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## **Roberto A. Dextre**

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Roberto Dextre is a NASA Pathways co-op student and PhD. candidate graduate student working with Dr. Kunning Xu in the development and measurement of microwave microplasma sources. He has majored in Mechanical Engineering at Binghamton University with career interests that specialize in Aerospace propulsion research. Particularly, he became interested in the concepts of electric and plasma propulsion. Currently funded by the UAH Graduate School and working in the Propulsion Research Center, Roberto assists Dr. Xu by providing split-ring resonator designs in order to develop microplasmas that can be used for a variety of applications including micropropulsion. Also, Roberto has recently been accepted as a NASA Student Ambassador for the Virtual Community for the state of Alabama. Recently, Roberto attended the Alabama Academy of Science held at Auburn University with sponsorship from the PRC at UAH. Roberto believed this to be a very successful event where he had the opportunity to network with other students in his field and present his research in microplasmas. Roberto's involvement at UAH includes the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers, the Minority Graduate Student Association, and the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation.