### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

NASA Goddard Space Flight Center (10,000 employees, Astrophysics Division)

Oct 2014 – Present Washington D.C.

Electrical Project Development Leader (Sep 2017 – Present)

Electrical Project Development Leader for the \$40M HIRMES project (space telescope hunting for earth-like planets across the galaxy)

- Manage 10 Engineers and lead all electrical-related activities of 40 electrical, mechanical and thermal engineers to integrate and operate the HIRMES space telescope mounted in a Boeing 747 as a part of the Stratospheric Observatory for Infrared Astronomy (SOFIA) program.
- Coordinate deliverables and electrical system integration between 4 NASA centers, private companies and universities.
- Conceived the instrument design, created a 2-year project schedule, assigned tasks to individuals and lead daily meetings.
- Entrusted with hiring 4 team members, a responsibility typically reserved for leadership members with 15+ years of experience
- Awarded the 2019 NASA Early Career Public Achievement Medal (1 of 4 recipients among 80,000 NASA employees; youngest recipient this year).

Lead Systems Engineer (Oct 2015 – Oct 2018)

Lead Systems Engineer for the \$6M Balloon Experimental Twin Telescope for Infrared Interferometry (BETTII). BETTII, a stratospheric balloon-based telescope, was the first space interferometer deployed to study the formation of newborn stars and planetary systems.

- Directed team of 20 engineers and scientists, as project's electrical and control systems lead; conceived and implemented all the control and stabilization algorithms to point the telescope in space with groundbreaking accuracy. Operated the telescope, commanding it to observe different target stars.
- Validated new technology/promoted to Co-investigator (a position typically reserved for PhD/senior engineers) on BETTII v2 mission, beginning Jan 2020.
- Mentored and supervised graduate research for 6 Masters and PhD students on a daily basis.
- Published 9 scientific papers in journals, including the Journal of Astronomical instrumentation and SPIE Defense and Commercial Sensing.

Lead Communications Engineer (Oct 2014 – Oct 2015)

Lead Communications Engineer for the Balloon Experimental Twin Telescope for Infrared Interferometry (BETTII)

- Developed a robust telecommunications infrastructure for the telemetry system used by the BETTII Telescope that detected and auto-corrected errors.
- Member of the core team (1 of 2 out of 20) during deployment/operation of the telemetry system during BETTII's launch and flight. Collected 300GB of data.
   Equitur (Equestrian travel agency with 3 employees and €200K in annual revenue)

  Dec 2006 Dec 2011

**Equitur** (Equestrian travel agency with 3 employees and €200K in annual revenue) **Chief Executive Officer** 

Barcelona, Spain

Secured €100K in funding, managed staff, and travelled Europe/Africa to scout locations. Managed company until 2011 sale to an investor group.

#### LEADERSHIP AND COMMUNITY INITIATIVES

- Fundación Rafael Del Pino, Scholarship Recipient (1 of 12, selected from 1,500) Awarded to Spanish citizens for excellent scholarship and potential. (prize includes €50,000 annually for 2 years of business school) (2019)
- Personal project (Built IoT sensor to monitor air quality) Installed sensors to detect pollution in high traffic areas in Maryland (2hr/wk for 16 wks, 2019)
- NASA Office of Education, Speaker Promoted STEM to high school students and Latino women across Maryland (4hr/month, 2016-2019)
- USA Science and Engineering Festival (dedicated to promoting science and engineering to students), Volunteer Conducted workshops and talks to educate children about applications of math and science in space telescopes (24hr annually for 2 years, 2016; 2017)
- Society of Photo-optical Instrumentation Engineers, Speaker Gave lecture on pointing telescopes in space for audience of 50 (5 talks, 2017-2018)
- NASA Interviewee Gave 7 media interviews about telescopes, Apollo's 50th anniversary and NASA to radio shows/newspapers/magazines (2015-2019)
- Personal project (Designed/Built/Flew a quadcopter drone) Published operating software so others can build similar drones (10hr/wk, 2015-2016)
- Rural Community, Vaalwater, South Africa, Volunteer Provided food/organized equestrian activities for children ages 5-14 (10hr/wk, Summer 2009)
- Horse Safaris, Volunteer Guide Led overseas guests on week-long horse safaris in South Africa, Botswana and Iceland (60hr/wk, Summers 2009-2013)
- Freelance Journalist Published 3 articles for Spanish and Mexican horse magazines describing various horse trails and safaris in Africa (2008-2012)
- Local Festivals in Spain/South Africa/Botswana/Tunisia, Volunteer Organized ~50 events with horses/ponies for children (12hr/event, 2006-2011)

## **EDUCATION**

# Higher Institute of Aeronautics and Space (Grande École ISAE-SUPAERO)

Aeronautical Engineering Graduate Program (Year Abroad Program) Major: Space Communications | GPA: 14.3/20

Toulouse, France Aug 2013 –Mar 2014

- Grants and Scholarships, Recipient Merit-based grant from Spanish Ministry of Education & Science (MECD)/Erasmus Scholarship (full tuition and €3.7K).
- Researcher Conducted research for Airbus on improving ground to satellite communications and avoiding drone collisions (10hr/wk for 7 months, 2013-14)
- NASA Goddard, Intern Worked on the BETTII space telescope, resulting in full-time job offer (40-60hr/wk, Apr-Oct 2014)
- Table Tennis Team, Member Practiced twice weekly and participated in competitions across Occitanie Region, France (5hr/wk, 2013)

### Polytechnic University of Catalonia (UPC -ETSETB)

Barcelona, Spain Sep 2011 – Jun 2013

Master of Science in Telecommunications Engineering | GPA: 6.9/10

Grants and Scholarships, Recipient – Merit-based MECD (Spanish Government) and need-based AGAUR (Catalan Government) (full tuition and €10K).

- Master's Thesis "Telemetry System of BETTII Space Telescope at NASA Goddard." Received honors (9.5/10)
- Mobility App, Developer Led 5-member student-team to develop app for 2012 London Olympic Games (#4 among 80 competitors); hired as an intern by the sponsor, ATOS Software, as a result of the work. (30hr/wk for 7 months, 2012)
- Soccer/Volleyball Teams, Member Practiced twice weekly and participated in competitions across Spain (8hr/wk, 2012)

## Polytechnic University of Catalonia (UPC -ETSETB)

Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering | GPA: 5.9/10

Barcelona, Spain Sep 2008 – Jun 2011

- Grants and Scholarships, Recipient Merit-based MECD (Spanish Government) and need-based AGAUR (Catalan Government) (full tuition and €15K).
- Member (1 of 8) of AUCOOP (delivering technology to rural areas) Developed/shipped Internet repeaters and PCs to Mexico & Bolivia (2hr/wk, 2011)

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

**GMAT**: 700 (Q: 50 V: 35 IR: 7 AWA: 5)

Languages: Spanish (native), Catalan (native), English (fluent), French (fluent), Italian (basic)

Interests: Planet hunting across galaxies, horse riding, building gadgets, playing piano, sailing, soccer, salsa dancing, and traveling (36 countries).

TOEFL: 116 (R: 30 L: 29 S: 29 W: 28)