JULIA SCHATZ GNC ENGINEER

Contact

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4 (651) 724-4430

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GNC engineer with experience in embedded software development, nonlinear control theory, and spacecraft guidance, navigation, and control.

Skills

CONTROL SYSTEMS

Motion and Trajectory Planning MIMO Linear Control Spacecraft Control Nonlinear Control Passive Systems Theory

SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT

C & C++

Python

Matlab

Embedded Software

MECHANICAL DESIGN

Solidworks

Onshape

ELECTRONICS

EAGLE

Altium

STM32

KiCAD

Education

University of Southern California

M.S. Aerospace Engineering (Guidance and Control Focus) 2022 GPA 3.82

University of Minnesota

BS Electrical Engineering 2021

Minor Computer Science 2021

GPA 3.63 - Magna Cum Laude

Employment

SpaceX GNC Engineer - Falcon Launch Vehicles Los Angeles, CA Jan. 2023 to Current

SpaceX Los Angeles, CA

Associate Engineer - Falcon GNC

May 2022 to Aug. 2022

Worked on guidance, navigation, and control software for Falcon launch vehicles. Increased pace of mission development by automating trajectory optimization. Improved launch availability in high-shear wind conditions. Increased vehicle recovery consistency by analyzing touchdown conditions.

USC Space Engineering Research Center

Los Angeles, CA

Research Engineer Aug. 2021 to Dec. 2022
Performed cubesat integration, developed flight software, validated and integrated satellite GNC software. Wrote satellite radio communication software using GNURadio.

Developed real-time control system hardware and software for a scale lunar lander. Designed electronics system and GNC algorithms for ISS-flight prototype docking mechanism.

SpaceX Vehicle Bus Software Intern Redmond, WA May 2021 to Aug. 2021

Developed embedded vehicle software for a fleet of satellites. Managed creation of hardware test interface for continuous integration. Investigated control issues leading to periodic motor stalls on field hardware.

Publications

Schatz, J., & Caverly, R. J. (2021, August). Passivity-Based Adaptive Control of a 5-DOF Tower Crane

2021 IEEE Conference on Control Technology and Applications (CCTA). IEEE.

Shen, P. Y., Schatz, J., & Caverly, R. J. (2021). Passivity-based adaptive trajectory control of an underactuated 3-DOF overhead crane Control Engineering Practice, 112, 104834

Projects

Tower Crane Control Research

Aug. 2020 to May 2021

- Developed dynamic model and robust control law for underactuated nonlinear system.
- Use of passivity theorem to prove theoretical stability.
- Simulation in MATLAB, verification on lab hardware using Simulink.

NASA Robotic Mining Competition

Sept. 2019 to May 2021

- Worked with a small team to develop autonomous robot for simulated lunar mining mission.
- Used ROS to integrate sensor nodes for EKF SLAM implementation.
- Tested in simulation with Gazebo.
- Developed safety critical firm real-time control system using STM32.