Alex Blackwell

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EXPERIENCE

Microsoft

Backend Distributed Systems Software Developer   In-game Marketplace Team

Demonware developer for the Call of Duty marketplace team supporting millions of online requests and transactions every day.

Software Developer (SDE II)   05/2023 – Present
- Updated the data layer to facilitate ML-based player store personalisation to boost revenue and player experience.
- Developed, tested, and delivered an API under a quarter of the team's estimated time with a 40% performance boost.
- Onboarded, mentored, and met daily with an intern who spearheaded a project removing 76k lines of legacy code.
- Optimised purchase business logic improving performance by 86%, delivered in less than 1/10th the estimated time.

Software Developer (SDE I)   12/2021 – 05/2023
- Created a multi-threaded, multi-processed data manipulation client used to grant to 100 million players overnight.
- Presented and demonstrated the client to over 40 employees at Demonware's 20th world-wide company conference.
- Proposed and implemented a new full-stack unit testing paradigm agreed upon by the team for faster development.

Software Developer Intern   05/2021 – 12/2021
- Spearheaded the design, development, and deployment of discounts for the Call of Duty marketplace.
- Sped up the Call of Duty gifting API by 75% by selectively querying a subset of database shards.

Tools: Python | C++ | SQL | MySQL | Docker | Kubernetes | Argo CD | Spark | Databricks | Git | Jenkins | Ansible | GCP

Borealis AI (RBC)

Machine Learning Research Mentee   03/2021 – 05/2021
- Developed a web application to predict 1 year of future New York water consumption using Machine Learning.
- Compared ARIMA, SARIMA, and LSTM models to determine the best prediction captured by the lowest MAE.
- Wrote a white paper capturing the exploratory data analysis, a comparison of models, and the project's findings.

Tools: Python | Jupyter Notebook | EDA | Neural Networks | Machine Learning | Flask | MySQL | JavaScript | AWS

EDUCATION

BSc. in Computer Science, xxx University   xxx, Canada

Dean's List; Graduation with distinction   GPA: 3.9

Skills: C++ | C | Python | Java | Kotlin | Haskell | x86 Assembly | Theory (Computation, Math, Statistics) | Data Mining

PROJECTS

Rate My Medication   Web Application
- A full-stack website serving as a safe community for people to find reviews and share experiences of medication.
- Hosts hundreds of medication reviews to help people gain information on other individuals' real world experiences.

Tools: Node.js | MySQL | Heroku | HTML/CSS | Express.js Framework | Passport.js Auth | Nodemailer email module

HONOURS

xxx University Open Scholarship: Scholarship for academic achievement	Every Term
Dean's Honour Roll: Term GPA greater than 3.50; xxx, Faculty of Applied Science	Every Term
President's Honour Roll: Term GPA greater than 4.00; xxx, Faculty of Applied Science	06/2021, 06/2023
Second place in xxx Coding Competition: Hosted by the competitive programming club	09/2020
Google Kickstart Top 35 in Canada: Google Kickstart August Coding Competition	08/2020