

# AARON GRAU

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[Portfolio Site](#) - [Github](#) - [Linkedin](#)

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## PROJECTS

### **KitchenStarter (Rails, React/Flux) | [live](#) | [github](#)**

*Fundraising app for new restaurants based on KickStarter*

- Implements a custom SQL query that aliases join table calculations into the active record objects to reduce number of database calls by over 90%, improving backend efficiency and scalability
- Performs searches using AJAX and Flux architecture to dynamically display user search results

### **Chess (Ruby, React/Flux) | [live](#) | [github](#)**

*Chess engine AI that users can play against in console*

- Applies minimax algorithm with alpha-beta pruning to quickly evaluate over 10 million possible future positions per turn
- Keeps track of legal moves for the user on the front end to prevent extra AJAX requests to the server and provides instant feedback by preventing illegal moves on the front end

### **Poke Trouble (HTML Canvas, JavaScript) | [live](#) | [github](#)**

*A Pokemon themed remake of the game Bubble Trouble*

- Dynamically renders sprites using HTML5 Canvas, a lightweight and mobile friendly platform, to display at constant 60 FPS

## SKILLS

Ruby, Ruby on Rails, JavaScript, jQuery, React.js, Flux, SQL, Git, HTML, CSS, Swift (learning)

## EDUCATION

### **App Academy, New York, NY**

Winter 2016

Rigorous 1,000 hour full-stack web development course with a 3% acceptance rate

### **Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN**

2011-2015

Major: Economics; Minors: Scientific Computing and Financial Economics

GPA: 3.41/4.00; Econ Major GPA 3.77/4.00, Highest Honors in Economics

Recipient of T. Aldrich Finegan Prize for Most Outstanding Senior Honors Thesis in Economics

## WORK HISTORY

### **Goldman Sachs, New York, NY**

Summer 2014

Sales and Trading Summer Analyst

- Rotated on three trading desks (CLO trading, Quantitative Options Trading, and Securities Lending) and learned about risk management and derivative evaluation from experienced traders

### **Worry Free Labs, New York, NY**

Summer 2013

Full Service Development Intern

- Researched mobile app usage trends in the fitness industry to help identify new clients
- Communicated with clients to identify new opportunities for web and mobile app development