

Will Palaia

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Education

University of Massachusetts Amherst, Amherst, MA

December 2025 (expected)

B.S. in Computer Science, B.A. in Economics

Coursework: Data Structures, Computer Systems, Discrete Math, Linear Algebra

Skills

Languages: Java, Python, JavaScript, Typescript, HTML, C

Technologies: React, NodeJS, Git, AWS (ECS, EC2), Linux (Ubuntu), Docker, Kubernetes

Experience

ISO New England Holyoke, MA

June 2024 – August 2024 (expected)

Incoming Data Verification Engineer Intern/Software Engineer Intern

Camp Tahattawan, Littleton, MA

June 2023 – August 2023

Camp Counselor

- Assisted technology specialist in developing new and interactive ways to teach kids the basics of computing

BigBear.AI, Lexington, MA

June 2022 – August 2022

Software Developer Intern (Full Stack Web Dev & Data Engineering) - JavaScript, React, NodeJS

- Built top-to-bottom Jira cloud-based web application over three two-week sprints using agile technologies
- Implemented hierarchical UI and progress features to greatly increase efficiency and scalability on the user-side
- Designed and integrated unit tests - increased total app test coverage by >25%
- Deployed on AWS ECS and released to the Atlassian Marketplace, contributed to 100% of total profits

US Soccer, Massachusetts Youth Soccer, Lancaster, MA

September 2017 – August 2022

Soccer Referee

- Officiated youth soccer games with players ranging from 6 to 18 years old
- Managed assistant referees, players, and coaches for multiple hours in a row in a high-stress environment

Teamworks, Acton, MA

June 2019 – September 2019

Summer Camp Counselor

- Supervised a group of 25 campers aged 6 to 12. Led group through personally developed activities and games
- Organized an event for all 100 campers involving multiple teams and Olympic style activities

Projects

Rubik's Cube Solver, Python

March 2024 – Present

- Developed a solver utilizing reinforcement learning with Proximal Policy Optimization (PPO), implementing a digital cube generator, scrambling functionality, and solution finding based on Manhattan distance heuristic

Spotify Sound Recognizer, Python

November 2023

- Implemented a voice-controlled Spotify integration using natural language processing web API, enabling hands-free commands for play, pause, skip, rewind, and other functionalities

Reward Collector Bot, Python, AWS EC2

August 2023

- Created a Python automation script using Selenium and Chrome WebDriver to streamline website sign-in, including Google OAuth authentication and daily reward collection. Generates \$20 weekly

Stock Trading Prediction Web App, Python

December 2021

- Built web app which takes in raw data from a stock, analyzes the data, and produces graphs based on the data

Activities/Interests

Minuteman Investment Management, Amherst, MA

February 2023 – September 2023

Quantitative Data Analyst - Python

- Completed strict curriculum to gain a strong fundamental background in statistics, Python, data science/analytics, equities, options, futures, currencies, fixed income securities, and commodities

UMass Machine Learning Club @ UMass Amherst

September 2022 - Present

Google Developer Student Club @ UMass Amherst

September 2022 - Present

Interests: Stock trading, poker, soccer, tennis, golf, drumming, video games