MacCallister Higgins

San Francisco, California http://mjshiggins.github.io

Professional Experience

 Self-Driving Car Software Engineer, Open Source Lead at Udacity 	Present
(Contract, ends in January)	
Military Aircraft Software Engineer at Sierra Nevada Corporation	2015-2016
• Founder, CEO, and Lead UAV/Drone Engineer at Nevada Dynamics	2014-Present
• Researcher at the UNR Robotics Lab (UAV embedded systems)	2014-2015
• Drone Software Engineer at Flirtey, the first company legally allowed to perform drone deliveries in the United States	2014
• Embedded Software Engineer at Polymer Microsystems Lab	2011-2013

Education

B.S. **Computer Science and Engineering.** Specialization in Intelligent Systems. University of Nevada.

Research Experience

- Currently leading worldwide open-source team of more than 3,000 engineers in developing world's first open source self-driving car
- Developed software systems to safely sense, image, and recognize obstacles during degraded visual environment (DVE) instances for military rotorcraft systems at Sierra Nevada Corporation (SNC)
- Founded company (Nevada Dynamics) that is currently collaborating with NASA, AT&T, 3DR, and the FAA to make the national airspace safer with the introduction of drones
- Performed embedded systems research with the UNR Robotics Lab for UAV/drone command and control
- Designed and carried out study on the perception of mistreatment towards robots
- Published and presented research at the IMECE international conference in Denver
- Programmed sensor hub/relay embedded mesh network system for the NASA OMEGA Project

Academics and Award Recognition

- Awarded Full-Ride Scholarship to Attend the University of Nevada, Reno
- Recruited as Presidential Scholar, the highest award given to entering freshmen
- · College of Engineering Dean's List, Selected for an Undergraduate Research Position
- Overall winner of \$50,000 Sontag Entrepreneurship Award at University of Nevada, Reno for drone/UAV startup company Nevada Dynamics