

# Charles Holtforster

Candidate for B.ASc, **Mechatronics Engineering**, University of Waterloo

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[choltfo.github.io](https://github.com/choltfo)

## Summary of qualifications:

**Software:** Experienced with C, C++, Java, C#, Python, and Perl in professional environments.

**CAD design:** Trained in AutoCAD and SolidWorks. Capable in Inventor and EAGLE.

**Rapid prototyping:** Practical knowledge of fabrication through laser cutting and 3D printing.

**Sensing:** Real-world understanding of ultrasonic ranging, LiDAR, SLAM and point-cloud manipulation.

**Leadership:** Led and managed final project team in 1A.

**Communication:** Excellent verbal communications.

**Electronics:** Practical and theoretical knowledge of circuit design, digital protocols, and high-power electronics.

**Microcontrollers:** Capable with MSP430, Atmel.

**Certifications:** Ontario G driver's license, emergency first aid, CPR-B, WHMIS-2015, and Bronze Medallion.

**Regular prototyping:** Adept with metal & woodworking.

**Testing & QA:** Experience in load testing, verification.

**Computer literacy:** Experienced with Windows, Linux, Office, Git/GitHub, and Subversion.

**Self motivated:** Seek interesting challenges and projects.

## Relevant work experience:

### Ross Video

#### Taught robots not to kill people

- Designed and implemented obstacle detection system for studio camera robots.
- Gained practical experience with oscilloscopes, electronics tooling, soldering, & microcontroller.
- Independent problem solving.
- Built custom packet protocol for collision sensors.

### Software Developer co-op

Ottawa, ON

January – April 2017

- Created software, electrical, and mechanical prototypes.
- Assisted with mechanical product verification.
- Scratch-built SLAM algorithm for robot tracking with 16-segment solid-state LiDAR.

### Halogen Software

#### Eliminated 2 hours of daily work for nightly load tests

- Developed automated testing methods for web applications.
- Improved efficiency of finding outliers in server log files.

### Quality assurance and load testing

Ottawa, ON

Summer 2015, 2016

- Created system for future expansion and testing subsystems.
- Acquired proficiency in Perl and PowerShell.

## Projects:

**Custom brushless motor:** Non-Halbach external rotor, 22,000 RPM, designed in Inventor.

**Electromagnetic accelerator:** 1700 watt pulsed linear accelerator, from scratch.

**USB volume wheel:** Hard disk motor, analog op-amp trigger, ARM microcontroller.

**Ballistic chronograph:** Photogate timer, Arduino based; 99% accuracy for 50% price

**Static site generator:** Formats & builds [choltfo.github.io](https://github.com/choltfo) from templates.

**LEGO plotter:** C G-code parser and PID XY table from LEGO for 1A final project.

## Activities:

**Sports:** curling, biking, and skating.

**Video game development:** Unity 3D, SFML, C++, C#

**Charity work:** Homes of Hope Tijuana.

**Digital artwork:** Krita, GIMP, writing.

## Awards:

**ECOO Programming contest:** Ontario finalist, 2016, Placed 14<sup>th</sup>

**University of Ottawa General Science Competition, 2016:** Placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in Ottawa