

TORY CHEN

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Education

University of Waterloo

Sep 2021 – Apr 2026

Bachelor of Computer Science — Dean's Honours

Waterloo, ON

- **Overall Average:** 93.5%, **GPA:** 3.97/4.00
- **Scholarships:** B.P. Dammizio Entrance Scholarship, President Scholar of Distinction
- **Relevant Coursework:** Data Structures and Algorithms, Object-Oriented Programming, Application Development, Operating Systems, Compilers, Machine Learning, Statistical Analysis, Linear Algebra, Calculus, Numerical Computation

Technical Skills

Languages: Python, TypeScript, JavaScript, Objective-C, Swift, Java, Scala, C++, C, SQL, Bash, HTML, CSS

Technologies: React, Node.js, Django, Flask, LangChain, Spring Boot, Kafka, GraphQL, REST APIs, NoSQL

Developer Tools: Git, Linux, AWS, GCP, Kubernetes, Docker, Webpack, Postman, VS Code, Jupyter Notebook

Experience

Rippling | Python, Django, TypeScript, React

May 2025 – Aug 2025

Software Engineer

San Francisco, CA

- Working on the Payroll Run Management team that builds the backend platform for the core payroll product at Rippling.

X (Twitter) | Scala, Objective-C, Swift, GraphQL

Jan 2025 – Apr 2025

Software Engineer

Palo Alto, CA

- Re-engineered and improved the profile search feature that supports custom filtering using **Elasticsearch** and **Scala**.
- Built upsells on iOS with time based triggers, swapping functionalities and conducted **A/B** testing to identify customer preferences, leading to optimized monetization schemes that increased **ARR** by **30+ million USD**.
- Investigated and resolved critical security vulnerabilities in the iOS X app using **Objective-C** and **Swift**.
- Implemented support for identity verification through **Persona** and **Au10tix** in the iOS app using **Swift** and **GraphQL**.

IBM | Java, Python, Spring Boot, Kafka, Flink, MongoDB, Kubernetes

May 2024 – Aug 2024

Software Developer

Toronto, ON

- Designed a test coordinator system that automates regression testing for **350+** Kafka Streams apps on a **Kubernetes** cluster using a microservice architecture that employs a **LLM** for schema mapping and **Flink Jobs** written in **Java** for data generation and validation.
- Built a **Kafka Streams** app that generates **110 000+** messages and deployed it on a **Kubernetes** cluster using **Helm**.
- Automated the matching of test scripts using **vector embeddings** and the **Reciprocal Rank Fusion** algorithm, saving **5 mins** per script.

IBM | Python, LangChain, Flask, Neo4j, AWS, GCP, Docker

Jan 2024 – Apr 2024

Machine Learning Developer

Toronto, ON

- Improved the accuracy of **RAG systems** for **LLMs** by **65%** by replacing the **vector database** with a **Neo4j** graph database that is integrated with **vector embeddings** and stores data chunks based on structure and hierarchy.
- Built a parser API that generates a hierarchical graph structure from .pdf and .docx files using **Python** and **Flask**.
- Developed a **LangChain** retriever and reduced **Neo4j** query times by **63%** through optimizing the **Cypher** queries.

YuJa | TypeScript, React, Express.js, Webpack, SQL, AWS

May 2022 – Aug 2022

Software Developer

San Jose, CA

- Built a custom synchronized webcam and screen video player that replays videos stored on **S3** using **React** and **Video.js**.
- Designed the **SQL** database schema that supports **230 000+** student users and wrote queries that monitored video processing, validated account data and authenticated user sessions using the **Sequelize ORM**.
- Improved video processing efficiency by **87%** by leveraging **Node Worker threads** to process videos concurrently.

Projects

Markdown Editor 🗒 | TypeScript, React, Material UI

- Built a web based **Markdown** editor that compiles **Markdown** into **HTML** for display using **React** and **TypeScript**.
- Developed a **lexer** that scans the input and converts it into tokens by using a variant of the **maximal munch** algorithm.
- Implemented a **parser** that changes the lexer tokens into a valid **syntax tree** and used the tree to generate HTML.

Hobbies and Interests

- Soccer, Badminton, Swimming, Climbing, Poker, Chess, Hiking, Cooking