Aaron Ta

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WORK EXPERIENCE

Mygrid   **California, US**
Software Engineer Intern   *Oct 2024 - Feb 2025*

- Developed and maintained a Notion-integrated blog system using **Next.js**, automating content updates and improving data consistency by 30%, reducing manual updates across the platform.
- Implemented secure authentication and user management with **NeonDB**, strengthening platform security and improving onboarding speed for 100+ users.

FreshLoop   **Wollongong, NSW**
Founding Developer   *May 2025 - Present*

- Founded and engineered a full-stack food-rescue marketplace using **React, Drizzle ORM, and Postgres**, building core features such as user authentication, product listings, order flows, and real-time availability.
- Designed, deployed, and maintained the platform's end-to-end architecture with **Railway, Serverless APIs, JWT auth, and CI/CD**, delivering a fast, scalable, and mobile-optimised experience that connected restaurants with users to reduce food waste.

PROJECT EXPERIENCE

Hackathon (UNIHACK)   **Sydney, NSW**
Frontend Developer   *Mar 2025 - Present*

- Engineered and deployed a fully operational prototype in 36 hours by seamlessly integrating 5 AI agents, significantly accelerating project timelines and enabling immediate stakeholder testing.
- Led UI/UX implementation for real-time task management, AI interaction interfaces, and project progression tracking, delivering a seamless and immersive user experience under tight hackathon deadlines.

Hackathon (SyncsHack Top 5)   **Sydney, NSW**
Full-Stack Developer and Team Leader   *Aug 2025 - Present*

- Led a 4-member team to build CitySense, an AI-powered community insight app; achieved **Top 5 finalist** recognition among 50+ teams.
- Built a full-stack web app using **Node.js, Express.js, and Next.js**, overcoming integration challenges and implementing AI analytics to enhance user experience.

Poker Online Game (Gong's Poker)   **Wollongong, NSW**
Founder   *Jan 2025 - Mar 2025*

- Built a full-stack online poker platform with **Next.js, Node.js, WebSockets, and Postgres**, supporting real-time multiplayer gameplay.
- Built a scalable backend with an **event-driven architecture**, enabling low-latency messaging, efficient room isolation, and resilient reconnection handling for dropped players.

SKILLS & ACHIEVEMENTS

Skills: WebSockets, Python, SQL, Next.js, Node.js, React, Django, Neon DB, Postgres, .NET.

Achievements: Top 30 ICPC Team Australia 2024, Bronze Prize TIMO (Thailand International Mathematical Olympiad).

EDUCATION

University of Wollongong   **Wollongong, NSW**
Bachelor of Computer Science, GPA: 85/100   *Graduation Date: Nov 2026*