# Sai Surya Karthik Pithani

Los Angeles metropolitan area, CA | Open to Relocation

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#### EDUCATION

# California State University, San Bernardino

May 2025

Master's degree in Computer Science

CGPA: 3.8/4.0

Relevant Coursework: Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning, Software Engineering, Algorithms, Operating Systems, Data Structures

Google UX Design (Professional Certificate)

April 2025

Sathyabama Institute of Science & Technology

May 2020

Bachelor's degree in Computer Science and Engineering

#### TECHNICAL SKILLS

Languages & Web: Python, C, HTML, CSS, Tailwind CSS, JavaScript, React, Vite

UX Design: Storyboarding, Sketching, Wireframes, Wireflows, User Interface, Prototyping, Visual Design
UX Research: Usability Testing, Affinity Mapping, User Interviews, User Personas, Journey Mapping

Tools: VS Code, Jira, Git, GitHub, Figma, Miro, Adobe Firefly, Pacdora

Data & Cloud: SQL, MongoDB, SQLite, AWS (EC2, S3, IAM, ECS, Lambda)

#### Professional Experience

# Game UI/UX Designer | CSUSB (Academic Project)

Jan 2024 - May 2024

- Designed and prototyped an educational math game for Android by using user-centered principles
- Conducted user research and usability testing to improve engagement and accessibility for young learners
- Created original characters and UI assets using Adobe Firefly and Sketchbook to boost visual appeal
- Integrated reward systems and parental controls to personalize gameplay and motivate continued learning

## PL/SQL Developer | Tech Mahindra, India

May 2021 - July 2023

- Developed optimized PL/SQL packages and triggers, reducing database processing time by 40%
- Managed data migrations and conversions using PL/SQL scripts, ensuring data integrity across systems
- Resolved database defects and performance issues, achieving a 95% defect resolution rate
- Worked closely with cross-functional teams, including developers, DBAs, and stakeholders, to ensure seamless database operations

## PROJECTS

# SmartFlix: AI-Powered Movie Recommender with Netflix-Inspired UI

GitHub

- Built a React + Redux-based app offering GPT-based personalized content recommendations
- Integrated OpenAI API and Firebase Auth for NLP-driven suggestions and data persistence
- Fetched real-time movie data from TMDB API using secured token, enhancing dynamic content display features
- Enhanced search functionality with GPT-based natural language processing (NLP) for personalized suggestions

#### Oishii Mobile App – UX Research & Design for a Japanese Restaurant Table Reservation Platform

- Designed booking app with full UX cycle: user research, wireframes, hi-fi prototypes, and usability testing
- Conducted interviews and journey mapping to uncover key user pain points and booking challenges
- Applied design sprint methods like Crazy Eights to ideate inclusive and intuitive interface solutions
- Created image-rich menus and clear navigation to support food discovery and visual-first decision making

#### ZunoTube: YouTube-Inspired Video Streaming Platform

GitHub

- Built a responsive YouTube-style app using React, Redux Toolkit, and Tailwind for seamless video streaming UI
- Integrated YouTube Data API to fetch trending videos and search results
- Enabled category-based filtering, sidebar navigation, and route-based page transitions using React Router and Redux state
- Built watch page with embedded video player, randomized comments, and sidebar of recommended related videos

# Cloud Computing Application | AWS Cloud Service Hands-on Projects

- Configured AWS ELB and EC2 Auto Scaling to ensure availability and scalability for a web application
- Deployed ML API using Docker on AWS EKS with Kubernetes, efficiently managing cloud-based services