

Mohammad Mohaghar

Research Engineer II

Georgia Institute of Technology

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[GT Webpage](#)

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EDUCATION

Ph.D. Mechanical Engineering

2014-2019

Georgia Institute of Technology

Ph.D. Thesis: [Effects of Initial Conditions and Mach Number on Turbulent Mixing Transition of Shock-driven Variable-density Flow](#)

Thesis advisor: [Prof. Devesh Ranjan](#)

MSc Mechanical Engineering

2015-2017

Georgia Institute of Technology

MSc Energy for Sustainability

2012-2014

University of Coimbra (MIT-Portugal program)

MSc Thesis: [Developing a Novel Method for Predicting Nearshore and Offshore Wave Energy of the Portuguese Coast](#)

Thesis advisor: Prof. Almerindo Ferreira

MSc Automotive Engineering

2008-2010

Iran University of Science and Technology

MSc Thesis: Analysis and Improvement of Longitudinal and Lateral Stability of an Off-Road Vehicle Moving on a Slope Submitted to External Impact Loading

Thesis advisor: Prof. Javad Marzbanrad

BSc Mechanical Engineering

2004-2008

University of Tehran

BSc Thesis: Modifications and Improvements of FSW Welding

Thesis advisor: Prof. Mohammad Kazem Besharati Givi

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Research Engineer II

2022-Present

Georgia Institute of Technology

[Environmental Fluid Mechanics Lab](#)

Research: Biofluids, Biomechanics, Experimental Fluid Mechanics, Turbulence

- Analyzed volumetric flow field around bio-inspired magnetic-responsive robots/materials using tomographic particle image velocimetry (PIV) measurement
- Analyzed kinematics & hydrodynamics of zooplankton propulsion (Euchaeta, krill) using tomographic PIV measurement
- Investigated the dynamics of double-diffusive convection instability using simultaneous PLIF/PIV techniques

Postdoctoral Research Fellow

2019-2022

Georgia Institute of Technology

Environmental Fluid Mechanics Lab

Advisor: Prof. Donald Webster

Research: Biofluids, Experimental Fluid Mechanics, Turbulence

- Analyzed kinematics & hydrodynamics of pteropod using tomographic PIV measurement
- Characterized nonlinear internal waves using combined PLIF/PIV techniques
- Analyzed swimming behavior of copepods around internal waves
- Investigated high-Schmidt number passive scalar fields in turbulent boundary layers

Graduate Research Assistant

2014-2019

Georgia Institute of Technology

Shock Tube and Advanced Mixing Laboratory

Research: Experimental Fluid Mechanics, Turbulence

- Addressed the influence of modal content of the initial condition on the Richtmyer-Meshkov instability transition to a turbulent state
- Investigated the influence of Mach number and Atwood number on turbulent mixing transition of a shock-driven variable density flow
- Analyzed the inclined RMI flow development using high-resolution three-dimensional simulations with the FLASH code

Research Fellow

2012-2014

University of Coimbra

Research: Renewable Energy Systems Particularly Ocean Wave Energy

- Developed a novel numerical method for predicting nearshore wave energy using Delft3d and DelftDashboard
- Modeled and simulated a hospital building with different HVAC systems using Energy Plus in order to reduce energy consumption

Research Fellow

2008-2010

Iran University of Science and Technology

Research: Optimization of Automotive Suspension Systems

- Optimized the double-wishbone suspension system of an off-road vehicle in critical position by modified Genetic Algorithm

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor <i>Georgia Institute of Technology</i>	2024-Present
• Flow Dynamics of Soft Robotic Swimmers (VIP)	
Teaching Assistant <i>Georgia Institute of Technology</i>	2019-Present
• Dynamics	
Teaching Assistant <i>Georgia Institute of Technology</i>	2016
• Introduction to Fluid Mechanics	
Teaching Assistant <i>University of Tehran</i>	2006-2010
• Thermodynamics • Engineering Economy	
Instructor <i>Payam Hedayat, Emam Hadi & Talash High Schools</i>	2006-2009
• Mathematics • Physics	

INDUSTRIAL WORK EXPERIENCE

Heat Exchanger & Pressure Vessel Designer <i>GarmaGostar Co.</i>	2011-2012
Product Engineer <i>Mapna Locomotive Co.</i>	2010-2011

AWARDS

- Received *CEE Young Faculty Research Award* of the year at Georgia Tech, 2025
- Received *CEE Postdoctoral Excellence Award* of the year at Georgia Tech, 2022
- Received *CEE Future Faculty Fellow Award* at Georgia Tech, 2022
- The article “Characteristics of swimming shelled Antarctic pteropods (*Limacina helicina antarctica*) at intermediate Reynolds number regime” was named an Editors’ Suggestion by *Physical Review Fluids* and selected as a Focus Feature in *Physics*, 2019. [\[Featured Article\]](#)
- Recorded a patent for Portable Hybrid Generator in Iran, 2011
- Received full scholarship from Iran University of Science and Technology for Masters in Automotive Engineering, 2008 - 2010

- Received full scholarship from University of Tehran for BSc in Mechanical Engineering, 2004 - 2008
- Passed the first level of the National Physics and Mathematics Olympiads with a distinction, 2003

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- Member of Association for the Sciences of Limnology and Oceanography (ASLO), 2019 – Present
- Member of American Physical Society (APS), 2014 – Present

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Experimental Techniques

Particle Image Velocimetry (PIV) techniques, Planar Laser-Induced Florescence (PLIF) measurements and image processing, Flow visualization

Computer Programs

Matlab, C++, Fortran, Python, Visual Basic, LabView, Tecplot, AutoCAD, SolidWorks, FLASH, TSI Insight, LaVision DaVis, Delft3D, SWAN, ADAMS, PDMS, Energy Plus

SERVICE

- Reviewer for various Archival Journals (PRL, PRF, JFM, PoF, Physica D Scripta, Shock Waves, etc.)
- Session chair at International Symposium on Particle Image Velocimetry and American Physical Society DFD conferences.

MENTORED STUDENTS

PhD Students

- Ali Mojtabaei Soleimani: *Flow Dynamics of Soft Robotic Swimmers*

Master's Students

- Anika Govil: *Double Diffusive Instability Experiments*

Undergraduate Students

Current:

- Ewan Pritchard: *Double Diffusive Instability Experiments*
Received the 2025 Outstanding Undergraduate Researcher Award from the entire College of Engineering at Georgia Tech
- Amelia Faust: *Double Diffusive Instability Experiments*

- Kennedy Hughes: *Flow Dynamics of Soft Robotic Swimmers*

Previous:

- Saaketh Reddy Chintla Reddy: *Flow Dynamics of Soft Robotic Swimmers*
- Akil Quadir: *Flow Dynamics of Soft Robotic Swimmers*
- Blaire Doss: *Double Diffusive Instability Experiments*
- Prathyusha Paresh: *Double Diffusive Instability Experiments*
- Gracen Dutton: *Double Diffusive Instability Experiments*
- Anikait Dhond: *Non-Linear Internal Waves*

GRANTS

Awarded Proposals:

- **Title of Project:** Initiative Proposal: Flow Instabilities and Fluid Dynamics for Space Applications
Agency/Company: Space Research Institute Center, Program, Initiative (CPI)
Total Dollar Amount: \$8,000 (year 1), \$25,000 (year 2 and 3)
Role: Co-PI
Collaborators: Suhas Jain (PI), Donald Webster (Co-PI)
- **Title of Project:** Instability-Resolved Ocean Mixing for Climate Prediction and Climate Solutions
Agency/Company: Georgia Tech Sustainability Next Institute Strategic Plan
Total Dollar Amount: \$20,000
Role: Co-PI
Collaborators: Suhas Jain (PI), Donald Webster (Co-PI)

Submitted Proposals:

- **Title of Project:** Evolution and Mixing Mechanisms of Double-Diffusive Instabilities
Agency/Company: National Science Foundation (NSF)
Total Dollar Amount: \$499,999
Role: Co-PI
Collaborators: Donald Webster (PI), Suhas Jain (Co-PI)

Proposals in Preparation:

- **Title of Project:** Double-Diffusive Pathways to Ocean Mixing Across High-Gradient Thermohaline Interfaces
Agency/Company: ONR Physical Oceanography Core Program
Total Dollar Amount: Not finalized
Role: PI
Collaborators: Donald Webster (Co-PI)

- **Title of Project:** Design Science for Fluid–Structure Systems: Data-Driven Co-Design with a Soft-Robot Jellyfish Exemplar via Experimental and Computational Hydrodynamics
- Agency/Company:** National Science Foundation (NSF)
- Total Dollar Amount:** Not finalized
- Role:** Co-PI
- Collaborators:** Donald Webster (PI), Karthik Menon (Co-PI), Elizabeth Qian (Co-PI)

PEER-REVIEWED JOURNAL PAPERS [\[Google Scholar\]](#)

13. [M. Mohaghar](#), S. A. Mojtabaei Soleimani, D.R. Webster, “Viscosity-dependent deformation and spreading dynamics of a ferrofluid droplet under an applied magnetic field”, *Physics of Fluids* **Submitted**, (2026).
12. [M. Mohaghar](#), A. Bhattacharjee, S. S. Jain, D.R. Webster, “[Dynamics of finger-type convection in double-diffusive instability](#)”, *Journal of Fluid Mechanics* **Submitted**, (2026).
11. A. Connor, [M. Mohaghar](#), D.R. Webster, “[Hydrodynamics of active metachronal swimming modes in Antarctic krill, *Euphausia superba*](#)”, *Marine Biology* **172**, 135 (2025).
10. [M. Mohaghar](#), D.R. Webster, “[Hydrodynamics of cruise swimming and turning maneuvers in *Euchaeta antarctica*](#)”, *Scientific Reports* **14**, 1 (2024).
9. [M. Mohaghar](#), A. Connor, S. Wu, R. Zhao, D.R. Webster, “[Effects of symmetry-breaking mechanisms on the flow field around magnetic-responsive material appendages that mimic swimming strokes](#)”, *Physical Review Fluids* **9**, 023101 (2024).
8. [M. Mohaghar](#), D.R. Webster, “[Experimental investigation of non-linear standing internal waves using combined density and velocity measurements](#)”, *Experiments in Fluids* **64**, 77 (2023).
7. [M. Mohaghar](#), J. McFarland, D. Ranjan, “[Three-dimensional simulations of reshocked inclined Richtmyer-Meshkov instability: Effects of initial perturbations](#)”, *Physical Review Fluids* **7**, 093902 (2022).
6. [M. Mohaghar](#), L.P. Dasi, D.R. Webster, “[Scalar power spectra and turbulent scalar length scales of high-Schmidt-number passive scalar fields in turbulent boundary layers](#)”, *Physical Review Fluids* **5**, 084606 (2020).
5. [M. Mohaghar](#), S. Jung, K. A. Haas, D. R. Webster, “[Copepod behavior responses around internal waves](#)”, *Frontiers in Marine Science* **7**, 331 (2020).
4. [M. Mohaghar](#), D. Adhikari, D.R. Webster, “[Characteristics of swimming shelled Antarctic pteropods \(*Limacina helicina antarctica*\) at intermediate Reynolds number regime](#)”, *Physical Review Fluids* **4**, 111101 (2019).
3. [M. Mohaghar](#), J. Carter, G. Pathikonda, D. Ranjan, “[The transition to turbulence in shock-driven mixing: effects of Mach number and initial conditions](#)”, *Journal of Fluid Mechanics* **871**, 595-635 (2019).
2. [M. Mohaghar](#), J. Carter, B. Musci, D. Reilly, J. McFarland, D. Ranjan, “[Evaluation of turbulent mixing transition in a shock-driven variable-density flow](#)”, *Journal of Fluid Mechanics* **831**, 779-825 (2017).

1. D. Reilly, J. McFarland, M. Mohaghar, D. Ranjan, “[The effects of initial conditions and circulation deposition on the inclined-interface reshocked Richtmyer–Meshkov instability](#)”, *Experiments in Fluids* **56**, 168 (2015).

PEER-REVIEWED PROCEEDINGS

8. M. Mohaghar, A. Connor, S. Wu, R. Zhao, D.R. Webster, “[Volumetric PIV measurements of bio-inspired magnetic-responsive materials that mimic swimming strokes](#)”, *15th International Symposium on Particle Image Velocimetry* , San Diego (2023).
7. M. Mohaghar, J. McFarland, and D. Ranjan, “[A study of modal interaction between different scales of the turbulent Richtmyer-Meshkov instability using high-resolution three-dimensional FLASH simulations](#)”, *17th International Workshop on the Physics of Compressible Turbulent Mixing* , Atlanta (2022).
6. M. Mohaghar, D.R. Webster, “[Characterization of non-linear internal waves using PIV/PLIF techniques](#)”, *14th International Symposium on Particle Image Velocimetry* , Chicago (2021).
5. G. Pathikonda, J. Carter, M. Mohaghar, and D. Ranjan, “[Temporal evolution of Richtmyer-Meshkov induced mixing using simultaneous high-speed PIV-PLIF](#)”, *32nd International Symposium on Shock Waves* , Singapore (2019).
4. M. Mohaghar, J. Carter, G. Pathikonda and D. Ranjan, “[Turbulent mixing driven by Richtmyer-Meshkov instability: Effect of Atwood number](#)”, *16th International Workshop on the Physics of Compressible Turbulent Mixing* , Marseilles (2018).
3. J. Carter, M. Mohaghar, G. Pathikonda and D. Ranjan, “[Turbulent mixing driven by Richtmyer-Meshkov instability: Effect of Mach number](#)”, *16th International Workshop on the Physics of Compressible Turbulent Mixing* , Marseilles (2018).
2. V. Tsiklashvili, D. Reilly, M. Mohaghar, J. Carter and D. Ranjan, “[Effect of the initial conditions on the evolution of Richtmyer - Meshkov instability turbulent quantities](#)”, *15th International Workshop on the Physics of Compressible Turbulent Mixing* , Sydney (2016).
1. M. Mohaghar, Z. Mousavi Karimi and A. Ferreira, “[Developing a novel method for predicting nearshore wave energy of Matosinhos, Portugal](#)”, *Energy for Sustainability Multidisciplinary Conference* , Coimbra (2013).

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

19. M. Mohaghar, E. Pritchard, B. Doss, D.R. Webster, “[Finger Growth to Mixed Layers in Double Diffusive Instability: Simultaneous Scalar-Velocity Measurements](#)”, *Ocean Sciences Meeting* , Glasgow (2026).
18. M. Mohaghar, E. Pritchard, B. Doss, D.R. Webster, “[Salinity effects on double-diffusive instability evolution: Finger growth, mixing, and transport](#)”, *Bulletin of the American Physical Society* , Houston (2025).
17. D.R. Webster, E. Pritchard, B. Doss, M. Mohaghar, “[Finger-scale dynamics in double-diffusive instability: Vorticity, flux, and zig-zag ascent](#)”, *Bulletin of the American Physical Society* , Houston (2025).

16. S. A. Mojtabaei Soleimani, M. Mohaghar, D.R. Webster, “[Tomographic PIV measurement of a magnetically actuated, bio-Inspired, four-legged soft robot swimmer](#)”, *Bulletin of the American Physical Society* , Houston (2025).
15. M. Mohaghar, P. Paresh, B. Doss, E. Pritchard, G. Dutton, D.R. Webster, “[Quantitative analysis of double-diffusive instability: Growth and mixing transition of ascending fingers](#)”, *Bulletin of the American Physical Society* , Salt Lake City (2024).
14. M. Mohaghar, P. Paresh, B. Doss, E. Pritchard, G. Dutton, D.R. Webster, “[Dancing Fingers: The Evolution of Double-Diffusive Instability](#)”, *APS - Gallery of Fluid Motion* , Salt Lake City (2024).
13. M. Mohaghar, D.R. Webster, “[Hydrodynamic characterization of the adult Euchaeta antarctica during straight swimming and turning](#)”, *Ocean Sciences Meeting 2024* , New Orleans (2024).
12. M. Mohaghar, D.R. Webster, “[Hydrodynamics of cruise locomotion in the adult Euchaeta antarctica](#)”, *Bulletin of the American Physical Society* , Washington (2023).
11. M. Mohaghar, A. Connor, R. Zhao, D.R. Webster, “[Analysis of flow field around magnetic-responsive soft materials using tomographic particle image velocimetry](#)”, *Bulletin of the American Physical Society* , Indianapolis (2022).
10. M. Mohaghar, D.R. Webster, “[Characterization of non-linear internal waves using PIV/PLIF techniques](#)”, *Bulletin of the American Physical Society* , Phoenix (2021).
9. D.R. Webster, M. Mohaghar, S. Jung, K. Haas, “[Marine copepod behavior responses in and near internal waves](#)”, *Bulletin of the American Physical Society* , Phoenix (2021).
8. M. Mohaghar, S. Jung, K.A. Haas, D.R. Webster, “[Copepod behavior responses around internal waves](#)”, *Ocean Sciences Meeting 2020* , San Diego (2020).
7. M. Mohaghar, L.P. Dasi, D.R. Webster, “[Scalar power spectra and turbulent length scales in high-Schmidt-number scalar fields](#)”, *Bulletin of the American Physical Society* , Seattle (2019).
6. M. Mohaghar, J. Carter, J.S. Rubio, G. Pathikonda and D. Ranjan, “[Experimental investigation of the effects of Mach number and initial condition on mixing transition in shock-driven flow](#)”, *Bulletin of the American Physical Society* , Atlanta (2018).
5. M. Mohaghar, J. Carter, G. Pathikonda and D. Ranjan, “[Investigation of Atwood ratio influence on turbulent mixing transition of a shock-driven variable density flow after reshock](#)”, *Bulletin of the American Physical Society* , Denver (2017).
4. M. Mohaghar, J. Carter, B. Musci and D. Ranjan, “[Experimental investigation of the effect of multimodal inclined interface on Richtmyer-Meshkov instability evolution](#)”, *APS Meeting Abstracts* , Portland (2016).
3. D. Reilly, M. Mohaghar, J. Carter, J. McFarland and D. Ranjan, “[Progress on simultaneous PLIF/PIV measurements for a turbulent complex fluid interface](#)”, *APS Meeting Abstracts* , Boston (2015).
2. M. Mohaghar, D. Reilly, J. Carter, J. McFarland and D. Ranjan, “[Simultaneous PLIF/PIV measurements for a single-mode inclined interface](#)”, *APS Meeting Abstracts* , Boston (2015).

1. D. Reilly, J. Carter, M. Mohaghar, D. Jarrahbashi, J. McFarland and D. Ranjan, “[Observations of variable-density turbulence from a complex fluid interface](#)”, *APS Shock Compression of Condensed Matter Meeting Abstracts* , Tampa (2015).