

**Fernando Raffan, Ph.D. candidate**  
Biography

**Fernando Raffan** is a Ph.D. candidate in Aerospace Engineering at the University of Maryland, College Park. His work has focused on the use of minimally intrusive diagnostics for the characterization of canonical slot film cooling flows. The experimental database from this work will be used not only to better understand the governing physics of film cooling, but also to support the development and validation of numerical models dealing with the complex fluid-thermal coupling inherent to these flows. More recently, he has been transitioning into the field of Fire Protection under the guidance of Dr. Stanislav Stoliarov. Along with junior graduate students, their group has been working on new benchscale methods for the assessment of polymer flammability using mg-scale samples.