

Malik Nauman Rauf

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RESEARCH INTERESTS

My research interests include flight physics, control systems and engineering, with a focus on model predictive control and adaptive control, as well as optimal control. I am also deeply interested in the modeling of uncertain and partially controllable systems, stochastic systems, astrodynamics, and astrophysics.

EDUCATION Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, Georgia US

M.S. Aerospace Engineering, August 2024 - Present

Grade: 4.00/4.00Fulbright Scholar

• Primary Area: Flight Mechanics and Control

• Courses: AE 6530, MATH 6579, AE 8803 VAM, ECE 6553, MATH 6338, AE 6580, ECE 6271

• Course Projects:

• "Implementation of Q-learning for Multi-Agent Adversarial Games"; Python; AE 8803 Optimal Control for Learning and Games

• "Safety Promoting Nearly-Optimal Neural Lyapunov Controllers"; MATLAB; AE 6580 Nonlinear Control

Institute of Space Technology, Islamabad, Islamabad Capital Territory PK

B.S. Aerospace Engineering, September 2018 - July 2022

• Grade: 3.93/4.00 (Summa Cum Laude)

• Valedictorian, Dean's Honor List

• Capstone Project: "Designing a Framework for Damage Tolerance Analysis of Metallic Structures

• Electives: Flight Control Systems, Spacecraft Dynamics and Controls, Guidance and Navigation of Aerospace Vehicles

Honors and Awards Selected for the Georgia Tech Boeing FLT Program, 2025

Fulbright Scholarship for Masters, 2024

National Award of Pakistan - International Astronomy, and Astrophysics Competition, 2024

Gold Honor - International Astronomy, and Astrophysics Competition, 2024

Achieved Academy Participant, 2024

Teknofest Turkey 2022: Winner of Black Sea Competition, Honorable Mention Prize in International Free Mission vehicle Category

Six Provisional Asteroid Discoveries - International Astronomical Search Collaboration, 2023 Institute of Space Technology: Graduated Summa Magna Cum Laude, 2022; Presidential Gold Medal for Highest grade, 2022; Vice-Chancellor's Gold Medal for best Thesis, 2022; Brigadier Dr. Atiq-ur-Rehman Graduation Prize for Best Student of the Year 2022; Valedictorian of the Year 2022;

Merit Scholarship Holder, 2018-2022 Silver Honor - International Astronomy, and Astrophysics Competition, 2021 STEP Scholarship Holder for Bachelors, 2018

Computer Skills

- Languages: MATLAB, Python, C++, C#, LATEX, SQLite, Oracle SQL, Shell Scripting, HTML, CSS, JavaScript, SysML, Julia, Wolfram, ROS, Arduino C
- Softwares: Windows, Linux Ubuntu, MS Office (Word, Powerpoint, Excel, Project, Publisher, Visio), Libre Office, ANSYS WorkBench, ABAQUS, CAD(Catia V5), Inkscape, Flight Dynamics Modelling (Athena AVL, Tornado VLM, US Datcom, XFLR5), SIMULINK, Presentation (Beamer, Lucid Press, Lucid Charts), Astrometrica, UNITY Game Development, VIM, Capella/ARCADIA (System Engineering), Valispace, Pschopy, Siemens TIA Portal
- Operating Systems: Unix/Linux, Windows, MacOS.

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, Georgia US Graduate Student Researcher

Oct, 2024 - Present

- [1] Working and researching the implementation of optimal control theory on the class of Positive and Compartmental Systems. (Feb. 2025 Present)
- [2] Worked as part of the Human Robot Collaboration Project at ROBOTICS Lab. Conducting Real-time experiments on the Manipulator arm collaboration with a Human and another robotic agent (Summer 2025)

Institute of Space Technology, Islamabad, Islamabad Capital Territory PK Teaching Assistant Feb, 2022 - June 2022

Assisting in Preparation and Deliverance of Lectures along with Making and Grading of Assessments.

PUBLICATIONS

- [1] M. N. Rauf, R. A. Khan, S. I. A. Shah, and M. A. Naqvi, "Design and analysis of stability and control for a small unmanned aerial vehicle," International Journal of Dynamics and Control, Nov 2023.
- [2] M. N. Rauf, R. A. Khan, and S. I. Ali Shah, "Stability analysis & development of a control strategy for a small uav," in 2023 3rd International Conference on Digital Futures and Transformative Technologies (ICoDT2), pp. 1–6, 2023.
- [3] M. N. Rauf, R. Khan, and G. Majeed, "Designing an Analysis Framework for estimating life of a component subjected to a constant load and a single overload using MATLAB Designing an Analysis Framework for estimating life of a component subjected to a constant load and a single overload using," Journal of Material Science & Applied Engineering, pp. 1–10, 2022.

Conferences Attended

[1] "Stability Analysis & Development of Control Strategy for Small UAV", International Conference on Digital Futures and Transformative Technologies, Islamabad, Islamabad Capital Territory, PK

Professional Experience

4Earth Inc., Kennesaw, GA, United States

Automation & Controls Engineer

Jul, 2025 - Aug, 2025

Duties: Responsible for assisting in CAD modeling, Design improvements of the Water Treatment unit.

Programming of Siemens Programmable Logic Controllers (PLC), and Siemens TIA Portal and Human-Machine Interfaces (HMI)

Projects:

[1] Design and Implementation of an Autonomous Water Treatment unit *July*, 2025 - Aug, 2025 Suggested improvements in the design and systems integration leading to 10% improvement in Accessibility and Data Transparency.

Naqcode Technologies Pvt. Ltd., Islamabad, Islamabad Capital Territory PK

Team Lead (Flight Mechanics and Propulsion)

Sep, 2023 - Jul, 2024

Duties: Managed the Technical Project Execution of both Propulsion and Controls teams; Projects included Design and Development of SRMs, Modeling, Control & Simulation of UAVs, Designing of a UAV launch Platform.

Technical Execution and oversight of Flight Mechanics Projects, Modeling Framework design and Simulations.

Projects:

- [1] Design of Vehicle-Top UAV Launcher as well as a Catapult Launch mechanism May, 2024 July, 2024
 - Initial Schematic Design, Structural Analysis, and Integration.
- [2] Development of a Warhead system

 Warhead System Design; Detonation Point Monitoring.

Nov, 2023 - Mar, 2024

- [3] Design, Performance analysis, and Optimization of SRM

 Nov, 2023 Jul, 2024

 Design and Analysis of Missile Propulsion system; Parametric studies of SRM metrics; Optimization of design variables via Genetic Algorithms.
- [4] FDM and Control of Precision Glide Vehicle

 Development of a suitable flight control law for a Precision Guided System; Structural Sizing of Control Surfaces.

 Mar, 2023 Jan, 2024
- [5] Design and Development of deployable SUCAV Aug, 2022 Present Assessment of Stability; Development of Flight Dynamics Model

Flight Mechanics & Control Engineer

Aug, 2022 - Aug, 2023

Duties: Flight Dynamics modeling, Stability and Controllability assessment for Unconventional Vehicles; Mission Designing, and developing Guidance, & Navigation strategies; Control Systems Architecture design including Stability Augmenters, and Autopilots; Ensuring compliance of built systems with Established Standards.

Projects:

[1] FDM and Control Development of Loitering Munition

Aug, 2022 - Nov, 2023

Assessment of Stability; Development of Flight Dynamics Model; Designing and Verifying the Control Systems Architecture for 6DOF Control; Software Designing of Navigation Autopilots.

OTHER EXPERIENCES

GT Boeing

Mentee

May, 2025 - Sep, 2025

Duties: Mentee under Hunter Kim in GT Boeing FLT Program 2025

Achieved Academy SGAC

EPD Team Member

Feb, 2025 - Present

Duties: Working as part of the Communication team in Education and Professional Development Sector of SGAC lead by Achieved Academy

All Pakistan Asteroid Search Campaign, Islamabad, Islamabad Capital Territory PK

Co-Founder

Aug, 2021 - Present

Duties: Self Launched campaign in affiliation with International Astronomical Search Collaboration and NASA; Technical Writing Lead.

Projects:

[1] APASC Campaign 2024

Sep, 2023 - Oct, 2023

Increased Teams to 15 with 60 partcipants in total.

[2] APASC Campaign 2023

Sep, 2023 - Oct, 2023

Collaborated with SGAC and Attock Astronomical Society to Launch the campaign nation wide.

[3] APASC Campaign 2022

Sep, 2022 - Oct, 2022

Our Pilot campaign launched through Space Society IST in collaboration with Attock Astronomical Society.

GT CRAB Lab Robophysics Bootcamp

Participant

July, 2025 - July, 2025

Duties: Selected as one of the 10 participants in the 2025 rendition of the Robophysics Bootcamp organized by CRAB Lab. Learned about principles of physics-informed robot design and designed a 4-link snake-emulating robot.

Space Generation Advisory Council

Mentor

Dec, 2024 - May, 2025

Duties: Participated in the 2024 Mentorship Program, and served as an Academic and Professional Mentor to Carl Anthony Sta Ana

Aviation Training Hub, Islamabad, Islamabad Capital Territory PK

Aviation Intern

Nov, 2021 - Jan, 2022

Duties: Aviation Maintenance Training

Kamra Aeronautical Complex, Kamra PK

Aerospace Intern

Aug, 2021 - Sep, 2021

Duties: Observing and Learning the design, and production of trainer and other aircrafts.

References

Available on request

Professional
Affiliations

I.	Techmasters (Toastmasters International) Club	Apr, 2025 - Present
II.	Honor Society	Feb, 2025 - Present
III.	The Planetary Society	Jan, 2025 - Present
IV.	Order of the Engineers	Dec, 2024 - Present
V.	The American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME)	Sep, 2024 - Present
VI.	Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE)	Sep, 2024 - Present
VII.	Royal Aeronautical Society	Aug, 2024 - Present
VIII.	Fulbright Association	May, 2024 - Present
IX.	American Society for Testing and Materials	May, 2024 - Present
Χ.	Institution of Engineers Pakistan	May, 2024 - Present
XI.	European Low Gravity Research Association	Feb, 2024 - Present
XII.	Moon Village Association	Apr, 2023 - Present
XIII.	Space Generation Advisory Council	Feb, 2023 - Present

EXTRACURRICULAR GT Buzz Buddies, Atlanta, GA, USA

Mentor July, 2025 - Dec, 2025

Moon Village Association, International

Project Member of PESC project Apr., 2023 - Present

Space Generation Advisory Council, International

Member of Space Exploration Project Group

Member in Small Satellite Group

Dec, 2024 - May, 2025

Feb, 2024 - Present

Feb, 2023 - Present

Space Society IST (Publications Department), Institute of Space Technology, PK

Google Development Student Club (IST-Chapter), Institute of Space Technology, PK

Executive Member (Publication) Sep, 2021 - Sep, 2022

Space Summer School, Institute of Space Technology, PK

Team Member (Student Management Team)

July. 2022

Seventh ICASE Conference, Institute of Space Technology, PK

Team Manager (Publication) Dec. 2021