

# Ziheng (Jack) Chen

☎ 312-823-6315 | ✉ zihengchen2000@gmail.com | 📍 Clarendon Hills, IL, USA, 60514

🌐 zihengjackchen.com | 🔗 linkedin.com/in/zihengjackchen | 🐙 github.com/zihengjackchen

## Education

**University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign (UIUC)** Aug 2023 – May 2025  
Master of Science in Computer Engineering GPA: 4.00/4.00  
**University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign (UIUC)** Aug 2019 – May 2023  
Bachelor of Science in Computer Engineering, Minor in Mathematics (Highest Honor) GPA: 3.99/4.00  
**Relevant Coursework** Computer Systems, Distributed Systems, Networking, Fault-Tolerant Digital Systems

## Experience

**Software Engineer Intern, StoneX Group – Chicago, IL** Jan 2023 – June 2023

- Designed and developed an evaluation pipeline with `pandas` to benchmark prototypical commodity price indices
- Analyzed the potential profitability of commodity indices generated from 200+ index configurations, surpassed target by 23.3% in 10-year total return and 8.8% in Sharpe Ratio with the top-performing tested index
- Expedited benchmarking processes by parallelizing the execution in `Databricks`, reducing waiting time by 3,000%
- Collaborated closely with marketing associates to validate index generation and refine evaluation requirements
- Developed a `Python` script for CI/CD in `Azure DevOps` to automate `Databricks` workflow migration across environments, testing intricate logic to handle edge cases effectively, and eliminating manual operations

**Data Engineer Intern, StoneX Group – Chicago, IL** Aug 2022 – Dec 2022

- Deployed a proxy microservice to integrate `Okta` authentication into an existing cloud-native app using `Docker`
- Optimized the data curation ETL pipeline for a data-serving application to cut waiting time by 20 times to 5 seconds
- Developed a real-time usage analysis dashboard in `Splunk`, featuring dynamic filters for associates and categories
- Implemented agile methodologies to ensure flexibility and adaptability throughout the entire project lifecycle

**Data Engineer Intern, Ecolab – Saint Paul, MN** May 2022 – Aug 2022

- Profiled global sales history table in `Snowflake`, identifying 201M invalid rows to enhance data integrity
- Automated SQL query generation through `Python` and APIs to streamline the evaluation of data quality and usability

## Projects

**Traffic Risk Assessment and Mitigation – Autonomous Vehicles, Safety, End-to-end** Aug 2023 – Dec 2023

- Utilized `alphashape` in `Python` to calculate the reachable area of a vehicle following a bicycle model to identify risky vehicles in traffic and introduced methods to improve safety in an end-to-end AV simulation
- Executed simulations in parallel with `subprocess` and `ThreadPoolExecutor` in `Python` to generate 30,000+ traces from adverse seed scenarios with varied parameters, e.g., cut-in speed and timing of safety-critical actors
- Cleansed and statistically analyzed generated datasets using `pandas`, and visualized outcomes with `seaborn` and `matplotlib`, proving the efficacy of the proposed metric over current state-of-the-art risk assignment methods
- Implemented a Reinforcement Learning Agent in `PyTorch` that uses ego-vehicle telemetry and three front-facing cameras in the perception module to achieve a 72.7% reduction in accidents through emergency braking

**Friction Model Improvement in CARLA Simulator – Autonomous Vehicles, Simulation** Sept 2022 – May 2023

- Studied the physics implemented in `CARLA` and improved the friction model as a function of weather settings
- Generated and analyzed 8,000+ vehicle traces in varying weather conditions, creating 300% more accidents
- Acquired expertise in modifying the perception, control, and planning modules in the `CARLA` simulation platform

**Coffee4Life OS – Linux System Kernel, System Programming, Operating Systems** Mar 2022 – May 2022

- Developed a functional 32-bit `Linux` kernel in `C` and low-level `x86 Assembly`
- Supported paging, RTC, keyboard, terminal, file system, system calls, context switching, and scheduling operations

## Skills

**Programming Languages** Python, C++, C, GO, SQL, JavaScript, TypeScript, Bash, Assembly, CUDA  
**Technologies and Skills** Git, Linux, Docker, Azure DevOps, pandas, PyTorch, TCP, IP, Ethernet