

# WILLIAM S. DANIELS

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## EDUCATION

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### Colorado School of Mines

B.S. May 2019

Major: Engineering Physics

GPA 3.99

Minor: Computational and Applied Mathematics

## INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE

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### Systems Engineering Intern

May 2018 - Aug 2018

*Northrop Grumman, Colorado Springs*

- Worked with the Infrared Hardbody Signatures Team within the Threat Modeling Center (TMC).
- Investigated ways of decreasing simulation run time within the TMC's production process.
- Completed investigations into reflectance and false lines of sight, reducing run time by up to 80%.
- Wrote MATLAB scripts for parsing, plotting, and analysis of infrared signature data.
- Collaborated with other interns to implement a MATLAB and Unix based script that predicts the sunlit status of target objects.

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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### Verification of Elve Simulation using Data Set of Observed Elves

Aug 2018 - Present

*Colorado School of Mines, Department of Physics*

*Advisor: Lawrence Wiencke, PhD*

- Used elves, a class of transient luminous events that occur in the ionosphere, to study lighting.
- Analyzed large elve datasets using ROOT, a data analysis framework written in C++.
- Determined the sensitivity of an elve simulation by mapping the input and output parameter spaces.
- Used this sensitivity study to simulate observed elves and analyze differences between simulation and data.
- Presented my work at the American Physical Society (APS) conference in April.

### Implementation of Astrometry Based Laser System

Jan 2018 - Present

*Colorado School of Mines, Department of Physics*

*Advisor: Lawrence Wiencke, PhD*

- Implementing a laser system that gives the pointing direction of a laser from a photo of the stars.
- Utilized Astrometry, a Unix based astrometric software that determines the equatorial coordinates of a picture of the stars.
- Created a coordinate conversion algorithm in MATLAB to convert from equatorial coordinates to horizontal coordinates centered on the laser system.
- Determined the relationship between azimuth angle and steps of a stepper motor.
- Currently designing a camera mount that provides five degrees of freedom for alignment.

## **Planned Laser Field Campaigns for EUSO Overflight**

**Oct 2016 - Jun 2017**

*Colorado School of Mines, Department of Physics*

*Advisor: Lawrence Wiencke, PhD*

- Planned laser field campaigns to test the Extreme Universe Space Observatory (EUSO), which was going to be sent to the ISS.
- Calculated the ground velocity of the ISS and used JSatTrack to plot ground tracks.
- Developed an orbital model for the ISS using Mathematica and JSatTrack that predicts the time and location of passes and takes into account the lunar cycle.

## **Characterization of Biorefinery Lignin**

**Jun 2016 - Aug 2016**

*Washington State University, Voiland School of Bioengineering and Chemical Engineering*

*Advisor: Ruoshui Ma, PhD*

- Summer Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) at Washington State University.
- Studied the chemical conversion of lignins into aviation biofuel.
- Used thermal gravimetric analysis and Fourier-transform infrared spectroscopy to find differences in characteristics between lignin samples.
- Presented at poster symposium: "Characterization of Molecular Structure and Interlinkage Network for Seven Representative Biorefinery Lignin"

## **TEAM PROJECT EXPERIENCE**

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### **NASA DemoSat Program**

**Aug 2016 - Dec 2016**

*Colorado School of Mines, Department of Physics*

- Collaborated with team members to design and fabricate a device to test the radiation shielding capabilities of Martian basalt.
- Lead the CAD aspect of the team, used SolidWorks to create an accurate model of the prototype.
- Responsible for testing the Arduino sensor system, developed a freeze and shock test.

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

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### **Assistant Chemistry Teacher**

**Aug 2017 - Dec 2017**

*Arvada West High School*

*Mentor: Matthew Studenny*

### **Modern Physics Teaching Assistant**

**Aug 2017 - Dec 2017**

*Colorado School of Mines, Department of Physics*

*Professor: Fred Sarazin, PhD*

## **ORGANIZATIONS AND PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES**

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<b>Physics</b>	Society of Physics Students American Physical Society
<b>Mathematics</b>	Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics
<b>Engineering</b>	American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics Tau Beta Pi Engineering Honor Society
<b>Teaching</b>	TEAM-UP Teaching Program

## CONFERENCES AND POSTER SESSIONS

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### American Physical Society (APS) April Meeting

April 13-16

*Denver, Colorado*

- Gave a talk in an undergraduate session.
- Talk title: “What can elves tell us about very strong lightning?”
- Received an outstanding presentation award for my talk.

### Mines Physics Fest Poster Session

April 23

*Colorado School of Mines, Department of Physics*

- Poster session for physics undergraduate and graduate students.
- Poster title: “What can elves tell us about very strong lightning?”
- Received first place award for my poster.

## ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS

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<b>Fellowships</b>	Mines Undergraduate Research Fellowship Harvey Scholarship
<b>Awards</b>	General Chemistry Student of the Year Mines Physics Department Distinguished Graduate First Place Poster in Physics Department Research Poster Session

## COMPUTING EXPERIENCE

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<b>Programming Languages</b>	MATLAB, C++, ROOT, Mathematica, $\text{\LaTeX}$
<b>Operating Systems and Software</b>	Linux, Windows, LabVIEW, JSatTrack, SolidWorks

## RELEVANT COURSEWORK

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<b>Physics</b>	PHGN 311: Introduction to Mathematical Physics PHGN 341: Thermal Physics (Statistical Mechanics) PHGN 350: Intermediate Mechanics (Classical Mechanics) PHGN 361: Intermediate Electromagnetism PHGN 462: Electromagnetic Waves and Optics
<b>Mathematics</b>	MATH 307: Introduction to Scientific Computing MATH 332: Linear Algebra MATH 455: Partial Differential Equations MATH 510: Ordinary Differential Equations and Dynamical Systems
<b>Engineering</b>	CBEN 210: Introduction to Thermodynamics EPIC 251: Planetary Engineering Design CSCI 261: Programming Concepts EGGN 408: Introduction to Space Exploration