Shiyang Zhao

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EDUCATION

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Urbana, IL Expected Dec 2025
Master of Computer Science

Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ Dec 2022
Bachelor of Science in Computer Science GPA: 3.9/4.0

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Programming Languages: Java, JavaScript, Python, C#
Front-End: HTML/CSS, React.js, Bootstrap, Sass, Tailwind CSS
Tools: Spring, Django, Selenium, Jenkins, Node.js, Git, PostgreSQL, MySQL, SQLite, AWS, Heroku, Docker

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

RND4IMPACT INC. San Jose, CA
Software Engineer March 2023 – Jan 2024

- Developed full-stack web applications that utilize technologies such as **Java**, **Python**, and **JavaScript** including **Spring Boot**, **React**, **Django**
- Implemented **RESTful** APIs and integrated third-party services to enhance application functionality and scalability
- Automated deployment processes using CI/CD pipelines with **Jenkins**, resulting in a 40% reduction in deployment time and fewer production issues
- Assisted in debugging and resolving software issues by writing and running automated tests, improving code quality and reducing bugs by 20%

PROJECTS

Social Media Web Application - Metasphere March 2024 – June 2024

- Developed Metasphere, a dynamic social media platform merging Reddit and Instagram features using **Django** as the full-stack framework
- Implemented posts, chat, comments, stories, and notifications with real-time updates via **WebSocket**, **Django Channels**, and task scheduling with **Celery**
- Streamlined CI/CD by integrating **Jenkins** with GitHub Webhooks and automating the pipeline with **Selenium**, ensuring efficient and reliable deployments
- Boosted performance by optimizing database queries, implementing caching, and refining backend processes, reducing server response times by 30% and increasing data processing efficiency by 25%

Kaggle House Price Prediction Feb 2024 – March 2024

- Preprocessed data by cleaning, handling missing values, simplifying features, creating new predictors, and introducing binary variables using **Python**, **Pandas**, and **NumPy**
- Transformed data distribution through normalization, fine-tuned **Lasso** and **XGBRegressor** models using cross-validation, and analyzed residuals to guide the ensemble strategy
- Optimized model accuracy and stability by combining predictions from various models and conducting hyperparameter tuning with **GridSearchCV** in **Scikit-Learn**

Employee Management System - EmploVerse July 2023 – Oct 2023

- Developed EmploVerse, an employee management application using **Java Spring**, **React**, and **MySQL**
- Implemented CRUD operations, attendance tracking for 5 departments, RBAC across 4 levels, secure **JWT** authentication, and payroll management
- Enhanced communication by adding real-time chat via **WebSocket** and notifications for important updates, reducing email use by 45%
- Deployed on **AWS**, using **S3** for storage, **RDS** for databases, **EC2** for computing, and auto-scaling with load balancing for traffic management and efficiency