

Matthew D. Kvalheim

Assistant Professor of Mathematics
University of Maryland, Baltimore County
✉ mdkvalheim.github.io
Citizenship: USA

Research Interests

Nonlinear systems in general, and in particular: dynamics, control theory, stochastic processes, robotics.

Education

- 2013–2018 **Ph.D.**, *University of Michigan*, Electrical Engineering.
- 2013–2017 **M.S.**, *University of Michigan*, Mathematics.
- 2013–2017 **M.S.**, *University of Michigan*, Electrical Engineering.
- 2009–2013 **B.S.**, *Ohio University*, Electrical Engineering, *summa cum laude*, #1 EECS graduate.

Employment

- 2023– **Assistant Professor**, *University of Maryland, Baltimore County*, Department of Mathematics and Statistics.
- 2022–2023 **Postdoctoral Assistant Professor**, *University of Michigan*, Department of Mathematics.
Mentor: Anthony M. Bloch
- 2019–2022 **Postdoctoral Researcher**, *University of Pennsylvania*, Department of Electrical and Systems Engineering.
Mentors: Yuliy Baryshnikov, Daniel E. Koditschek
- 2018–2019 **Postdoctoral Research Fellow**, *University of Michigan*, Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science.
Mentors: Anthony M. Bloch, Shai Revzen

Peer-Reviewed Journal Publications

- 11 **A compositional approach to certifying the almost global asymptotic stability of cascade systems.**
Jake Welde, Matthew D. Kvalheim, and Vijay Kumar
IEEE Control Systems Letters, 7 (2023), pp. 1969–1974. ([article](#), [arXiv](#))
- 10 **Flux in tilted potential systems: negative resistance and persistence.**
Yuliy Baryshnikov and Matthew D. Kvalheim
Communications in Mathematical Physics, 400.2 (2023), pp. 853–930 ([article](#), [arXiv](#))
- 9 **Obstructions to asymptotic stabilization.**
Matthew D. Kvalheim
SIAM J. Control and Optimization, 61.2 (2023), pp. 536–542 ([article](#), [arXiv](#))
- 8 **A generalization of the Hopf degree theorem.**
Matthew D. Kvalheim
Proceedings of the American Mathematical Society, 151.1 (2023), pp. 453–454. ([article](#), [arXiv](#))
- 7 **Planning of obstacle-aided navigation for multi-legged robots using a sampling-based method over directed graphs.**
Kaustav Chakraborty, Haodi Hu, Matthew D. Kvalheim, and Feifei Qian
IEEE Robotics and Automation Letters, 7.4 (2022), pp. 8861–8868. ([article](#))

- 6 **Necessary conditions for feedback stabilization and safety.**
Matthew D. Kvalheim and Daniel E. Koditschek
 J. Geometric Mechanics, 14.4 (2022), pp. 659–693. ([article](#), [arXiv](#))
- 5 **Families of periodic orbits: closed 1-forms and global continuability.**
Matthew D. Kvalheim and Anthony M. Bloch
 J. Differential Equations, 285 (2021), pp. 211–257. ([article](#), [arXiv](#))
- 4 **Conley’s fundamental theorem for a class of hybrid systems.**
Matthew D. Kvalheim, Paul Gustafson, and Daniel E. Koditschek
 SIAM J. Applied Dynamical Systems, 20.2 (2021), pp. 784–825. ([article](#), [arXiv](#))
- 3 **Existence and uniqueness of global Koopman eigenfunctions for stable fixed points and periodic orbits.**
Matthew D. Kvalheim and Shai Revzen
 Physica D, 425 (2021), pp. 132959. ([article](#), [arXiv](#))
- 2 **Gait modeling and optimization for the perturbed Stokes regime.**
Matthew D. Kvalheim, Brian Bittner, and Shai Revzen
 Nonlinear Dynamics, 97.4 (2019), pp. 2249–2270. ([article](#), [arXiv](#))
- 1 **Global linearization and fiber bundle structure of invariant manifolds.**
Jaap Eldering, Matthew D. Kvalheim, and Shai Revzen
 Nonlinearity, 31.9 (2018), pp. 4202–4245. ([article](#), [arXiv](#))

Peer-Reviewed Conference Publications

- 3 **The role of symmetry in constructing geometric flat outputs for free-flying robotic systems.**
Jake Welde, Matthew D. Kvalheim, and Vijay Kumar
 2023 IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation (2023), pp. 12247–12253. ([article](#), [arXiv](#))
- 2 **Generic properties of Koopman eigenfunctions for stable fixed points and periodic orbits.**
Matthew D. Kvalheim, David A. Hong, and Shai Revzen
 IFAC-PapersOnline, 54.9 (2021), pp. 267–272. ([article](#), [arXiv](#))
- 1 **Data-driven models of legged locomotion.**
Shai Revzen and Matthew D. Kvalheim
 Micro-and Nanotechnology Sensors, Systems, and Applications VII, 9467 (2015). ([article](#))

Book Chapters

- 2 **Bioinspired legged locomotion, chapter 3.2: Templates and anchors.**
Matthew D. Kvalheim and Shai Revzen
 Butterworth-Heinemann, Elsevier, Oxford (2017)
- 1 **Bioinspired legged locomotion, chapter 3.5: Locomotion as an oscillator.**
Shai Revzen and Matthew D. Kvalheim
 Butterworth-Heinemann, Elsevier, Oxford (2017)

Preprints

- 9 **Relationships between necessary conditions for feedback stabilizability.**
Matthew D. Kvalheim
 (2023). ([arXiv](#))
- 8 **Why do autoencoders work?.**
Matthew D. Kvalheim and Eduardo D. Sontag
 (2023). ([arXiv](#))

- 7 **Linearizability of flows by embeddings.**
Matthew D. Kvalheim and Philip Arathoon
 (2023). ([arXiv](#))
- 6 **Koopman embedding and super-linearization counterexamples with isolated equilibria.**
Philip Arathoon and Matthew D. Kvalheim
 (2023). ([arXiv](#))
- 5 **Estimating phase from observed trajectories using the temporal 1-form.**
Simon Wilshin, Matthew D. Kvalheim, Clayton Scott, and Shai Revzen
 (2022). ([arXiv](#))
- 4 **A pasting lemma for Lipschitz functions.**
Matthew D. Kvalheim, Paul Gustafson, and Samuel A. Burden
 (2021). ([arXiv](#))
- 3 **Phase response curves and the role of coordinates.**
Simon Wilshin, Matthew D. Kvalheim, and Shai Revzen
 (2021). ([arXiv](#))
- 2 **Poincaré-Hopf theorem for hybrid systems.**
Matthew D. Kvalheim
 (2021). ([arXiv](#))
- 1 **Reverse-engineering invariant manifolds with asymptotic phase.**
Matthew D. Kvalheim and Shai Revzen
 (2016). ([arXiv](#))

Invited Talks

- 2024 **Linearizability of dynamical systems by embeddings**, *Joint Mathematics Meetings*, San Francisco, CA, USA.
 Minisymposium: Geometry and Symmetry in Differential Equations, Control, and Applications
- 2023 **Discovering engineering (im)possibilities with geometry and topology**, *Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory*, Baltimore, MD, USA.
- 2023 **Discovering engineering (im)possibilities with geometry and topology**, *University of Pennsylvania*, Philadelphia, PA, USA.
 GRASP SFI Seminar ([link](#))
- 2023 **Asymptotic stabilizability**, *Banff International Research Station*, Banff, AB, Canada.
 Workshop: Geometry, Topology and Control System Design ([link](#))
- 2022 **Existence and uniqueness of Koopman eigenfunctions near stable equilibria and limit cycles**, *International Symposium on Nonlinear Theory and Its Applications*, online.
- 2022 **Negative resistance in small-noise dynamics via persistent homology**, *Indian Institute of Technology Bombay*, online.
 SysConTalks
- 2022 **Nonlinear systems**, *University of Michigan*, Ann Arbor, MI.
- 2022 **Large deviations, persistent homology, and Brownian conductors with negative resistance**, *Cornell University*, online.
 Probability Seminar
- 2022 **When can hybrid systems operate safely?**, *University of Michigan*, online.
 Control Seminar
- 2022 **Flux in small noise dynamics: persistence and negative resistance**, *Brown University, Division of Applied Mathematics*, online.

- 2021 **Flux in small noise dynamics: negative resistance and persistence**, *University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign*, online.
Mathematical Biology Seminar
- 2021 **When and how are hybrid dynamical systems conjugate to their classical quotients?**, *SIAM Conference on Control and its Applications*, online.
with Samuel A. Burden
Minisymposium: Physically grounded semantics for programming hybrid dynamical systems
- 2021 **Toward a physically grounded type theory for robot task composition**, *IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation*, online.
with Daniel E. Koditschek and Paul Gustafson
Workshop: Compositional robotics: mathematics and tools
- 2021 **Toward a physically grounded type theory for robot task composition**, *IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation*, online.
with Daniel E. Koditschek and Paul Gustafson
Workshop: Compositional robotics: mathematics and tools
- 2021 **Small noise dynamics, persistence, and negative resistance**, *SIAM Conference on Applications of Dynamical Systems*, online.
with Yuliy Baryshnikov
Minisymposium: Stochastic oscillators
- 2021 **Flux in tilted potential systems: negative resistance and persistence**, *Army Research Office SLICE MURI W911NF-18-1-032 Group Meeting*, online.
- 2021 **Towards a Conley theory for hybrid dynamical systems**, *Rutgers University*, online.
TRIPODS/DATA-INSPIRE Workshop: Dynamics, Topology, and Robotic Control
- 2021 **Hierarchical composition via collapse of dimension in dynamical systems**, *ETH Zürich*, online.
Series: Autonomy Talks
- 2021 **Existence and uniqueness of global linearizing coordinates**, *Army Research Lab*, online.
Representing the MURI group funded by Army Research Office MURI 911NF-17-1-0306
- 2021 **Safety and stabilization: necessary conditions**, *Army Research Office SLICE MURI W911NF-18-1-032 Group Meeting*, online.
- 2021 **Necessary conditions for feedback stabilization and safety**, *University of Pennsylvania*, online.
Kod*Lab Research Seminar
- 2020 **Proving periodic orbits exist: global continuation and Lyapunov 1-forms**, *Invited Talk, University of Pennsylvania*, online.
Graduate Research Seminar in Applied Topology
- 2020 **Proving periodic orbits exist: Lyapunov 1-forms and global continuation**, *University of Pennsylvania*, online.
Kod*Lab Research Seminar
- 2020 **Geometry and dynamics of circulant systems**, *AMS sectional meeting*, online.
with Anthony M. Bloch (speaker)
Special session: Geometric dynamics
- 2020 **Conley's fundamental theorem for a class of hybrid systems**, *Army Research Office SLICE MURI W911NF-18-1-032 Group Meeting*, online.

- 2020 **Conley's fundamental theorem for a class of hybrid systems**, *University of Pennsylvania*, online.
Kod*Lab Research Seminar
- 2020 **Toward a task planning theory for robot hybrid dynamics**, *Casa Matemática Oaxaca*, online.
Workshop: Topological complexity and motion planning
- 2020 **Isochrons from short, noisy data**, *Dynamics Days Europe*, online.
with Simon Wilshin, Clayton Scott, and Shai Revzen
Minisymposium: Stochastic oscillators
- 2019 **Invariant manifolds, locomotion, and the Koopman operator**, *Invited Talk, University of Pennsylvania*, Philadelphia, PA.
Chaudhari Research Group Seminar
- 2019 **Templates, anchors, and normally hyperbolic invariant manifolds**, *Invited Talk, University of Pennsylvania*, Philadelphia, PA.
DAIR Lab Research Seminar
- 2019 **Templates, anchors, and normally hyperbolic invariant manifolds**, *Invited Talk, University of Pennsylvania*, Philadelphia, PA.
ScalAR Lab Research Seminar
- 2019 **Existence and uniqueness of linearizing semiconjugacies for stable fixed points and periodic orbits**, *California Institute of Technology*, Pasadena, CA.
Army Research Office MURI 911NF-17-1-0306 Group Meeting
- 2019 **Dynamics of circulant systems of ODEs**, *SIAM Conference on Applications of Dynamical Systems*, Snowbird, UT.
with Anthony M. Bloch (speaker)
- 2019 **Reduced-order models for locomotion in the perturbed Stokes regime**, *SIAM Conference on Applications of Dynamical Systems*, Snowbird, UT.
with Shai Revzen
- 2019 **Hybrid oscillators: phase and amplitude in a class of non-smooth systems**, *SIAM Conference on Applications of Dynamical Systems*, Snowbird, UT.
with Shai Revzen
- 2018 **Aspects of invariant manifold theory and applications**, *University of California Santa Barbara*, Santa Barbara, CA.
Army Research Office MURI 911NF-17-1-0306 Group Meeting
- 2018 **Oscillators, asymptotic phase, and reduction of dynamical systems**, *University of Michigan*, Ann Arbor, MI.
Applied and Interdisciplinary Mathematics Student Seminar
- 2018 **Invariant manifolds, asymptotic phase, and data-driven algorithms**, *University of Pennsylvania*, Philadelphia, PA.
Kod*Lab Research Seminar
- 2016 **A recipe for embedding templates in anchors**, *University of Michigan*, Ann Arbor, MI.
Legged Robotics Seminar
- 2015 **Introduction to homology: towards topological data analysis, pt. II**, *University of Michigan*, Ann Arbor, MI.
Signal Processing Student Seminar

- 2015 **Introduction to homology: towards topological data analysis, pt. I/II**, *University of Michigan*, Ann Arbor, MI.
Signal Processing Student Seminar

Other Talks

- 2023 **A compositional approach to certifying the almost global asymptotic stability of cascade systems**, *IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation*, London, UK.
with Jake Welde (speaker) and Vijay Kumar
Workshop: Compositional robotics: mathematics and tools
- 2023 **A principal bundle perspective on differential flatness in complex robotic and biological systems**, *Americal Physical Society March Meeting*, Las Vegas, Nevada, USA.
with Jake Welde (speaker) and Vijay Kumar
- 2019 **Is legged locomotion almost smooth?**, *Dynamic Walking*, Calgary, AB, Canada.
with Shai Revzen (speaker) and George Council
- 2018 **Testing an extended 'Posture Principle'**, *Annual meeting of the Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology*, San Francisco, CA.
with Shai Revzen
- 2015 **Phase-based models of rhythmic systems**, *Dynamic Walking*, Columbus, OH.
with Shai Revzen
- 2015 **Better models of rhythmic systems: predicting locomotion from phase alone**, *Annual meeting of the Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology*, West Palm Beach, FL.
with Shai Revzen
- 2014 **Why the trot?**, *Annual meeting of the Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology*, Austin, TX.
with Shai Revzen and Sam Burden (speakers)

Posters

- 2023 **The role of symmetry in constructing geometric flat outputs for free-flying robotic systems**, *IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation*, London, UK.
with Jake Welde (presenter) and Vijay Kumar
- 2020 **A mode map representation to predict steady states and attraction basins for legged locomotion on obstacle terrains**, *International Conference on Intelligent Robotics and Systems (IROS)*, online.
with Haodi Hu (presenter), Michelle Joyce, Simon Wilshin, Andrew Spence, and Feifei Qian
Workshop: Robotics-inspired biology
- 2019 **Principal Koopman eigenfunctions for nonlinear and nonsmooth systems**, *University of California, Los Angeles*, Los Angeles, CA.
with Shai Revzen
Workshop: Operator theoretic methods in dynamic data analysis and control
- 2019 **Principal Koopman eigenfunctions for nonlinear and nonsmooth systems**, *University of California, Los Angeles*, Los Angeles, CA.
with Shai Revzen
Workshop: Operator theoretic methods in dynamic data analysis and control

- 2018 **Global linearization and fiber bundle structure of invariant manifolds**, *AIMS Conference Series on Dynamical Systems and Differential Equations*, Taipei, Taiwan.
with Jaap Eldering and Shai Revzen
- 2018 **Templates and Anchors: a review of notions of model reduction**, *Dynamic Walking*, Pensicola, FL.
with Shai Revzen
- 2017 **Asymptotic phase, model reduction, and control of Templates & Anchors**, *Ohio State University, Mathematical Biosciences Institute*, Columbus, OH.
with Shai Revzen
Workshop: Sensorimotor control of animals and robots
- 2017 **A dynamical systems perspective on Templates & Anchors: some general methods for anchoring templates**, *IEEE/RSJ International Conference on Intelligent Robots and Systems (IROS)*, Vancouver, BC.
with Shai Revzen
Workshop: Robotics-inspired Biology
- 2014 **Phase-based algorithm for modeling time-rescaling distortion of rhythmic data**, *University of Michigan*, Ann Arbor, MI.
with Shai Revzen
Engineering Graduate Symposium
- 2013 **A hybrid system provides a robust alternative to a linear regulator**, *University of Michigan*, Ann Arbor, MI.
with Shai Revzen
Engineering Graduate Symposium
- 2013 **An indoor navigation device for use in GPS-denied environments**, *Ohio University*, Athens, OH, Award: 1st place, EECS division.
with Ryan Kollar, Christopher Moore, Jessica Belzer, and Matthew Miltner
Ohio University Student Expo

Academic Service

Service to the Profession

- 2023– **Associate Editor**, *Mathematics of Control, Signals, and Systems*.
- 2023 **Co-organizer**, *IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation*.
Workshop: “Compositional Robotics: Mathematics and Tools”
- 2022 **Co-organizer**, *Festschrift in honor of Daniel E. Koditschek* ([link](#)).
- 2022 **Co-organizer**, *IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation*.
Workshop: “Compositional Robotics: Mathematics and Tools”
- Reviewer**, *Annual Reviews in Control*; *ASME J. Biomechanical Engineering*; *Automatica*; *Biological Cybernetics*; *Chaos*; *IEEE Conference on Decision and Control*; *IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation*; *IEEE Transactions on Automatic Control*; *International Symposium on Nonlinear Theory and Its Applications*; *Mathematics of Control, Signals, and Systems*; *Robotics: Science and Systems*; *Scientific Reports*; *SIAM J. Control and Optimization*; *Stochastic Models*.
- Member**, *American Mathematical Society*, *Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers*, *Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics*, *SIAM Activity Groups on Dynamical Systems and on Control and Systems Theory*.

University Service

2022–2023 **Co-organizer and Volunteer**, *UMBC Science Olympiad Co-organizer and Volunteer*, University of Maryland, Baltimore County, MD.

2022 **Volunteer**, *Females Excelling More in Math, Engineering, and Science (F.E.M.M.E.S.)*, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI.

Departmental Service

2023– **Co-adviser, Pi Mu Epsilon Chapter**, *University of Maryland, Baltimore County, MD*.
Mathematics honor society

2019 **Volunteer, demonstrations to visiting K-12 students, Philly Robotics Expo (PRX)**, *University of Pennsylvania*, Philadelphia, PA.
Robotics outreach

2019 **Volunteer, demonstrations to members of the National Society of Black Engineers**, *Detroit, MI*, Representing BIRDS Laboratory, University of Michigan; robotics outreach.
45th Annual Convention of the National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE)

2015 **Volunteer, demonstrations to alumni and industry**, *Engineering Graduate Symposium*, Ann Arbor, MI.
Representing BIRDS Laboratory, University of Michigan; robotics outreach

2015 **Volunteer, panel participant**, *Graduate Student Council*, Ann Arbor, MI.
Member of panel of University of Michigan graduate students; answering questions from prospective graduate students

2014 **Volunteer, demonstrations to elementary schoolers**, *Bryant Elementary School*, Ann Arbor, MI.
Representing BIRDS Laboratory, University of Michigan; robotics outreach

Honors and Awards

2013 **Rackham Engineering Award**, *University of Michigan*.
A graduate research fellowship awarded by Rackham Graduate School

2013 **Outstanding Senior in Electrical Engineering**, *Ohio University*.
Awarded by a faculty panel

2013 **First place, Undergraduate Student Expo**, *Ohio University*.
Senior design team awarded first place in the EECS division

2012 **Undergraduate Research Award**, *College of Engineering, Ohio University*.
My proposal was funded for a semester of undergraduate research

2012 **Outstanding Junior in Electrical Engineering**, *Ohio University*.
Awarded by a faculty panel

2009–2013 **Gateway Excellence Scholarship**, *Ohio University*.
Academic merit-based scholarship (full tuition)

2011 **Dean's Scholarship**, *Ohio University*.
Academic merit-based scholarship

2011 **Fritz/Dolores Russ Scholarship**, *Ohio University*.
Academic merit-based scholarship

Teaching Experience

- 2024 **Course Instructor**, *University of Maryland, Baltimore County*, MD.
Instructor of record for Ordinary Differential Equations (Math 612) in Spring 2024
- 2023 **Course Instructor**, *University of Maryland, Baltimore County*, MD.
Instructor of record for Introduction to Linear Algebra (Math 221) in Fall 2023
- 2023 **Course Instructor**, *University of Michigan*, Ann Arbor, MI.
Instructor of record for two course sections of Differential Equations (Math 316) in Winter 2023
- 2022 **Course Instructor**, *University of Michigan*, Ann Arbor, MI.
Instructor of record for two course sections of Calculus I (Math 115) in Fall 2022
- 2019 **Guest Lecturer**, *University of Pennsylvania*, Philadelphia, PA.
Graduate course: Dynamical Systems for Engineering and Biological Applications (ESE 512)
Course instructor: Daniel E. Koditschek
- 2014 **Graduate Student Instructor**, *University of Michigan*, Ann Arbor, MI.
Senior-level course: Discrete-Time Signal Processing (EECS 451)
Course instructor: Laura Balzano
- 2011–2012 **Supplemental Instruction Leader**, **Academic Achievement Center**, *Ohio University*, Athens, OH.
Sophomore-level course: Statics (CE 220)

Mentoring

- 2022–2023 **Mentor of graduate student**, *University of Michigan*, Ann Arbor, MI.
Mentored 1 graduate student in research
- 2019–2023 **Mentor of graduate students**, *University of Pennsylvania*, Philadelphia, PA.
Mentored 2 graduate students in research
- 2013–2018 **Mentor of undergraduate and graduate students**, **BIRDS Laboratory**, *University of Michigan*.
Mentored 2 undergraduate and 3 graduate students

Other work experience

- 2012 **Undergraduate Student Researcher**, *Ohio University*, Athens, OH.
Funded undergraduate research; sensor fusion and navigation for drones
Adviser: Maarten Uijt de Haag
- 2012 **Co-Op**, *GE Aviation Systems*, Vandalia, OH.
- 2011 **Engineering Intern**, *Lakeshore Cryotronics*, Westerville, OH.