

Balawal Chaudry

Software Engineer | New York, New York
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myportfolio-balawal-chaudrys-projects.vercel.app/

WORK EXPERIENCE

Gilder Gagnon Howe & Co. LLC

Software Engineer

New York, New York

July 2023-December 2023

- Part of a **Wall Street** investment firm's **data visualization team**, collaborated closely with analysts to craft **dynamic solutions**, empowering clients in automating **business workflows**, encompassing trade management, allocation, compliance, position management and modeling.
- Employed **Salesforce** to enhance **client portfolio management**, creating geospatial insight through **heat-maps** and implementing interactive client informational dashboards through Salesforce **Lightning**.
- Effectively managed **critical client information** by leveraging **AWS Glue** and **Pyspark** (Python libraries, including **Pandas**) scripts to securely automate the processing and ingestion of daily **SEC** and **NFS** files from **S3** into **Redshift**, while ensuring efficient schema design using **SQL**.
- Defined **Lambda functions** that executed core business logic, configured with specific **IAM roles/policies** ensuring secure and granular access to AWS resources.
- Orchestrate the execution of Glue jobs upon file arrival in S3, followed by real time **Slack notifications** for job status updates through **EventBridge** rules, targeting **Lambda** functions.
- Developed a **Slack Bot** using multiple AWS services (**API Gateway**, **Lambda**, **Eventbridge**) and third-party APIs (**Tableau**, **Box**) to **reduce licensing costs** and streamline report generation through **simple commands**.
- Implemented a no-SQL database using **DynamoDB** to track Glue job statuses, resulting in organized notifications for efficient **monitoring**.
- Utilized **AWS CDK** to provision and manage infrastructure for AWS services using the **.NET framework**.
- Contributed to the enhancement of system reliability and performance by **refactoring** code, **re-designing** infrastructure and **debugging/monitoring** logs through **CloudWatch**.

PoolUp

Software Engineer

Costa Mesa, CA

February 2023- June 2023

- Core member of the **mobile app development startup** team focused on transforming **city-to-city rideshare** for college students in California.
- Utilizing the **Flutter framework** to develop a cross native mobile application for iOS/Android devices.
- Designed and developed a user-friendly interface for the rideshare application, including features such as real-time ride tracking, driver ratings, ride history, and multiple payment options.
- Implemented the backend using **Firebase** as an efficient solution for scalability and security, seamlessly integrating **Javascript** for API utilization through the **Flutter SDK**.
- Integrate **third-party services** such as **Stripe** and **Venmo** for payment, **Google Maps** for navigation, **SheerID** for student verification, and **Twilio** to notify users via text/email.
- Participate in **code refactor** to improve code maintainability and enforce best practices, including troubleshooting and resolving critical bugs.
- Collaborate closely with product managers and **UI/UX designers** to address and iterate on customer feedback.

NASA

Software Engineer

Goddard Institute for Space Studies, New York, New York

June 2022- September 2022

- Working alongside Dr. Matteo Ottaviani, helped deploy code to NASA's upcoming **PACE (Plankton, Aerosol, Cloud, Ocean Ecosystem) mission** in 2024, aiding in improving climate models and supporting environmental decision making.
- Optimized and developed an **advanced retrieval scheme** to detect oil on ocean surfaces, by implementing built-in **Pythonic** methods, drivers, and functions, with additional implementation such as error checks, file converters and command line flags providing more functionality.
- Constructed a powerful, newly acquired NASA GISS server with upwards of **256 CPU cores**, capable of extensive computational capabilities to facilitate the execution of **machine learning models** to accelerate response-times in detecting and monitoring oil spills.
- Successfully producing a look up table spanning **tens of thousands** of files, serving as the dataset for machine learning training.
- Computed **F-statistics** on the dataset to gain valuable insights on the **sensitivity of ocean parameters** and understand underlying data patterns.

New York City Department of Transportation

Software Engineer

New York, New York

February 2022- May 2022

- Utilizing **LiDAR** technology, created a **convolutional neural network (CNN)** to identify assets on NYC streets such as stop signs, streetlights.
- Successfully detected street assets, allowing for a quicker response by the DOT to improve damaged infrastructure and maintain **public safety**.
- Built **leadership** skills with top engineers by mapping out a clear project scope, deliverables, and business plan to present to stakeholders.

PROJECT(S)

Simply Halal

January 2023

- Utilizing the **Flutter framework**, developed a cross-mobile platform that filters and locates nearby halal restaurants.
- Parsing the **Yelp API** for information on restaurants and storing in a local database, with a home screen of the **top 10** closest restaurants.
- Provides users with a **map feature** for real time locations and options to explore, along with a **search feature** to specify results

Today In History

August 2024

- Released a cross-platform mobile application to **App Store** using **React Native**, delivering **daily notable historical events**, births, deaths
- Integrated the **Wikipedia API**, to offer **multi-language support** along with an **Open AI Chatbot** to enhance the user experience

Tradewise

November 2024

- Developed a **full-stack** React Native app with user authentication via **Firebase**, integrating **real-time** stock and crypto **updates** through a **WebSocket**, an investment value **calculator** (with **DRIP** support), live market **news**, **earnings calendar** reminders, and **tweets** from top accounts.
- Built a **Node.js/Express** backend, hosted on **AWS EC2**, to manage server-side logic, connect with **Firebase**, and efficiently support **live data updates** and user engagement.

EDUCATION

CUNY Hunter College

BA Computer Science (GPA: 3.65, Cum Laude, Departmental Honors)

New York, New York

SKILLS

- Programming:** Python, C#, C++, Dart, JavaScript, Typescript, SQL, R
- Technologies:** AWS, ASP.NET, Flutter, React Native, Tableau, Salesforce, VS Code, Xcode, NodeJS, Github, Firebase, PostgreSQL, Linux