Mark Jennings

Applied Roboticist | markjennings97@gmail.com | https://makr.org

Work Experience

Los Alamos National Laboratory

R&D Engineer | 2021 - Present

- Overhauled nuclear glovebox with the first autonomous robotic arm in US plutonium part production
- Developed operating procedures, maintenance plans, control software, and tooling for robotic arm, hydraulic punch, and laser marking systems
- Coordinated intern program and advised projects
- DOE Q (Top Secret equivalent) security clearance

Nuclear and Applied Robotics Group at UT Austin

Graduate Research Assistant | 2019 - 2021

- Developed software to augment assembly tasks with a collaborative robot, reducing reported worker physical effort by up to 57%
- Refactored custom codebase to leverage open-source libraries for a robust robotic research platform

Sandia National Laboratory

R&D Intern | Summer 2019

- Designed additively manufactured metal components and developed corresponding qualification standards
- Led 1st place intern team in design competition

Apptronik

Mechanical Engineering Intern | Summer 2018

- Derived forward kinematic equations for an advanced humanoid bipedal robot
- Updated actuator testbed product to achieve higher payloads with lower fabrication costs
- Modeled heat transfer in liquid-cooled actuators

ReNeu Robotics Lab at UT Austin

Undergraduate Research Assistant | 2016 - 2019

- Fabricated metal components with both manual and CNC machines
- 3D-printed custom hand and finger prosthetics

Education

MS Mechanical Engineering

UT Austin | 2019 - 2021 | 3.96 GPA

- · Robotics graduate program
- Thesis: Manipulator Control in Collaborative Assembly

BS Mechanical Engineering

UT Austin | 2015 - 2019 | 3.84 GPA

Skills

Mechanical:

- CAD (SolidWorks & Creo), FEA
- Manual/CNC Machining
- Additive Manufacturing

Software:

- C++, Python, MATLAB
- Robot Operating System (ROS)
- Microsoft Office Suite, LaTeX

Outreach

Los Alamos FIRST Tech Challenge

Mentor/Coach | 2022 - 2024

- Taught ~12 middle schoolers STEM, problem-solving, and teamwork
- Inspired eligible students to continue with high school robotics

UT Robotics & Automation Society

Mentor/Officer | 2015 - 2019

- Competed in 1st year robotics challenge and then mentored teams throughout undergrad
- Headed committee that made eyecatching outreach robots