**Vincent W. Hill**

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**EDUCATION**

**The University of Alabama** *Tuscaloosa, AL*

* **Doctor of Philosophy** *Expected May 2023*
* **Master of Science in Aerospace Engineering and Mechanics**  *May 2020*
* **Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering** *December 2017*

**EXPERIENCE**

**Guidance, Navigation, and Control Engineer**  *May 2020—Present*

**AeroVironment, Inc.** *Moorpark, CA*

* Developed and tested GNC algorithms for large high-altitude long-endurance (HALE) UAS
* Designed a control law to govern flexible wing shape through only control surface deflections
* Designed a deep reinforcement learning control technique for flexible vehicle disturbance rejection
* Developed a model-free classical control design method using deep reinforcement learning
* Designed and implemented a control law for autonomous landing with minimal instrumentation
* Developed a Kalman Filter data fusion algorithm to improve aircraft height above ground level estimates
* Conducted Monte Carlo simulations to analyze uncertainty & failure mode effects on control system performance
* Primary flight test crew member for 13 flight hours to date

**Research Technician**  *March 2018—July 2018*

**The University of Alabama – Remote Sensing Center** *Tuscaloosa, AL*

* Technician on climate change research program
* Led a team to manufacture a ground-penetrating radar system
* System was completed and deployed to Greenland’s EastGRIP research station in July 2018

**Co-Op (Four Terms)**  *January 2015—August 2017*

**Delta Air Lines – Operations Support Engineering** *Atlanta, GA*

* Served as a first responder for a 24/7 operations support engineering hotline
* Authored over 100 unique aircraft repair technique substantiations which are subject to FAA audit
* Directed Delta maintenance technicians during on-site disposition of severe aircraft damages

**PROJECTS**

**Dissertation Research** *June 2020—Present*

* Implemented a Python simulation testbed for multi-agent system GNC algorithm development
* Developed an on-line mission planning algorithm for autonomous robotic swarm operations
* Designed a cooperative navigation algorithm for autonomous robotic swarms using multi-sensor fusion

**Graduate Coursework Projects**  *August 2018—May 2021*

* Designed an *H∞* robust control law for active gust rejection of a flexible aircraft
* Developed Python code for UAV navigation with loose INS/GPS integration and the extended Kalman Filter
* Estimated the position of a mobile rover using differential GNSS
* Designed and tested a coupled guidance-control algorithm for a lateral aircraft model

**LEADERSHIP**

**Professional Development Committee Chair**  *August 2019—May 2020*

**The University of Alabama – Graduate Student Association**

* Organized and moderated two professional development events, a research grant writing experts’ panel and a life as a new professor discussion panel

**Alumni Mentor** *August 2019—May 2020*

**MentorUPP**

* Partnered with two mechanical engineering upperclassmen to develop concrete plans to achieve realistic goals
* Provided advice on resume building, study habits, grad school admissions, and job searches
* Under my direction, senior mentee received fully funded offer to his first-choice MS program
* Junior mentee received offer from his first-choice company for a summer 2020 internship

**TEACHING**

**Graduate Teaching Assistant**   *August 2018—May 2020*

**The University of Alabama**

* Grader for two classes per semester
* Gave a total of 15 lectures on elementary glider design, technical writing, dynamics, and fluid mechanics

**AWARDS**

**Graduate Student of the Year**   *April 2020*

**The University of Alabama – Graduate Student Association**

**REFEREED CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS**

1. Ryan Thomas, **Vincent Hill**, and Jordan Larson. "Hierarchical GNC for High Cardinality Random Finite Set Based Teams with Autonomous Mission Planning," AIAA 2021-0268. *AIAA SciTech 2021 Forum*. January 2021.
2. **Vincent. W. Hill**, Ryan. W. Thomas, and Jordan. D. Larson, "Autonomous Situational Awareness for UAS Swarms," *2021 IEEE Aerospace Conference (50100)*, 2021, pp. 1-6, doi: 10.1109/AERO50100.2021.9438461.
3. **Vincent Hill**,Jason Mukherjee, Derek Lisoski, Brian Danowsky, and Stephen Haviland. "In-Flight Stability Analysis and Envelope Clearance of the Sunglider Solar HALE UAS," AIAA 2021-2796. *AIAA AVIATION 2021 FORUM*. August 2021.
4. **Vincent W. Hill** and Jordan D. Larson, “Multi-Sensor Fusion for Decentralized Cooperative Navigation Using Random Finite Sets,” in *2022 IEEE Aerospace Conference*, accepted.
5. **Vincent W. Hill** and Jordan D. Larson, “Deep Reinforcement Learning Control for Active Disturbance Rejection for a Flexible Flight Vehicle with Uncertain Dynamics,” in *2022 American Control Conference*, submitted.