Aaron Lai

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EDUCATION

Bachelor of Science - The University of Melbourne, Australia **Est. Graduation Nov 2025**
- Current full-time final year computing and software systems major student.
- Weighted Average Mark (WAM): 84% First Class Honours (H1)

International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma - Canadian International School of Hong Kong **2012 - 2022**
- Predicted IB 45, achieved IB 44 (Max score: 45, equivalent ATAR: 99.80)

WORK EXPERIENCE

Research Software Engineer Intern - Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research **Nov 2024 - Feb 2025**
- Developed an AI Chatbot that accelerated the onboarding process for new student interns and reduced supervisor weekly contact hours by 50% through a free, lightweight retrieval-augmented generation (RAG) LLM application.
- Evaluated performance of open-source HuggingFace models and deployed via the ARDC Nectar Research Cloud.

IT Consulting Intern - PriceWaterhouseCooper (PwC) HK Digital Assurance **Nov 2023 – Jan 2024**
- Constructed a credit scorecard model using the Analytical Hierarchy Process (AHP) for Fusion Bank, Hong Kong.
- Pitched the model to the senior leadership team and proposed a second phase of development to the client CEO, valued at over $200,000 HKD.

PROJECTS

Independent React Native Project - Ajar (GitHub) **Nov 2024 - Present**
- Currently programming a full stack social networking mobile application that enables users to "Open Doors" to selected friend groups as a means of casual invitation to open events, eg. club events, sports, info sessions.
- Technologies: Firebase, TypeScript, React Native

Personal Portfolio Website - Live Link **Jan 2025 - Feb 2025**
- Published a fun, responsive web portfolio with interactive 3D elements designed through Spline.
- Technologies: Typescript, React, TailwindCSS, ShadCN, FramerMotion

WEHI LangChain AI Chatbot - GitHub **Jan 2025 - Feb 2025**
- Optimised RAG LLM pipeline to operate on a Nectar Project Trial and reduced query times down to ~30 seconds, with CPU-only compute and < 3 GB limited storage.
- Technologies: Python, ChromaDB, LangChain, Ollama, Gradio

EXTRACURRICULARS

Events Officer - Computing and Information Software Students Association (CISSA) **Oct 2024 - Present**
- Collaborate with a team to organise 3-4 events a week (social/educational/industry) for over 1000 active members.

SKILLS

Languages: English (Native), Mandarin Chinese (Proficient), Japanese (Conversational)
Technologies: Python, C, Java, Typescript, React, TailwindCSS, MySQL
Interests: Bouldering, Football, Jazz Music Theory, Cryptocurrency,