

VERONICA MEDRANO

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Portfolio: <https://vnoelifant.github.io/>

EDUCATION

NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY, MS IN ROBOTICS, GPA: 3.27

Evanston, IL

Relevant Course Topics

September 2018 – September 2019

Robotic Manipulation, Mechatronics, Embedded Systems in Robotics, Computer Vision, AI, Machine Learning, Deep Learning, Affective Computing, Ontology Engineering

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY, BS IN ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING

College Station, TX

September 2008 – December 2013

SKILLS/TOOLS

- Python, C/C++, Ubuntu Linux, Robot Operating System (ROS), OpenCV, SSI, Rviz, Gazebo, Git/Github, Tensorflow/Keras, Scikit-learn, NLTK, Watson and Naoqi APIs, Bash/Batch, V-REP, Javascript/Node.js, SQL, SPARQL, Cyc/CycL, RDFS/OWL, XML, SoapUI, Gherkin, Flask, Awk/Grep, Django, R, Embedded Programming (PIC, Raspberry Pi, Arduino), MATLAB/Simulink, Mathematica, LaTeX, Unreal Engine

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

HARRIS CORPORATION, GEOSPATIAL SYSTEMS

Clifton, NJ

Software Systems Engineer

April 2017 – April 2018

- Developed test data generation scripts and SoapUI mock web service responses to verify display software for GPS OCX (Global Positioning System Next Generation Operation Control System)
- Wrote Gherkin-based human readable test procedures and associated Python code under a BDD (Behavior-driven development) framework to facilitate implementation of automated test procedures
- Led 6 software engineers in successful completion of integration and test phase under tight schedule; assisted with debugging in the Front-End (User Interface) and Back-End (server/database)
- Wrote portable Python program to parse metric data log dates dynamically, measure plot times, and analyze statistics to verify a critical display software performance requirement

BOEING SATELLITE SYSTEMS

El Segundo, CA

Lead Systems Engineer, Integration and Test Engineer

April 2017 – April 2018

- Awarded for leading team of approximately 30 multi-discipline engineers to execute a Technical Design Review within schedule and budget for a closed area program
- Accomplished quick turnaround of delivering system test updates for critical milestone; received recognition award
- Led Intelsat 35e payload engineering test team in closure of unit integration test phase
- Executed and debugged critical software-driven payload in-orbit and ground system tests for Mexsat-Morelos 3 satellite
- Tested various Mexsat terminal-types in fast-paced, on the field and testbed environments at customer sites in Mexico
- Developed Aeronautical Operations Plan for the Mexican Air Force, outlining logistics and efficient flight paths in preparation for Mexsat satellite terminal testing in Mexico
- Managed effort to fix defects on Mexsat terminal SIM cards, saving the program valuable time and resources
- Developed communications link budgets and worst-case analyses for multiple satellites

L-3, MISSION INTEGRATION DIVISION

Greenville, TX

Co-op Electrical Design Engineer

January 2012 – August 2012

- Collaborated with a team of eight engineers to design the lighting system of a special mission aircraft

SPACE ENGINEERING INSTITUTE

College Station, TX

Student Research in Space Based Solar Power

January 2009 – May 2011

- Worked with diverse team to create a satellite module that can test the retrodirective beam control method of sending microwave power back to Earth
- Tested RF design that models the retrodirective system in lab
- Utilized Simulink to design satellite phase conjugation model
- Presented research to NASA JSC mentors

PROJECTS

NAO, A ROBOT THAT INFERS YOUR FEELINGS, MSR PROGRAM

Evanston, IL

Graduate Student Researcher

June 2019 – August 2019

- Developed a speech and intent recognition system on the Nao Robot that enables him to infer a human's feelings without having to ask him/her directly; utilized Naoqi and Watson APIs.

MULTIMODAL SENSOR PROCESSING, ADVANCED MULTIMODAL INTERFACES

Evanston, IL

Graduate Student Researcher

March 2019 – May 2019

- Developed a Python application to process real-time EEG, ECG, and PPG physiological sensors into SSI (Social Signal Interpretation) Framework pipeline.

KUKA YOUTBOT MANIPULATION, MSR PROGRAM

Evanston, IL

Graduate Student Researcher

March 2019

- Simulated a mecanum-wheeled robot's end-effector to grasp, carry, and drop a cube to specified locations; used rigid body transformations, forward and inverse kinematics, feedback control, odometry, Python and V-REP.

DC MOTOR TRAJECTORY FOLLOWER, MECHATRONICS

Evanston, IL

Graduate Student Researcher

January 2019 – March 2019

- Implemented a motion controller using PID Control to enable a DC motor to track reference trajectories; used C, MATLAB, and PIC32 microcontroller.

TJBOT: A CARING ROBOT, MSR PROGRAM

Evanston, IL

Graduate Student Researcher

January 2019 – March 2019

- Built a caring, emotionally intelligent robot using IBM's TJBOT and Watson services
- Developed Node.js application to interface with the following Watson services: Speech to Text, Text to Speech, Tone Analyzer, Watson Assistant (conversation building tool), Visual Recognition

SAWYER, THE ARTIST, MSR PROGRAM

Evanston, IL

Graduate Student Researcher

December 2018

- Programmed Sawyer the Robot to detect and draw faces using ROS; team awarded first place in Robotics competition
- Developed the face detection algorithm using Python and Haar Classifiers in OpenCV

TRACKING OBJECTS USING ROS AND PYTHON, MSR HACKATHON

Evanston, IL

Graduate Student Researcher

September 2018

- Programmed a webcam mounted on a servo motors to track the motion of a ball using ROS, Python, and OpenCV

MINI ROBOT CAR WITH PYTHON AND RASPBERRY PI

Los Angeles, CA

Hobbyist

May 2015-July 2015

- Built and tested robot using Python and Raspberry Pi
- Implemented user control functionality by running device via keyboard and mobile device

HONORS

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- Sawyer, The Artist awarded first place in Northwestern robot manipulation competition *December 2018*
 - Boeing NSP Recognition Award for Successful ECP-086 Technical Design Review *January 2017*
 - Boeing NSP Recognition Award for Quick Turnaround of System Test Updates for Upcoming Critical Milestone *January 2017*
 - Boeing Recognition Program Certificate for Spacecraft Redundancy Management *February 2016*

ACTIVITIES/INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE

Volunteering

- Led Robotics team in demoing Sawyer, The Artist project to high school and middle school girls at Northwestern Career Day for Girls on February 23, 2019
- New York/Chicago Cares: Delivered meals to homeless/disabled, motivated children to prepare for Special Olympics, entertained homeless children of battered mothers seeking employment

The Green Program in Iceland (Summer 2013)

- Collaborated with diverse capstone team to design autonomous control system that would decrease the risk of electrocution from solar panels
- Writing poetry/performing at open mics, playing piano and accordion