. In: *Meeting of the Optical Astronomy Group, University of Bern, Switzerland*. 2024.

“Optimal Light Curve Attitude Inversion with Measurement Noise: Two Case Studies”. In: *AAE Research Symposium, Purdue University*. 2025.

Thesis

Robinson, L. “Light Curve Simulation and Shape Inversion for Human-Made Space Objects”. Master’s Thesis. Purdue University, Dec. 2023.

Research Experience

Industry Employment

Space Information Dynamics Group – Graduate Research Assistant	October 2021 – Present
Astronomical Institute, University of Bern, Switzerland – Visiting Ph.D. student	May 2024 – August 2024
The Aerospace Corporation – Graduate Astrodynamics Intern	May 2023 – August 2023
Katalyst Space Technologies – Guidance, Navigation, and Control Intern	May 2022 – August 2022
Analytical Graphics, Inc. – Systems Engineering Intern	Jan 2021 – August 2021

Professional Service

- Referee: Journal of the Astronautical Sciences

Academic Outreach

Founder of Boilerexams.com	August 2019 – Present
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References

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