

ZhangZheng (Steven) Chen

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Skills

- Java | Kotlin | Python | Typescript | React.js | PostgreSQL | R | Docker
- Fluent in English and Chinese

Education

Grainger College of Engineering at UIUC

Expected: May 2026

Candidate for Bachelor of Science in Computer Science and Statistics

Experience

Lightmatter

June 2024 - Aug 2024

Software Developer Intern

- Contributed to the development and optimization of internal tools supporting Lightmatter's cutting-edge photonic computing platform. Worked closely with the team to enhance the Idiom software stack, which interfaces with deep learning frameworks and optimizes AI models for Envisi photonic processors.
- Developed automation tools for data processing and performance monitoring using python, improving the efficiency of model deployment and testing on Lightmatter's photonic chips. Assisted in refining software interfaces to facilitate seamless communication between software and photonic hardware, enabling faster AI inference and reduced power consumption.

Clocky LLC

Nov 2023 - Jan 2024

Backend Developer Intern

- Spearheaded the development and deployment of a machine learning-based fraud detection tool, independently managing the project while collaborating with the UI/UX team to design a user-friendly interface that aligned with design standards. Utilized Python for web scraping and API integrations, leading to a significant reduction in fraudulent product listings on external websites.
- Collaborated with the lead engineer to design and implement secure backend payment processing modules using Python, integrating with Shopify's platform through Liquid templating. This effort enhanced e-commerce transaction efficiency and bolstered system security.

UIUC Department of Computer Science

Jan 2023 - Current

Undergraduate Teaching Assistant

Urbana-Champaign, IL

- Collaboratively developed discussion sessions and problem sets with the course professor, directly contributing to a dynamic environment in Java and Kotlin programming.
- Led weekly discussion sessions for 25 students and authored over 3 weekly assignments, receiving 95% positive feedback rate on the CS124 help site.
- Initiate practical sessions on Android Studio Machine Projects, focusing on real-world applications of coding knowledge which significantly enhanced students ability in debugging and unit testing.

Projects

Kard

June 2024 - Current

- Developed a scalable, responsive flashcard platform with CRUD functionality, leveraging Next.js for a dynamic frontend and Supabase for backend services, including authentication and real-time database operations. Integrated OpenAI's API to build an AI-powered chatbot for personalized study assistance. The application supports a large user base with real-time collaboration features, advanced search and filtering, and secure data management.