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GARY CHEN

# CAREER OBJECTIVE

Full-stack developer with a master's in Software Engineering, proficient in React, SpringBoot, Node.js, and AWS, enabling the creation of scalable web applications, REST APIs, and cloud-based solutions. Proficient in database optimization, authentication, and DevOps practices. Building intuitive and high-performance applications by bridging seamless integrations between frontend and backend. Seeking to contribute technical expertise in a dynamic development team.

# EDUCATION

MSc Software Engineering | Cardiff University - Wales, UK Sep 2023 – Oct 2024

BSc Computer Science | Arden University - London, UK Jan 2019 – Jan 2023

# CORE SKILLS AND COMPETENCIES

**Frontend:** React, Angular, TypeScript, Next.js, Redux, Tailwind CSS, Material UI **Backend:** Java (SpringBoot), Python (Django, Flask), Node.js (Express), Firebase **API Development:** RESTful APIs, GraphQL, WebSockets, OAuth2, JWT **Databases:** PostgreSQL, MySQL, MongoDB, Firebase **Cloud & DevOps:** AWS (EC2, S3, Lambda, RDS), Docker, Kubernetes, Terraform  
**CI/CD & Deployment:** GitHub Actions, GitLab CI/CD, Netlify, Vercel **Authentication & Security:** OAuth2, JWT, session-based authentication

**KEY ACHIEVEMENTS**

* **Huawei ICT Competition Finalist** – Placed **3rd among 170,000+ participants**, demonstrating full-stack system expertise.
* **GMTK Game Jam** – Designed and built a **full-stack game leaderboard** ranked **top 7% of 7,000 entries**.

# PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

**Full-Stack Developer | VZTA Trails – London, UK (Dec 2023 – Jan 2024)**

* Developed a **gamified web platform** with a **React frontend** and **SpringBoot backend**, integrating **leaderboards, rewards, and progress tracking**.
* Built a **RESTful API** for data storage and authentication, utilizing **JWT-based security**.
* Reduced **backend query times by 20%** through **database indexing** and optimized API endpoints.
* Deployed the application on **AWS (EC2, RDS, S3)** using **Dockerized microservices**.
* Implemented **Redux** for global state management, improving frontend efficiency.

**Full-Stack Developer Intern | Kenworth Truck Company – Kirkland, WA (Jun 2024 – Sep 2024)**

* Developed a **real-time monitoring dashboard** using **React, Node.js, and PostgreSQL**, visualizing **vehicle telemetry data**.
* Integrated **WebSockets for live updates**, ensuring seamless backend communication.
* Deployed the system using **Kubernetes on AWS**, improving system scalability and reliability.
* Automated backend deployment with **GitHub Actions**, reducing release time by **40%**.

**Full-Stack Engineer | GMTK 2024 Game Jam (Jul 2024 – Aug 2024)**

* Created a **multiplayer game leaderboard** with a **Next.js frontend** and **Node.js backend**.
* Designed a **MongoDB database schema**, improving **leaderboard query efficiency**.
* Implemented **WebSockets** for **real-time game state updates**.

# NOTABLE PROJECTS

**Full-Stack Trading Bot Platform**

* **Tech:** Next.js, SpringBoot, PostgreSQL, AWS Lambda
* Developed a **web dashboard** that visualizes **real-time Forex trade execution**.
* Integrated **MetaTrader 5 API** to execute trades and store analytics in PostgreSQL.

**E-Commerce Web App**

* **Tech:** React, Firebase, Express.js, Stripe API
* Built an **e-commerce platform** with **user authentication, product management, and payment processing**.
* Implemented **Firebase Authentication** and **Stripe for secure payments**.

**CERTIFICATIONS & ADDITIONAL INFO**

* **AWS Certified Developer – Associate** *(2024 in progress)*
* Developed a fully automated Forex pair trading bot that executes trades on ICMarket, demonstrating strong capabilities in algorithmic trading and financial technology.