

Professional Summary

I am an engineer who is passionate about the design and analysis of aviation and space systems, including but not limited to satellites, human spaceflight, spacecraft and aircraft structures, propulsion, mechanisms, remote sensing, imaging, and controls. I am relentlessly curious, a strong visionary, and optimistic about the future of technology and humankind.

Education

Rochester Institute of Technology *Rochester, NY*

May 2017

Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering – Aerospace Option

Master of Engineering in Mechanical Engineering

Technical Skills

Mission Operations, Space Systems Engineering, Imaging Science, Git, Python, Rust, MATLAB, Simulink, Docker, CAD, L^AT_EX, MacOS, Linux, Controls, Web3 (Ethereum), Timekeeping, Technical Writing, Public Speaking

Experience

Planet *San Francisco, CA*

November 2018 – Present

Senior Space Systems Engineer, Mission Operations

- Designed and implemented automated flight operations scripts to maximize satellite operations uptime, detect and respond to anomalies, and update onboard software.
- Responsible Engineer for the entire SkySat optical assembly and onboard imaging chain.
- Responsible Engineer for SkySat, Pelican, and Tanager imaging ConOps and on-orbit payload commissioning.

Space Systems Engineer / Flight Operator, SkySat Mission Operations

- Conducted flight operations for the SkySat constellation of 21 Earth observation satellites, including manual commanding, anomaly investigation & resolution, and development of new spacecraft activities, operations procedures, automated procedures, and automated on-orbit activities.
- Maintained spacecraft testbed and ground support equipment for hardware-in-the-loop testing.
- **Publications:** [SSC21-VIII-05](#) (2021), [doi:10.1109/AERO55745.2023.10115608](#) (2023)

MoonDAO *San Francisco, CA*

January 2023 – Present

Rocketeer, Senator, Citizen Voter

- Voting member, community manager, and among the top 5 most active contributors.
- **Project:** DeSci Labs Publication Reproducibility Validations
- **Project:** Cislunar Open Clock Synchronization System (CLOCSS)

Open Lunar Foundation *San Francisco, CA*

January – May 2023

Research Fellow, Timekeeping & Lunar Clocks

- Researched the feasibility of a local lunar time standard or a shared and openly accessible reference timing signal for positioning, navigation, and timing (PNT) capabilities of lunar missions.
- Proposed the concept of a local lunar time standard that can be accessed using technology that is likely to be included in most lunar missions for nominal activities.
- **Project:** Possibilities for a Local Lunar Time Standard

Lockheed Martin Space *Sunnyvale, CA*

June 2017 – November 2018

Electro-Optical Engineer, Optical Payload Center of Excellence

- Characterized focal plane arrays and imaging systems in optical labs.
- Systems engineering and Electro-Optical engineering on IRAD projects to support major business pursuits.
- Led a software team through critical development milestones for Matlab engineering tools.

SpaceX *Hawthorne, CA*

June – August 2016

Vehicle Engineering Intern, Capsule Structures

- Modeled and drafted designs for critical structures for the Crew Dragon vehicle.

Vehicle Engineering Intern, Capsule Reusability

January – July 2015

- Project development, including hands-on prototyping and designing, conducting and presenting experiments to explore changes to Dragon Cargo space capsules.

RIT Space Exploration (RITSPEX) *Rochester, NY*

Fall 2014 – Present

Alumni Member

- Mentored undergraduate students working on space exploration projects.
- Provided subject-matter expertise in imaging projects and control systems.

Detailed Project Descriptions

Space Time Card moondao.com/proposal/163

MoonDAO + Open Lunar, 2024–2025

Lead technical advisor and project manager for developing an open-source, space-rated atomic clock based on the Open Compute Project Time Card. The project aims to create an affordable (<\$10k) precision timing solution for lunar missions using commercial chip-scale atomic clocks (CSACs).

- Providing technical guidance and customer feedback for RIT Multidisciplinary Senior Design team developing CubeSat-compatible Time Card prototype
- Procuring and advising integration of SA.45s atomic clock components
- Coordinating between multiple stakeholders including Open Lunar Foundation, MoonDAO, and RIT

Coordinated Lunar Time Research [publications](#)

Open Lunar, 2023–2024

Leading research initiatives on lunar timekeeping infrastructure and standards.

- Co-authored policy brief on Coordinated Lunar Time (LTC) featured in Wall Street Journal, France 24, and Euractiv
- Presented "Complications of a Lunar Coordinated Time Scale" at 2024 Space Frontiers & Governance Workshop
- Developed SpaceTime Protocol proposal for decentralized lunar PNT infrastructure

yahs [philiplinden/yahs](#)

Personal, 2024

A high altitude balloon flight simulator built in Rust using the Bevy game engine. The project provides a modular framework for simulating balloon dynamics and flight paths, with both graphical and command-line interfaces. Available as both a standalone application and a reusable library for integration into other projects.

ahab [philiplinden/ahab](#) philiplinden.github.io/ahab

Personal, 2025

A high altitude balloon (HAB) flight software and simulation framework written in Rust. The project provides tools for modeling HAB flight dynamics, planning missions, and controlling balloon altitude through automated gas venting and ballast dropping. Built with a focus on safety, reliability and real-time performance.

Cislunar Open Clock Synchronization System (CLOCSS) [presentation](#)

MoonDAO, 2023

DARPA LunA-10 Proposal (Shortlisted) Developed a concept for a decentralized approach to lunar infrastructure. Authored manuscript and presentation materials submitted to DARPA's [LunA-10](#) capability study.

Possibilities for a Local Lunar Time Standard [white paper](#)

Open Lunar Fellowship, 2023

Authored a white paper that explores the characteristics of a common reference timing signal to serve future lunar operations. The goal was to identify a low-cost, transparent approach to the development of a Local Lunar Time Standard.

On-Orbit Demonstrations of Proactive Tasking of Glint Imagery

IEEE Aerospace Conference, 2023

Awarded Best Paper in Track (Track 12) doi:10.1109/AERO55745.2023.10115608

Formalized a methodology to predict future glint windows over a specific region. Studied various tasking approaches that described the satellite's actions during these windows to autonomously acquire glint captures. These actions were then demonstrated by orbiting satellites, and their captures were then analyzed.

Automatic Optical Image Stabilization System Calibration [SSC21-VIII-05](#)

Small Satellite Conference, 2021

Developed and executed an on-orbit calibration campaign. Automated on-orbit procedures and analyses were used for calibration and validation of an optical image stabilization (OIS) system across a fleet of 19 satellites. OIS actuation settings were configured for each image capture through automated optimization procedures.

High Altitude Balloon Autonomous Altitude Control System brickworks.github.io/Nucleus

Personal, 2020

Designed a control system for a high altitude balloon (HAB) to maintain a target altitude by venting gas from the balloon and dropping ballast mass in flight. I modeled passive flight dynamics of a HAB in MATLAB, Simulink, and Python. I developed a state machine and control system in Simulink and used the model to tune a PID controller. I then derived a state-space model, Kalman filter, and LQR controller from scratch to achieve better performance.

Cosmic Dawn Intensity Mapper (CDIM) [doi:10.48550/arXiv.1903.03144](https://doi.org/10.48550/arXiv.1903.03144)

Graduate Paper, 2017

Contributed to a proposal for a Probe Class (~\$850M) NASA mission for a 1.5 meter space telescope intended to observe near-infrared light from the early universe. Compiled financial, mass, and power budgets for the optics, instruments, cryocooler & spacecraft. Defined system-level design, generated representative CAD models and figures of the spacecraft. This mission was published in the NASA 2020 Decadal Survey. My contribution: [runphilrun/CDIM-design](#)

1 kW Arcjet Thruster [RIT-Space-Exploration/msd-P17101](#)

Undergraduate Capstone, 2017

Developed the concept, system-level design, and nozzle design for a small scale arcjet thruster demonstration. Worked in a multidisciplinary team of mechanical and electrical engineers. Responsible for communication between the team and the customer (RIT Space Exploration). Designed and performed CFD analysis on the thruster nozzle.

Other Skills

Brazilian Portuguese - Intermediate Level (written & spoken)