

Noah Eckman

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Education

STANFORD UNIVERSITY | Ph.D. Candidate, Chemical Engineering | M.S. 2024 | Advisor: Prof. Eric Appel | GPA: 3.94 2021 – 2026

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, COLLEGE PARK | B.S. Chemical Engineering, *Magna Cum Laude* | GPA: 3.94 2016 – 2020

Technical Expertise

PHD CANDIDATE | APPEL GROUP, STANFORD UNIVERSITY JAN 2021 – PRESENT

- Work with advisor Prof. Eric Appel researching injectable hydrogels for cancer immunotherapy. Using advanced rheological techniques to characterize dynamic hydrogels. Mathematical modeling of drug release from dynamic hydrogels. Optimization and pharmacokinetic modeling of adoptive T cell therapy. Developed collaborations with groups at Stanford and internationally. Oral presentations at AIChE, Society of Rheology meetings. Presented at Gordon Research Conferences on Biomaterials and Bioinspired Materials. 1st author works published in *Biomaterials Science*, *Macromolecules*, *Nature Reviews Bioengineering*; other manuscripts in review/prep.

VENTURE CAPITAL FELLOW | HCVC APR 2025 – OCT 2025

- Due diligence and technical background on early-stage (pre-seed, seed) deep tech startups. Focused on intersection of machine learning and biology for accelerating clinical testing. Sourced companies from the Bay Area in computing, biotech, robotics, and climate tech.

SOFTWARE ENGINEER, AUTONOMY TEST & EVALUATION | JOHNS HOPKINS APPLIED PHYSICS LAB OCT 2020 – AUG 2021

- Conducted applied research in the Ocean Systems and Engineering group at JHUAPL. Development in Python, Matlab, C++, QT, Gradle, Jenkins. Worked both in software development and in chemical engineering. Projects ranged from CI/CD pipeline development, development of novel methods for unmanned platform autonomy testing, automated testing and experimental setup of pressure-swing oxygen purification systems, metal-organic framework electrocatalysis.

RESEARCHER | BIOINSPIRED ADVANCED MANUFACTURING LAB, UNIV. OF MARYLAND JAN 2019 – JUNE 2020

- Researched use of in-situ direct laser writing for graphene nanoplatelet-loaded microelectronic structures. Work included optimization of photosensitive polymers, manufacturing process for production of nanoplatelets, and dynamic laser writing- enabled 3D printing. Worked in MATLAB with image processing to create 3D figures of printed structures. Co-author conference presentation at *MicroTas 2019*. Publication in *Advanced Materials Technologies*.

RESEARCHER | ZACHARIAH GROUP, UNIV. OF MARYLAND FEB 2017 – JAN 2019

- Explored using 3D printing to create polymer propellant structures loaded with nanothermite mixtures. Work ranged from developing software to move the printer head to developing procedures to code the printer, prepare solutions, and printing energetic films and wires. Utilized slow-motion videography to analyze combustion kinetics and characteristics. Published in *Advanced Materials*, *Applied Physics Letters*, and *Combustion and Flame*, as well as three conference oral presentations.

ENGINEERING INTERN | OFFICE OF NAVAL INTELLIGENCE MAY 2019 – AUG 2019

- Worked as an engineer supporting the Technical Collections unit at ONI. Helped design maritime sensor suites by performing market research and design analysis for backup power and optics sensors. Wrote Python scripts to manage data exfiltration and analysis.

NSF REU FELLOW | ENERGY AND PROPULSION REU, TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY MAY 2018 – AUG 2018

- Designed and performed novel experimental investigation into thermal properties of aqueous SiO₂ nanofluids and their performance in a chevron-plate heat exchanger. Analyzed data in MATLAB. Presented work to group leaders as well as at TAMU Engineering poster session.

Leadership and Service

STUDENT MEMBER | ANIMAL CARE AND USE COMMITTEE, STANFORD UNIVERSITY SEP 2023 – PRESENT

- Review the use of laboratory animals at Stanford to ensure ethical and humane treatment of animals. Perform review of proposed protocol, present protocols to full committee for review, and carry out site visit inspections.

CHAIR | STUDENT FACILITES FUND COMMITTEE, UNIV. OF MARYLAND. JAN 2017 – AUG 2019

- Directed the soliciting of proposals and the allocation of funds from a \$3M pool. As first leader of this committee, successfully oversaw two years of student-based facilities improvement projects worth over \$1.5M. Coordinated student leaders and University staff.

CHIEF OF STAFF & SPEAKER OF THE LEGISLATURE | UMD STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

SEPT 2016 – MAY 2020

- Represented Clark School of Engineering students for three years on the Legislature, including as Speaker of the Legislature, then served as a mentor and adviser as Chief of Staff. Consistently advocated for student interests, from revamping sexual assault prevention training to advocating for student athlete rights. Worked as a leader of leaders helping student group executives with group recognition and funding.

Awards and Qualifications

- NSF Graduate Research Fellowship* (Awarded 2023).
- 1st prize, Stanford Polymer Collective Poster Session (2024).
- Travel Grant Recipient and Rheology Research Symposium Attendee, Society of Rheology (2025).
- President, Stanford Birdwatching Club (2024-25).
- High Pass*, Chemical Engineering Ph.D. Oral Qualifying Exam (2022).
- Department of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering Chair's Award*, University of Maryland (presented for excellence in academics, outstanding service to the department, or leadership in the department, 2020).
- Bud Thomas Award* (senior with most significant contributions to Student Government Association), University of Maryland (2020). Press coverage [here](#) and [here](#).
- Maryland Medallion Society* (Top 25 graduating senior; contributed significantly to the general advancement of the interests of the University of Maryland and displayed outstanding involvement and leadership in campus activities, 2020).
- Special Achievement Award*, JHUAPL, for leadership on Field Tests (2020-21).
- Hon. Gordon England Engineering Scholarship* (Fall 2019).
- Future Leader in Chemical Engineering*, NC State University (October 2019).
- A. James Clark Board of Visitors Endowed Scholarship* (Fall 2018).
- Walter Schymik Undergraduate Research and Internship Scholarship* (Fall 2018).
- Outstanding Co-Op/Intern Award*, JHUAPL and A. James Clark School of Engineering (April 2018).
- Omicron Delta Kappa, National Leadership Honor Society (Spring 2018), *Top Ten Freshmen Leader* (April 2017).
- Software Development: MATLAB/Python/C++/Gradle/Jenkins

Teaching and Mentorship

- Instructor*, Stanford Splash. Taught course on culinary fluid dynamics to underserved Bay Area high school students (2022).
- Mentor for a Stanford Undergraduate student in Bioengineering, Appel Lab, 2022-2024.
- Teaching Assistant, Fundamentals and Applications of Spectroscopy, with Prof. Danielle Mai, Stanford University, 2025.
- Teaching Assistant, Polymer Physics, with Prof. Danielle Mai, Stanford University, 2024.
- Teaching Assistant, Organic Chemistry Lab II, with Dr. Lee Friedman, University of Maryland, 2017-2020 (5 semesters).
- Teaching Assistant, Separations Processes, with Prof. Amy Karlsson, University of Maryland, 2020.
- Teaching Assistant, The Arts and Humanities in Practice, with Dr. Yvonne Slosarski, University of Maryland, 2018.

Publications and Presentations

Journal Publications:

- Eckman, N.**, Saouaf, O.M., Jons, C.K., Pingali, S.V., Prossnitz, A.P., Kasse, C.M., Mai, D.J., Appel, E.A. (2025). Small-angle Neutron Scattering Reveals Structural Hierarchy of Polymer–Nanoparticle Hydrogels. *In Review*. <https://doi.org/10.26434/chemrxiv-2025-51qx0>
- Eckman, N.**, Appel E.A. (2025). Crosslink Dynamics Control Injection Force and Flow Profiles of Non-Covalent Gels. *Macromolecules*. <https://doi.org/10.1021/acs.macromol.5c00854>
- Eckman, N.**, Eckman, N.; Grosskopf, A.K.; Jiang, G.; Kamani, K.; Huang, M.S.; Schmittlein, B.; Heilshorn, S.C.; Rogers, S.; Appel, E.A. (2025). Crosslink strength governs yielding behavior in dynamically crosslinked hydrogels. *Biomaterials Science*. <https://doi.org/10.1039/D4BM01323A>

4. **Eckman, N.*** , Nejatfard, A.* , Cavet, R.* , Grosskopf, A.K., Appel, E.A. (2024). Biomaterials to enhance adoptive cell therapy. *Nature Reviews Bioengineering*. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s44222-023-00148-z>
5. Song, Y.E., **Eckman, N.** et al. (2025). Highly Extensible Physically Crosslinked Hydrogels for High-Speed 3D Bioprinting. *Advanced Healthcare Materials*. <https://doi.org/10.1002/adhm.202404988>
6. Bailey, S.J., **Eckman, N.** et al. (2025). A thiol–ene click-based strategy to customize injectable polymer–nanoparticle hydrogel properties for therapeutic delivery. *Biomaterials Science*. <https://doi.org/10.1039/D4BM01315H>
7. Prossnitz, A., Nguyen, L.T., **Eckman, N.** et al. (2025) Defining Structure-Function Relationships of Amphiphilic Excipients Enables Rational Design of Ultra-Stable Biopharmaceuticals. *Advanced Science*. <https://doi.org/10.1002/advs.202409604>
8. Jons, C.K., Prossnitz, A.P., **Eckman, N.**, Dong, C., Utz, A., Appel, E.A. (2024). Glassy Surfactants Enable Ultra-High Concentration Biologic Therapeutics. (2025). *Science Translational Medicine*. <https://doi.org/10.1126/scitranslmed.adv6427>
9. Meany, E.L. et al., **Eckman, N.** et al. (2025). Generation of an inflammatory niche in an injectable hydrogel depot through recruitment of key immune cells improves efficacy of mRNA vaccines. *Science Advances*. <https://doi.org/10.1126/sciadv.adr2631>
10. Sen, S.*; Dong, C.*; Jons, C.K.; Reineking, W.; Alakesh, A.; **Eckman, N.**; Song, Y.E.; Prossnitz, A.N.; Appel, E.A. (2025). Evolving Transport Properties of Dynamic Hydrogels Enable Self-Tuning of Short- And Long-Term Cargo Delivery. *In Review*. <https://doi.org/10.48550/arXiv.2503.14915>
11. Jons, C.K., et al., **Eckman, N.** et al. (2025). Engineering Sustained-Release Broadly Neutralizing Antibody Formulations. *Journal of Controlled Release*. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jconrel.2025.114349>
12. Nejatfard, A., Klich, J.H., **Eckman, N.** et al. (2025). A Transient Immunostimulatory Niche Synergizes Adoptive And Endogenous Immunity For Enhanced Tumor Control. *In Review*. <https://doi.org/10.1101/2025.08.22.671875>
13. d'Aquino, A.I.* , Dong, C.* , et al., **Eckman, N.** et al. (2025). Long-Acting Hydrogel-Based Depot Formulations of Tirzepatide and Semaglutide for the Management of Type 2 Diabetes and Weight. *In Review*. <https://doi.org/10.1101/2025.07.02.662867>
14. Williams, S.C., et al., **Eckman, N.** et al. (2025). Intranasal Sertraline for the Investigation of Nose-To-Brain Delivery to Mitigate Systemic Exposure. *ACS Pharmacology & Translational Science*. <https://doi.org/10.1021/acsptsci.5c00560>
15. Kong, G., et al., **Eckman, N.** et al. (2025). Clonally expanded, targetable, natural killer-like NKG7 T cells seed the aged spinal cord to disrupt myeloid-dependent wound healing. *Neuron*. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.neuron.2024.12.012>
16. Yan, J., Ou, B., Saouaf, O., Meany, E., **Eckman, N.**, Appel, E.A. (2024). A regimen compression strategy for commercial vaccines leveraging an injectable hydrogel depot technology for sustained vaccine exposure. *Advanced Therapeutics*. <https://doi.org/10.1002/adtp.202300108>
17. Tang, S. et al., **Eckman, N.** et al. (2024). Label-Free Composition Analysis of Supramolecular Polymer–Nanoparticle Hydrogels by Reversed-Phase Liquid Chromatography Coupled with a Charged Aerosol Detector. *Analytical Chemistry*. <https://doi.org/10.1021/acs.analchem.3c05747>
18. Kroo, L. A., Binagia, J. P., **Eckman, N.**, Prakash, M., & Shaqfeh, E. S. (2022). A freely suspended robotic swimmer propelled by viscoelastic normal stresses. *Journal of Fluid Mechanics*. <https://doi.org/10.1017/jfm.2022.485>
19. Restaino, M., **Eckman, N.**, Alsharhan, A. T., Lamont, A. C., Anderson, J., Weinstein, D., Hall, A., Sochol, R. D. (2019) In Situ Direct Laser Writing of 3D Graphene-Laden Microstructures. *Advanced Materials Technologies*. <https://doi.org/10.1002/admt.202100222>
20. Wang, H., Shen, J., Kline, D. J., **Eckman, N.**, Agrawal, N. R., Wu, T., & Zachariah, M. R. (2019). Direct Writing of a 90 wt% Particle Loading Nanothermite. *Advanced Materials*. <https://doi.org/10.1002/adma.201806575>
21. Kline, D. J., Rehwoldt, M. C., Wang, H., **Eckman, N.**, & Zachariah, M. R. (2019). Why does adding a poor thermal conductor increase propagation rate in solid propellants? *Applied Physics Letters*. <https://doi.org/10.1063/1.5113612>
22. Rehwoldt, M., Wang, H., Wu, T., **Eckman, N.**, Wang, P., Agrawal, N., & Zachariah, M.R. (2019) Ignition and Combustion Analysis of Direct Write Fabricated Aluminum/Metal Oxide/PVDF Composites. *Combustion and Flame*. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.combustflame.2019.08.023>

Conference Presentations:

1. How do Crosslink Dynamics Alter the Yielding Transition and Injectability of Dynamic Hydrogels? **Eckman, N**, Appel E.A. 2025 AIChE Biomaterials (08B) Graduate Student Award Session. Boston, MA, 5 November 2025.
2. Surprises in Injection Force and Flow Rheology of Dynamic Hydrogels. **Eckman, N**, Appel E.A. 2025 AIChE Annual Meeting, Boston, MA, 5 November 2025.
3. How do Crosslink Dynamics Alter the Yielding Transition and Injectability of Dynamic Hydrogels? **Eckman, N**, Appel E.A. 2025 Society of Rheology Meeting. Santa Fe, NM, 20 October 2025.
4. Surprises in injection force and flow rheology of physical hydrogels. **Eckman, N**, Appel E.A. (Poster). 2025 Biomaterials Gordon Research Conference. Barcelona, Spain, 26 July 2025.
5. Using Non-Equilibrium Rheology to Design Injectable Hydrogels for Adoptive Cell Therapy. **Eckman, N. et al.** (Poster). 2024 Bioinspired Materials Gordon Research Conference. Les Diablerets, Switzerland, 18 Jun 2024.
6. Non-Equilibrium characterization of injectable polymer/nanoparticle hydrogels. **Eckman, N. et al.** 2022 AIChE Annual Meeting, Phoenix, AZ, 17 Nov 2022.