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# **Jacob Sickafoose**

## **R&D Electrical Engineer**

Links: linkedin.com/in/jacobsickafoose jsickafoose.github.io

SKILLS

**Technical Skills** Reading/creating electrical schematics, using test measurement equipment, SMD soldering, technical

report writing in LaTeX, 3D modeling, CNC Routing, Hobbyist Home/Automotive Repair

Programming Tools

C, Python, Verilog, Java, MIPS Assembly, Firmware communication protocols: BLE, SPI, I2C, UART, etc. LabVIEW, LaTeX, Altium, KiCad, PSpice, MATLAB, Git, MarkDown, SOLIDWORKS, Arena QMS, Adobe Suite

**WORK EXPERIENCE** 

#### Research & Development Electrical Engineer

February 2023 — Present

Valencia, CA

Avation Medical — Neuromodulation Start-up Company

- Created and modified firmware unit tests as project requirements evolved.
- Worked closely with the Principal Firmware Engineer to identify and fix issues as well as make improvements.
- Wrote and executed V&V system test cases.
- Led and performed end-to-end development of hardware/firmware test systems encompassing all stages from conception to execution. These stages included: Generating comprehensive requirements. Designing electrical schematics and PCBs for data acquisition device to system interfacing. Developing LabVIEW and Python code to execute test measurements.
- Extensive GitHub project management and issue tracking both as a firmware tester as well as a developer.
- Interviewed, led and mentored a rotating team of 2-3 engineering interns to successfully execute projects, leveraging and developing each of their unique skills.
- Modified device firmware and hardware to research system improvements and finalize next generation goals.
- Improved system signal processing using Python/MATLAB for development and implementing in firmware.
- Assisted in clinical trial data filtering and analysis with SQL and Python.
- Key contributor to ISO audit preparations and process as the company's sole electrical engineer and local office's quality rep.
- Authored invention disclosures leading to patent applications.
- Generated and edited numerous technical reports and work instructions, ensuring accuracy and clarity of the procedures followed.
- Authoring an IEEE technical publication (in progress) on the topic of using in-system sensor data to calculate hydrogel pad complex impedance and condition for neuromodulation applications.
- First among 30+ R&D interns in company history to be hired full time, and even during a hiring freeze. Also the first full-time engineer hired with less than 7 years of experience.

#### Frame Modeling and Manufacturing

UCSC Slugbotics — University Robotics Club

September 2019 — June 2021

Santa Cruz, CA

- Designed the Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV) frame in SOLIDWORKS, working with sub-teams to accommodate their requirements.
- Machined the frame using CNC routing, 3D printing, etc. and assembled the final ROV and various subassemblies.
- On-boarded new members, educating them on standard operating procedures, 3D modeling, how to use tools, etc.

#### **EDUCATION**

### University of California, Santa Cruz

**Graduated August of 2022** 

Bachelor of Science, Major in Robotics Engineering, Minor in Electrical Engineering 3.02/4.0 GPA

#### **Notable Courses:**

- Senior Design Project: Tactile Stimulation
  - Developed a haptic feedback system via an electrical nerve interface. This integrated circuit design/simulation and firmware programming to implement transcutaneous neuromodulation with constant current biphasic waveforms.
- · Logic Design
  - Created a video game on an FPGA using VGA display protocols, implemented using Verilog.
- UAV Theory and Practice
  - Implemented a Python 3D UAV simulator utilizing state-space representation and control in addition to PID loops. The simulated UAV was capable of autonomous navigation and target following with wind modeling.
- Sensing and Sensor Technologies
  - Wrote firmware code in C to extract usable data from raw sensor inputs. This required software & hardware filters and setting ARM system control registers to implement interrupt driven communication protocols SPI, UART, and I2C. Custom hardware abstraction layers were created for each protocol.

#### West Ranch High School, Valencia

Class of 2017