# Ethan McKeen

North Vancouver, BC





## **EDUCATION**

University of British Columbia

Masters of Engineering - Electrical and Computer Engineering with Distinction

Grade: 4.1 GPA

Completed: April, 2025

University of British Columbia

Bachelors of Applied Science - Electrical Engineering with Distinction

Completed: April, 2024 Grade: 3.8 GPA

## **WORK EXPERIENCE**

#### NeuroPrior AI, North Vancouver, BC

Apr, 2024 – Sep, 2024

## Software and Firmware Engineer

- Worked with a small team to design a medical wearable EEG and ECG device.
- Wrote C-code firmware for BLE functionality including: advertising, connecting, and ADC data transmission
- Wrote Python code for a desktop application to connect to the BLE device with a **simple GUI**.
- Utilized **signal processing techniques** to audibly play input signals and display FFT waveforms of data.

## Quadrant Electronics Inc, North Vancouver, BC

Apr, 2022 – Aug, 2022

### Junior Software Engineer

- Used Unity for proof of concept of a VR test environment to train airplane pilots.
- Computer commands could be used to change different aspects of a VR cockpit including the windshield and various gauges to train pilots to **identify broken instruments** and **fly with sub-optimal vision**.
- A phone app was also made for proof of concept of adapting this program into a AR setting.

## Celly Technologies, North Vancouver, BC

Apr, 2020 – Aug, 2020

## Junior Software and Firmware Developer

- Worked with a small team to design an app to notify users of a sump pump status based on multiple coloured LED states.
- Wrote an Android camera app utilizing image and video frame processing to filter specific colours from an image.
- The system employed a web server to store user information and made the sump pump status available online.

## RESEARCH

## **Transformer Based Actor Critic Agent**

- Investigated use cases of transformers in a reinforcement learning setting. Tests were done using an actor critic model.
- Utilized **OpenAI Gym** to test the model's performance in different environments.

#### Orthogonal Learning for Causal Policy Inference in RL

- Explored the improvement of a Q-learning model's decision-making through the incorporation of a causal inference framework.
- Utilized OpenAI Gym's Blackjack environment to compare optimal decision making versus learned decision making.

## Hybrid Physics-Informed Neural Networks and Diffusion Models for Option Pricing

• Researched a hybrid model for **financial option pricing** by combining **Diffusion Models** for stock path prediction and **Physics-Informed Neural Networks** for option price prediction.

## Investigating the Role of Test Cases in LLM-Based Python and JavaScript Code Translation

- Investigated different **prompt engineering** approaches and **iterative post processing techniques** for two-way Python and JavaScript **code translation**. Our improvements increased the LLM translation success rate from **44% to 91%**.
- Tests included generating synthetic test cases to translate code with different LLM models including Gemini-2.0 and GPT-3.5.

## **Vision Transformer Based Chessboard Image Analysis**

- Explored the use of **Vision Transformers** for classifying digital chess board pieces for game state extraction.
- Involved extensive data pre-processing but was able to significantly reduce training complexity and time while maintaining a model generalizable to many board styles and colors. For 100% classification accuracy the training data required was reduced to 500 from 80,000.

Languages		Tools		Software	
• Python	• Java	• Latex	<ul><li>PyTorch</li></ul>	• Unity	<ul> <li>SolidWorks</li> </ul>
• C and C++	<ul> <li>JavaScript</li> </ul>	• Git	• TensorFlow	• Matlab	<ul> <li>Android Studio</li> </ul>