Milad Azizkhani

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Education

Georgia Institute of Technology

Ph.D. in Robotics *GPA: 4/4*Amirkabir University of Technology (AUT)
M.Sc. in Mechatronics Engineering *GPA: 17.28/20-3.63/4* (Ranked 2nd in program)
Bu Ali Sina University
B.Sc. in Mechanical Engineering *GPA: 16.62/20 – 3.48/4* (Ranked 3rd in program)

Atlanta, GA, USA 2022-2026 est. *Tehran, Iran* 2017-2020 *Hamedan, Iran* 2013-2017

Research Interests

I design, build, model, control, and integrate robots for various applications. My primary objective is to develop innovative control methods that synergize model-based and learning approaches. My research, both current and past, revolves around Adaptive Control, Control Theory, Learning-Based Control, Optimal Control, Trajectory Optimization, Robot Learning, Imitation Learning, Reinforcement Learning, Deep Learning, Soft Robots, Continuum Robots, and Visual Servoing.

Honors and Awards

• Flowers Family Topping Fellowship Fall 2024, Georgia Institute of Technology Awarded by the Mechanical Engineering Department for achieving the highest number of first-author citations.

Publications

Journal Published

- [J1] M. Azizkhani, I. S. Godage, and Y. Chen, "Dynamic control of soft robotic arm: A simulation study," in *IEEE Robotics* and Automation Letters (with presentation at ICRA), vol. 7, no. 2, pp. 3584-3591.
- [J2] M. Azizkhani, M. Zareinejad, and M. A. Khosravi, "Model reference adaptive control of a soft bending actuator with input constraints and parametric uncertainties," in *Mechatronics*, vol. 84, pp. 102800, Elsevier.
- [J3] M. Azizkhani, A. L. Gunderman, I. S. Godage, and Y. Chen, "Dynamic control of soft robotic arm: An experimental study," in *IEEE Robotics and Automation Letters*, vol. 8, no. 4, pp. 1897-1904.
- [J4] J. Shen, Y. Wang, M. Azizkhani, D. Qiu, and Y. Chen, "Concentric Tube Robot Redundancy Resolution via Velocity/Compliance Manipulability Optimization," in *IEEE Robotics and Automation Letters*, vol. 8, no. 11, pp. 7495-7502.
- [J5] A. L. Gunderman, M. Azizkhani, S. Sengupta, K. Cleary, and Y. Chen, "Modeling and Control of an MR-Safe Pneumatic Radial Inflow Motor and Encoder (PRIME)," in *IEEE/ASME Transactions on Mechatronics*, 2023, Early Access, doi: 10.1109/TMECH.2023.3329296.

Conference Published

- [C1] M. Azizkhani and Y. Chen, "Supervised Adaptive Fuzzy Control of LVAD with Pulsatility Ratio Modulation," in 2022 IEEE 18th International Conference on Automation Science and Engineering (CASE), pp. 2429-2434.
- [C2] A. Qiu, C. Young, A. L. Gunderman, M. Azizkhani, Y. Chen, and A.-P. Hu, "Tendon-Driven Soft Robotic Gripper with Integrated Ripeness Sensing for Blackberry Harvesting," in *2023 IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation (ICRA)*, pp. 11831-11837.
- [C3] A. L. Gunderman, M. Azizkhani, S. Sengupta, K. Cleary, and Y. Chen, "Open Source MR-Safe Pneumatic Radial Inflow Motor and Encoder (PRIME): Design and Manufacturing Guidelines," in 2023 International Symposium on Medical Robotics (ISMR), pp. 1-7.

In Preparation and Submitted

- M. Azizkhani, J. Ha, A. L. Gunderman, and Y. Chen, "Soft Robot Kinematic Control via Manipulability-Aware Redundancy Resolution". Submitted to ASME Journal of Mechanisms and Robotics.
- **M. Azizkhani**, and Y. Chen, "Dynamic Task Space Control of a Redundant Pneumatically Actuated Soft Arm". Submitted to *IEEE Robotics and Automation Letters*.
- A. L. Gunderman, Y. Wang, B. O. Gunderman, A. Qiu, **M. Azizkhani**, J. Sommer, and Y. Chen, "Kinetostatics and Retention Force Analysis of Soft Robot Grippers with External Tendon Routing," **Accepted** to *IEEE Robotics and Automation Letters*.

Skills

Programming:

MATLAB, Python, C++, C, Git & Github, Linux, LaTeX

Technologies & Tools:

ROS, TensorFlow, PyTorch, StableBaseline3, Drake, MuJuCo, PyBullet, OpenCV, Arduino, Simulink, LabVIEW, Maple, Mathematica, SolidWorks, ABAQUS, ANSYS, FlowCode, MoCap

Experience

Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, GA, USA

Senior Graduate Research Assistant, BioMedical Mechatronics (BM2) Lab

- Research:
 - Synergizing Model-Based and Learning Approaches for Sample-Efficient Adaptive Algorithms
 - Safe Dexterous Manipulation with Adaptive Learning for Uncertainty Mitigation
 - Planning Through Contact via Trajectory Optimization
 - Reachability Analysis for Contact in Robotic Systems
 - Dynamic Task Space and Joint Space Control of Redundant Pneumatically Soft Robotic Arm
 - Gain Scheduled Redundancy Resolution Resolved Rate Kinematic Control for a Redundant Pneumatically Soft Robotic Arm
 - Control of MR-SAFE Pneumatic Radial Inflow Motor
 - Supervised Adaptive Fuzzy Control of Left Ventricular Assistive Devices

Teaching and Supervision Responsibilities:

- TA for VIP course, Soft Elbow Rehabilitation Device Development.
- Senior Mentor for Graduate Students
 - * Locomotion + Manipulation control of Cassie+Soft Arm using Reinforcement Learning (Kanishk Kanishk)
 - * Soft Underwater Robot with Shape Memory Alloy Actuation (Thanapol Tantagunninat)
 - * Tendon Driven Continuum Robot (Man Wo Lui)
- Senior Mentor for Undergraduate Students
 - * Soft Gripper (Alex S. Qiu)
 - * Design rotary encoder for soft robot elongation measurement (Nyah M. Ebanks)
 - * Solving forward and inverse kinematic with machine learning (Benjamin Gunderman)

University of Arkansas, AR, USA	2021 - 2022
Senior Graduate Research Assistant, Medical Robotics Lab (Advisor: Yue Chen)	
Projects: Dynamic Control of Soft Robotic Arm, Left Ventricular Assistive Devices, Redundancy Reso	lution.
New Technologies Research Center, Amirkabir University of Technology, Tehran, Iran	2017 - 2020
Research Assistant, Soft Robotics Lab	
 Control of a Soft Longitudinal Actuator Using MPC-NN Approach. Design and Build Longitudinal and Bending Soft Actuator Experimental Setups. Robust Model Reference Adaptive Control of a Soft Bending Actuator with Input Constraints. Adaptive Control of Soft Bending Actuator Using Modified Adaptive + RISE Control. 	
Amirkabir University of Technology, Tehran, Iran	2018 - 2019
Mechatronics Engineer of a research team working on MotoGP Simulator	
 Control of a simulator using Arduino and AVR. 	
Bu Ali Sina University, Hamedan, Iran	2016
Instructor	

Introduction on SolidWorks

Professional Service

Membership:

Robo Public Relation Vice President (RoboGrads in GT)

Graduate Student Member in Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE)

IEEE Young Professionals

IEEE Robotics and Automation Society

Technical Reviews:

IEEE Robotics and Automation Letters (RA-L), IEEE Access, IEEE Transaction on Haptics, IEEE Transaction on Automation Science and Engineering, Nonlinear Dynamics, IEEE/RSJ International Conference on Intelligent Robots and Systems (IROS), IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation (ICRA), IEEE International Symposium on Medical Robotics (ISMR), Scientific Reports

2022 - Present