

# BEN ZHOU

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## TECHNICAL SKILLS

**Languages:** TypeScript, JavaScript, C++, Python, Java, SQL (Sqlite, MySQL), Bash, HTML, CSS

**Technologies:** Next.js, React, Node, Flask, MongoDB, Redis, Tailwind, framer-motion, ESP32, Arduino, Raspberry Pi

**Developer Tools/Skills:** Git, GCP, Oracle, VSCode, Eclipse, Linux, Soldering, PCB Design, 3D Printing

## EXPERIENCE

### Prototype Engineer Intern

July. 2024 – Present

*Averroes Technologies*

*Toronto, Ontario*

- Designing and implementing multiple software prototypes in primarily **C++** to test and refine product functionalities.

### Innovation Developer Co-op Student

Feb. 2024 – July 2024

*SAP Toronto*

*Toronto, Ontario*

- Created a Cloudflare **worker** using **TypeScript** to handle and sanitize GPT-4o requests, later developed comprehensive tests, achieving **100% coverage**.
- Developed a personalized diagnosis tool using SAP Business Technology Platform (BTP) in conjunction with **Firestore** and **Firebase Authentication**.
- Developed additional tools using **Python** and **Node.js** to parse data and benchmark performance metrics.

### FullStack Development Lead

November. 2023 – May 2024

*EurekaHacks 2024*

*Oakville, Ontario*

- Led a team of three in developing a modern, responsive website utilizing **Next.js**.
- Enhanced SEO strategies, resulting in a significant increase of **2,360+ impressions** and **800 clicks**.
- Integrated a form system with Tally, achieving a full capacity of **300 sign-ups** a month prior to the event.

### Programming Instructor

Sep. 2023 – Present

*Triway Education*

*Stouffville, Ontario*

- Taught a comprehensive curriculum of 18 lessons to enhance programming skills in **Java** and **Python**.
- Provided personalized tutoring to students preparing for the AP Computer Science A (AP CSA) exam.

## PROJECTS

### Spotify Macrokeyboard | [GitHub](#) | C++, TypeScript, ESP32, PCB

Feb 2024 – Present

- Created a custom macro keyboard with an OLED screen, keyboard switches, custom keycaps, and RGB lighting that controls, displays, and matches album colours from music.
- Designed a **PCB** and a **3D chassis** to house the project, integrating it with RGB lighting.
- Implemented an API in **TypeScript** to manage Spotify states, and rewrote an outdated library in **C++**.

### UniPlanner - 1st Place @HDSBHacks | [GitHub](#) | Next.js, Prisma, Tailwind, TS, Mongo

May 2023 – Present

- Rewriting application to leverage server-side rendering and caching strategies in **Next.js**.
- Implementing full authentication system with JWT, third-party services, along with a secure payment system.
- Used **Prisma** to design new, efficient **MongoDB schemas**, enhancing data integrity and improving query performance.

### FlashNotes - 3rd Place @HackTheRidge | [GitHub](#) | TypeScript, Next.js, Tailwind

December 2023

- Developed a website using **Next.js** that converts images of notes into studyable flashcard sets.
- Integrated OpenAI's vision model with OCR technology for seamless image-to-text conversion.

### bTagScript Playground | Project | Flask, Python, HTML, CSS, JavaScript, MySQL

Jan 2022 – May 2023

- Designed a **Flask API** to serve program run requests while also logging data through **MySQL**.
- Helped debug **14,100+ programs**, and recently migrated to a new host to ensure **99.95%** uptime for all users.

## EDUCATION

### University of Waterloo

*BASc in Computer Engineering, Honours*

Waterloo, Ontario

Sep. 2024 – April 2029