(720) 226-5376 maxgolden@gmail.com

Professional Experience

Senior Gameplay Engineer – That's No Moon (June 2022 – July 2023)

"TNM1"

- Extended Unreal's core spawning logic to support our bespoke "Modular Mesh" characters and work directly with the designer-authored mission start points and checkpoints.
- Created a system for physically simulating small projectiles traveling at velocities on the order of the speed of sound, with separate simulation models for atmosphere and material penetrations, along with an event-subscription model to simplify the results for downstream consumers.
- Worked with Animation Engineering & Design to implement "Aim Obstacle Avoidance" algorithms to support intelligent dynamic posing of the character models while maintaining our gameplay invariants.

Gameplay Engineer – Epic Games (May 2021 – May 2022)

Fortnite

- Gameplay programmer for Season 18 "War Effort" community fundraising feature, using existing aggregation tech to allow players to vote between items, and automatically add the winner to loot pools.
- Gameplay support for bringing back the "B.R.U.T.E. Mech," a vehicle created for season 10 that could be funded as part of the War Effort. The mech is unique, which created additional complexity.
- Modified core damage processing code to implement rechargeable overshield in support of Season 20's "No Build Mode."
- Gameplay support for "Siege Cannon," including adapting old weapon code that allowed the player to be fired out of the barrel of the cannon and pitching & implementing squad-ping-targeting UI.

Gameplay Engineer – Insomniac Games (August 2018 – May 2021)

Marvel's Spider-Man: Miles Morales

- Gameplay programmer on "The Battle For Harlem" mission, including the final boss fight with The Tinkerer and the post-fight specialized gameplay sequence. Worked closely with design and VFX to achieve our narrative, gameplay, visual, and performance targets for the level. [Video]
- With support from VFX and accessibility teams, implemented several of the new accessibility options including button swapping, low-visibility modes, and chase assist options.
- Implemented many other fixes and one-off features, including the visor mods "Eyes in the Back of My Head," "Optic Triangulation," "Residual Venom," and "Eyes on Target."

Marvel's Spider-Man: The City that Never Sleeps

- Gameplay programmer responsible for Silver Sable, supporting the lead combat designer on the enemy Silver Sable fight and the encounter designer for the allied Silver Sable AI a few missions later.
- Post-launch bugfixes and patch support for the main game & the City that Never Sleeps DLC.

Game Engineer - Schell Games (August 2016 – August 2018)

Star Wars: Jedi Challenges – Duel

- Lead combat programmer working closely with the design and art teams to bring unique melee combat systems to a mobile AR platform [Video].
- Prototyped and implemented all core 1-on-1 AR lightsaber combat systems for blocking, attacking, and fight-specific attacks (such as blaster deflection) for 6 duels over the course of 8 months.
- Created a variety of Unity extensions for the team, including tools to allow designers to quickly turn animations into in-game attacks, workflow simplifiers like a favorites window and a rig optimization window, and scripts to automate common tasks like creating materials for use on low-end devices.

Project "Monster"

- Modified codebase of an iPad drawing game to create designer-facing tooling & an audio pipeline that allowed the team to increase the game content by 3x over the 10 weeks of the project.
- Created new systems to support data persisting across multiple play sessions, player choice and branching narratives, and art effects not present in the initial release of the game.

Education

Bachelor of Science, Computer Science – Western Washington University, Bellingham, WA – 2014