

# Max Paik

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## Education

### New York University

New York City, New York, September 2023 – May 2028

Doctor of Philosophy, Computer Science

### Northwestern University

Evanston, Illinois, September 2019 – June 2023

Bachelor of Arts, Summa Cum Laude, Double Major in Computer Science and Physics

Cumulative GPA: 4.0/4.0

## Honors and Awards

- MacCracken Fellowship, Awarded, 2023 – 2028
- Phi Beta Kappa, Inducted to National Honor Society, 2023
- Gates Cambridge Scholarship Nominee, 2023
- Sigma Pi Sigma, Inducted to National Physics and Astronomy Honor Society, 2022
- Northwestern University Dean's List, 2019 – 2023
- California State Seal of Biliteracy (Spanish), 2019

## Research Experience

### *Research Assistant, Geometric Computing Lab*

New York University, Sep. 2023 – Present

- Develop novel methods for physical simulation in a variety of domains, from cellular wound closure to solid mechanics.

### *Researcher, Center for Interdisciplinary Exploration and Research in Astrophysics*

Northwestern University, Mar. 2021 – Present

- Run and analyze cutting-edge, GPU-accelerated general relativistic magnetohydrodynamic simulations of relativistic jets and supermassive black holes using Oak Ridge National Laboratory's High Performance Computer Clusters.

### *Research Assistant, Driscoll Lab*

Northwestern University, Jan. 2020 – Jun. 2021

- Developed an independent research project using a microscope and computational methods to image fracturing colloidal droplets.

## Publications

Huang Z, Paik M, Ferguson Z, Panozzo D, Zorin D. *"Orientation-aware Incremental Potential Contact,"* Submitted for publication. 2024.

Rohoza V, Lalakos A, **Paik M**, Chatterjee K, Liska M, Tchekhovskoy S, Gottlieb O. *“How to turn Jets into Cylinders near Supermassive Black Holes in 3D GRMHD Simulations,”* Submitted for publication. 2023.

**Paik M**, Rohoza V, Lalakos A, Chatterjee K, Tchekhovskoy S, Liska M. *“Shaping Jets with the Ambient Medium,”* Growing Black Holes: Accretion and Mergers 2022, Kathmandu, Nepal.

Rohoza V, **Paik M**, Lalakos A, Chatterjee K, Tchekhovskoy S, Liska M. *“How to Turn Jets into Cylinders,”* Growing Black Holes: Accretion and Mergers 2022, Kathmandu, Nepal.

Seper BC, Arora S, **Paik M**, Driscoll M. *“Dimples and Voids in Dense Drying Drops,”* American Physical Society March Meeting 2022, Chicago, Illinois.

Seper BC, Arora S, **Paik M**, Driscoll M. *“Drying Colloidal Suspensions: Simple Patterns and Complex Flows,”* American Physical Society Division of Fluid Dynamics (Fall) 2021.

**Paik M**, Driscoll M. *“Computer Vision Algorithms for Analyzing Drying Colloidal Suspensions,”* Northwestern Undergraduate Research Exposition 2021 (Poster).

## Grants Awarded

*“Relativistic Jet Formation Around Black Holes,”* Illinois Space Grant, awarded by the Illinois Space Grant Consortium, 2021.

*“Relativistic Jets,”* Baker Award, awarded by the Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences, 2021.

*“Drying Colloidal Droplets,”* Summer Undergraduate Research Grant, awarded by the Northwestern Office of Undergraduate Research, 2020.

*“Drying Colloidal Droplets,”* Academic Year Undergraduate Research Grant, awarded by the Northwestern Office of Undergraduate Research, 2020.

## Relevant Work Experience

### **Software Developer Intern, Caterpillar Inc.**

Chicago, Illinois, Jun. 2022 – Oct. 2022

- Developed solutions to allow live and asynchronous network communication between central servers and Internet of Things (IoT) devices.

### **Machine Learning Intern, Sirona Medical**

San Francisco, California, June 2019 – Sept. 2019

- Developed and customized medical image visualization tool with features such as displaying formatted metadata, volume rendering, and loading in images chosen through a custom hdf5 browser.

### **Youth Learning and Outreach Intern, Half Moon Bay Library**

Half Moon Bay, California, May 2018 – June 2019

- Arranged events in Makerspace creating and printing 3D models, including a 3D selfie photo session.

### **Reporter, Half Moon Bay Review**

Half Moon Bay, California, Feb. 2017 – Jan. 2019

- Collaborated with town paper's editorial staff; discovered, developed, researched, and pitched stories before writing weekly articles covering local sports, events, and programs, consistently meeting deadlines.

## Community Involvement

***Peer Mentor, Data Structures, Systems, and Programming Languages, Department of Computer Science***  
Northwestern University, Winter 2021, Spring 2021, Fall 2021, Winter 2022, Spring 2022

- Led office hours, distribute assignments, and grade exams.

***Secretary and Maker's Division Lead, Robotics Club***

Northwestern University, Sept. 2019 – Present

- As a part of the Lacrosse Goalie Project, develop original code to track a ball's position and velocity while predicting its flight path in real time using only a single camera.

***Team Co-lead and Finalist, McCormick Engineering School Design-A-Thon***

Northwestern University, Sept. 2020

- Co-led a team of six in design competition focused on creating community during COVID-19.

***Campus/City Reporter, The Daily Northwestern***

Northwestern University, Sept. 2019 – Jan. 2020

- Reported on local events such as artist markets for Northwestern's premier paper.

***Prose Staff, Helicon***

Northwestern University, Sept. 2019 – Jan. 2020

- Reviewed and edited submissions for Northwestern's literary magazine.

## Skills

**Technical:** C, C++, Java, JavaScript, Python, Racket, SQL. AWS, Azure DevOps, Git. HAMR, NumPy, Matplotlib, PyTorch, OpenCV, scikit-image. Agile Development, Cloud Computing, Command Line, Compiler Construction, High Performance Computing, Image Processing, Machine Learning, Networking, Numerical Methods, Parallel Programming, Physics-Based Simulation, Researching, Statistics, Unix.

**Communication:** Active Communicator, Article Writing, Interviewing, Journalist, Nationally Published Author, Public Speaking, Fluent in Spanish.

**Leadership:** Attention to Detail, Creativity, Initiative, Patience, Positivity, Reliability, Self-Starter, Teachability.