Gavin Tranquilino Mechatronics Engineering Student

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EDUCATION

University of Waterloo

June 2028

Candidate for BASc in Mechatronics Engineering

Waterloo, ON

• Coursework: (DSA) Data Structures and Algorithms, Linear Algebra, OOP, Microprocessors, Digital Logic (FPGA, PLC), Mechanics of Deformable Solids, Materials, Statistics, Ordinary Differential Equations, RTOS (STM32)

EXPERIENCE

Humanoid Robotics Engineering Co-op

May 2025 – Present

WAT onomous

 $Waterloo,\ ON$

- Building robotic arms (6DoF) with tendon driven anthropomorphic hands (20DoF each), aiming for VR teleoperation.
- ullet Developed CAN bus interface to high-level ROS2 commands to low-level embedded systems.
- Containerized ROS2 system in **Docker**, mounting CAN transceivers to enable communication between subsystems.
- Designed URDF models to define the transform TF tree for RL simulation and training in NVIDIA Isaac Sim.
- $\bullet \ \ {\bf Built\ visualization\ infrastructure\ connecting\ {\bf Gazebo}\ simulations\ to\ {\bf Foxglove}\ for\ real-time\ debugging\ and\ data\ analysis.}$
- Assembled PCBs with 0.5mm pitch SMD components, soldered by hand, reducing assembly costs by 30%

Undergraduate Research Assistant

September 2024 – December 2024

University of Waterloo Engineering IDEAs Clinic

Waterloo, ON

- Instrumented a wearable knee crutch, allowing force readings for gait analysis and material selection via FEA.
- Designed a digital CAD twin of an existing knee crutch in **SolidWorks**.
- Developed a data acquisition system using I2C and C++, converting a bathroom scale for real-time load measurements.
- Prototyped **3D-printed** mounts and knee platforms for strain gauges, ensuring user comfort.
- Built Python scripts for force distribution visualization in Matplotlib, with data logging for gait analysis.

Mechanical Engineering Associate

January 2024 – April 2024

Sheartak Tools Ltd.

Waterloo, ON

- Designed 15 third party woodworking machinery upgrades with **DFMA** in **SolidWorks** to meet OEM specifications.
- Applied GD&T principles to guarantee manufacturing accuracy for custom machine parts.
- Collaborated with clients to create tailored part designs, improving machine performance and meeting specific customer requirements.
- Created 25 detailed installation manuals, including parts lists and assembly instructions, ensuring ease of use for customers.

PROJECTS

IoT Wearable - Modular Programmable Smart Watch - Other Hand

- Built **ESP32** wearable IoT device with rotary encoder, implementing **BLE** wireless communication to Python framework.
- Developed C++ firmware using ESP-IDF frameworks with state machine architecture for Bluetooth control.
- Created a Python Flask web app to control the watch via Bluetooth, enabling remote interaction and data visualization.

Self-Balancing Unicycle

- Built a simulator from scratch using C++ and CMake, integrating OpenGL to create a custom physics environment.
- Developed a CartPole-inspired control system focused on wheel torque control.
- Implemented cascading PID controllers to control: balancing and achieving precise position tracking.

Computer Vision Enabled Hospital App

- Mobile app to help promote physical activity for geriatric patients to prevent symptoms of hospital-induced delirium.
- Built the backend with Python, OpenCV, and MediaPipe for real-time pose estimation and exercise tracking.
- Awarded by the Grand River Hospital's Tech Innovation Challenge as having "Most Impact".

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Software/Languages: Python, C, C++, CMake, SSH, Bash, Gazebo, Foxglove, Linux, Ubuntu, JS, HTML, CSS, SQL, LaTeX Libraries/Frameworks: ROS2, Docker, OpenCV, Ultralytics YOLO, Git, MediaPipe, Flask, Selenium, NumPy, OpenGL Mechanical: SolidWorks, Fusion360, AutoCAD, GD&T, CAD, FEA, DFMA, 3D Printing, Machine Tools, Onshape

Electrical: I2C, SPI, UART, CAN Bus, Arduino, Raspberry Pi, ESP-IDF, Soldering, Oscilloscope, LiDAR, PLC, HMI