Ruan Mackridge

Computer Scientist

I am a Software Developer with a passion for problem-solving and people. I recently graduated in Computer Science (Hons) from Stellenbosch University. I like to think outside-the-box and try to find the most effective and innovative solution to a given problem. I am a firm believer that technology only adds value if it is delivered with an easy-to-use user experience solving real business or user requirements. I have also been involved in numerous leadership positions, where I have learned the importance of leading a team through examples and allowing the right level of empowerment and ownership to the teams involved. I value the relationships I build with other people as an essential aspect of my approach to leadership. Making a difference and adding value are some of the key things that keep me motivated.

Education

10/2024 - 10/2024
IBM on Coursera | Online

IBM Data Science

- Mastered the most up-to-date practical skills and knowledge regarding Data Science
- Acquired, cleaned, analyzed and visualized data and built machine learning pipelines and models on real world data sets

01/2023 - 12/2023
Stellenbosch University | Stellenbosch

BSc (Hons) Computer Science

Final year project: Arithmetic using Neuro-Symbolic AI
In this research project I used Neuro-Symbolic AI to do arithmetic with images of numbers. During the project I learned:
- To create neural networks using the PyTorch framework; and
- Integration of image recognition into neural networks.

01/2020 - 12/2022
Stellenbosch University | Stellenbosch

BSc Mathematical Science (Computer Science)

01/2020 - 12/2023
Helpmekaar Kollege | Johannesburg

IEB National Senior Certificate
8 distinctions, Final Grade: 86%

Work Experience

03/2025 - Present
IntelliAcc | Cape Town

Software Developer
- Lead Developer in migration project from Classic ASP to C#.
- Contributed to company wide AI-strategy

10/2024 - 12/2024
Stellenbosch FC | Stellenbosch

Freelance Data science work
- Built infrastructure to connect with external API for data retrieval and cleaning
- Implemented machine learning models to assist in club's scouting efforts
- Visualized data in Tableau for other stakeholders

12/2023 - 04/2024
Aspen CO, USA

Worked winter season abroad
- Worked as server at restaurant.
- In my spare time, I took charge of implementing and updating POS system and redesigned some aspects of inventory management system and the website.

Contact

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Education

2024-2024
IBM Data Science Professional Certificate

2023 - 2023
BSc (Hons) Computer Science

2020 - 2022
BSc Mathematical Science (Computer Science)

2015 - 2019
IEB National Senior Certificate

Skills

- Programming: Python, Java, C, SQL, C#, JavaScript
- Machine Learning
- Operations Research
- Microsoft Office
- Event Planning
- First-Aid level 3

Language

English

Afrikaans

French (Basic)

07/2023 - 08/2023

Capitec l Stellenbosch

Job Shadowing

- Got insights into different departments.
- Analyzed different aspects of the companies data management.

02/2021 - 03/2021

Coronation l Cape Town

Vacation Work

- Did research on T&C's
- Helped with calibrating one of their new automated systems
- Prepared an investment pitch into the gaming industry

Leadership Experience

2021-2022

Eendrag Residence l Stellenbosch

House Committee member

- Head of social portfolio and informal events
- Organizing the annual residence event

2020-2021

Eendrag Residence l Stellenbosch

Senior Committee member

- Promoting diverse interaction between residents of Eendrag by organizing inclusive events.

2018-2019

Helpmekaar Kollege | Johannesburg

Deputy Head boy

- Head of House Melle, managing 300 students in various sporting and cultural events.
- Facilitated the welcoming of 230 new Grade 8's.

2018

GKL Church l Johannesburg

Mentor

- Mentoring youth in Church program.

2015-2019

Helpmekaar Kollege l Johannesburg

Various leadership positions

- Captain of second hockey team.
- Organizer of the school's general knowledge competition.
- Member of the school's CSV leadership team.

Achievements and extracurricular activities

2020

Golden Key Society

Selected to be part of the Golden Key Society South Africa.

2019

French

Passed Delf B1 exam with 72%.

2018

Debating

4th in "Dink of Sink" North (Afrikaans impromptu debating).