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: Algorithms, Web Development, Database Management, Data Structures, Computer Systems

Skills

Languages: Java, Python, C, JavaScript, Typescript, HTML/CSS
Technologies: React, NodeJS, Git, AWS (EC2), Linux (Ubuntu), Docker, Kubernetes, VBA/Office

Experience

Imago Rehab, Remote *September 2024 – Present*
Software Engineer Intern – Android Studio, JavaScript, Flutter
- Creating web app through Android Studio, Nodejs, and ExpressJS, connected to a MongoDB database.
- Integrating AI-powered chatbot into app through Google Dialogflow to enhance customer support, offering automated responses to user generated queries.

ISO New England, Holyoke, MA *June 2024 – August 2024*
Software Engineer Intern – Python, VBA
- Implemented a process to verify transformer energy levels across New England as well as dynamically adjust their representation in the power grid model, enhancing daily energy forecast accuracy by >5%
- Developed Python script to filter and format >37,000 rows of Excel data, reducing processing time by ~30 hours
- Programmed internal tool to analyze discrepancies in load data files, build without any built-in libraries

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 increase efficiency and scalability on the user-side
- Designed and integrated unit and CI/CD pipeline 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

Projects

Soccer Tryout Evaluator, React, Python, AWS EC2 June 2024 – July 2024
- Built web app used to automate a process of ranking youth soccer players based on tryout performances. Creates teams for >600 players, saving ~60 hours annually, deployed on AWS EC2 instance

Rubik's Cube Solver, Python March 2024 – May 2024
- 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

Activities/Interests

Minutemen International Equity Fund @ UMass Amherst *August 2024 – Present*
Quantitative Software Engineer – Python

Minuteman Investment Management @ UMass Amherst *February 2023 – September 2023*
Quantitative Data Analyst – Python

MassAI @ UMass Amherst September 2022 – Present

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